




CYBERSECURITY CAREER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



NICE is a community working together to advance an integrated ecosystem of cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development. NICE, led by the National Institute for Standards and Technology within the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), is committed to preparing, growing, and sustaining a cybersecurity workforce that safeguards and promotes America's national security and economic prosperity.

The Cybersecurity Career Ambassador Program seeks to create a network of employers, educators, industry representatives, non-profit and community-based organizations, and other stakeholders who serve as champions to prepare, grow, and sustain a diverse and skilled cybersecurity workforce.

WHAT IS THE CYBERSECURITY CAREER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM?

Ambassadors will:



Inspire, engage, and inform the public about the demand, opportunities, and multiple career options available to join the cybersecurity workforce



Demystify careers in cybersecurity by showcasing the different work roles and the multiple learning pathways and credentials that lead to careers that are identified in the Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework)



Develop a highly skilled and diverse workforce by supporting successful programs and resources, especially those that increase the participation of women, minorities, veterans, persons with disabilities, and other underrepresented populations

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A CYBERSECURITY CAREER AMBASSADOR?

Cybersecurity Career Ambassadors volunteer their time, passion, and energy to connect cybersecurity topics to the real world of work and share the wide range of cybersecurity career opportunities and the multiple pathways. Resources and support will be provided to enable Cybersecurity Ambassadors to effectively communicate cybersecurity career opportunities to learners and confidently deliver a range of activities such as career talks to multiple age ranges.

WHO CAN BE A CYBERSECURITY CAREER AMBASSADOR?

A Cybersecurity Career Ambassador is an individual who is passionate about cybersecurity and wants to share their enthusiasm for cybersecurity with others. The network of Ambassadors will comprise a wide range of stakeholders ranging from individuals that represent employers in the public and private sectors, labor and workforce development organizations, education and training providers, and non-profit and community-based organizations.



HOW WILL CYBERSECURITY CAREER AMBASSADORS ENGAGE CAREER SEEKERS?

Cybersecurity Career Ambassadors will engage with career seekers through a variety of different activities depending on your role. For example:

EDUCATORS:

- Integrate cybersecurity topics and content into lessons and other learning experiences
- Highlight careers in cybersecurity by displaying posters, inviting guest speakers, engaging in hands-on activities, and sharing videos
- Take students on a local field trip related to cybersecurity or introduce virtual experiences
- Host a student club or organization or serve as a coach for a cybersecurity competition
- Share resources and information with other educators (including media specialists and career counselors) about cybersecurity career pathways

INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES:

- Host a job shadowing opportunity or open house event
- Provide internships or externship opportunities for students and educators or other work-based learning experiences
- Provide professional development to reskill or upskill educators or current employees
- Offer your employees opportunities and support to obtain industry-recognized certifications
- Promote discovery and exploration of cybersecurity career opportunities

STUDENTS:

- Form a cybersecurity student organization or club
- Participate in a cybersecurity competition
- Share information with parents, teachers, or faculty
- Hold special events during Cybersecurity Career Week
- Present to youth organizations or develop a cybersecurity community service program
- Serve as a teacher assistant for classes or facilitate activities for summer camps

CYBERSECURITY PROFESSIONALS:

- Share your career pathway story on social media
- Visit young people in schools or other related places and institutions to raise awareness about careers in cybersecurity
- Advise or mentor others about cybersecurity-related career options
- Advise educators and faculty on how to bring cybersecurity career topics into their instruction

WHY BECOME AN AMBASSADOR?

- National recognition as a Cybersecurity Career Ambassador, which includes elevating your efforts to grow and diversify the cybersecurity workforce
- Being a part of a network of Cybersecurity Career Ambassadors representing a wide range of stakeholders
- The opportunity to serve as a mentor and role model, as you engage with the community to share your expertise and help career seekers explore cybersecurity career opportunities

LEARN MORE AND BECOME A CYBERSECURITY CAREER AMBASSADOR

If you have a passion to inspire others to pursue a career in cybersecurity, consider joining our Cybersecurity Career Ambassador community!

To learn more about the Cybersecurity Career Ambassador Program or to volunteer visit nice@nist.gov.

For questions, please contact: nice@nist.gov

Updated June 2023

