



Dec 2024

Cyber Alerts

Systems Security & Analysis Program Newsletter



DO NOT DELAY

REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING!

Spring Semester begins January 13th!

It is highly recommended that you register for Spring before you leave for winter break to ensure you get the classes you need or the times and format you prefer.

Reach out to your advisor to get registered!

Be sure to consult your advisor if you are in multiple degree plans.



Kickstart your holiday and cybersecurity career by engaging in a **FREE** to play, beginner-friendly, exercises every day leading up to Christmas!

Over \$100,000 in prizes ranging from VR Headsets, Nintendo Switches, Infinity Game Boards, standing desks and more.

What you'll learn:

Penetration Testing
Cloud Security
Log Analysis

Digital Forensics
Incident Response
Web Application Pentesting

Going on now thru December 24th.

To register visit:

<https://tryhackme.com/r/christmas>

DoD Cyber Service Academy

(DoD CSA)

The Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Service Academy (CSA) develops future cybersecurity professionals through scholarships, hands-on training, and internships. Participants will gain real-world experience and secure a pathway towards a DoD career, with a commitment to protecting national security systems against cyber threats.

DoD CSA Scholarship Provides:

- Full tuition and required fees
- Books / Supplies / Certification Allowance
- One-time technology purchase
- Stipend
 - \$25,000 for community college students
 - \$29,000 for undergraduate students
- Travel Allowance
- Service obligation – 1 year for each year of funding received

You must have at least one full academic year remaining in your degree program, with a program GPA of at least 3.8



Interest Meeting:
Thursday, 12/12
GCB 215, 12PM

For more info:



The 12 Scams of Christmas: Stay Safe This Holiday Season

Misleading Social Media Ads

Before clicking “buy” on a social media ad, always research the company and check reviews to ensure it’s legitimate. Too good to be true deals, might just be.

Bogus Websites

Fake websites designed to mimic legitimate online stores are more common than you might think. Always double check the URL for spelling errors.

Fake Shipping Notifications

Scammers exploit shipping notifications, especially during the holiday season. They’ll send fake emails and texts that look like shipping notifications with links that may contain malware, lead to phishing sites, or try to trick you into paying “new shipping fees.” If you want to track a package, find the original confirmation you received directly from the store and use that link.

Free Gift Cards

Scammers will send out phishing emails posing as a legitimate company, requesting personal information to send you free gift cards. Whether it's a text, pop-up ad, or email claiming you’ve won a gift card, don’t fall for it. You should ignore these unsolicited offers and never click on any links or provide personal details.

Malicious Holiday E-Cards

E-cards are a fun and easy way to send holiday greetings, but they can also be a Trojan Horse for malware. If you receive an e-card from someone you don’t recognize, delete it. If it’s from someone you know, confirm with them before opening the card to make sure they actually sent it.

Fake Toll Collection Texts

If you’re traveling this holiday season, beware of scam texts claiming you owe a toll fee. These fake messages impersonate state toll agencies and contain links to phony payment pages. If you think you owe tolls, verify your outstanding balance with the legitimate agency.

The 12 Scams of Christmas: Stay Safe This Holiday Season

Holiday Wishlist Items

Searching for the perfect gift? Be wary of “too good to be true” deals on luxury goods, electronics, toys, and designer items. These often turn out to be cheap knockoffs or counterfeit products. Stick to trusted platforms and be cautious of resellers on Facebook Marketplace or other second-hand sites.

Hacked Charging Stations

Charging stations at airports, shopping malls, hospitals, and other public places can easily be hacked by cyber criminals. As soon as you plug in your device, your data could be stolen or malware installed. It is best to charge your device using your own charger.

Temporary Holiday Jobs

Seasonal job opportunities scams are abundant. Fraudsters post fake listings for holiday work that steal your personal information or charge you fees for “training”. If a job offer seems too good to be true, take time to research the company and never pay money upfront for a job.

Fake Charities

Scammers exploit the ‘spirit of giving’ by creating fake charities. They will often impersonate well-known organizations or claim to be individuals in need. Verify the charity’s legitimacy through trusted resources like BBB’s [Give.org](https://www.give.org).

Puppy Scams

Fraudulent sellers post fake ads for adorable pets at low prices, to disappear with your money. Experts state that 80% of pet ads online are scams. Verify the seller’s legitimacy and never send money for a pet without seeing it in person. Consider adopting from your local shelter, where you can see the pets in person and know where your money is going.

Holiday Apps

From tracking Santa’s sleigh to holiday-themed games, there are many festive apps available within app stores. However, some free holiday apps may collect personal information or even contain malware. Check the app’s privacy policy, read user reviews, and only download apps from reputable sources.

Don't Forget...

Security+ Tutoring available:

Fridays: Flexible meeting times from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Contact **Mrs. Wood** at woodd@faytechcc.edu for more information

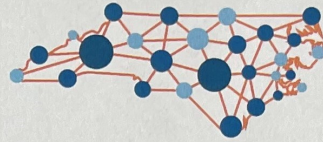
FTCC is has a Pearson VUE Testing Center in GCB, Rm 222-A

Schedule your exam at: <https://home.pearsonvue.com/Test-takers.aspx>

Phone: 910-486-7418

Testing Site #: 86475

CAROLINA CYBER NETWORK



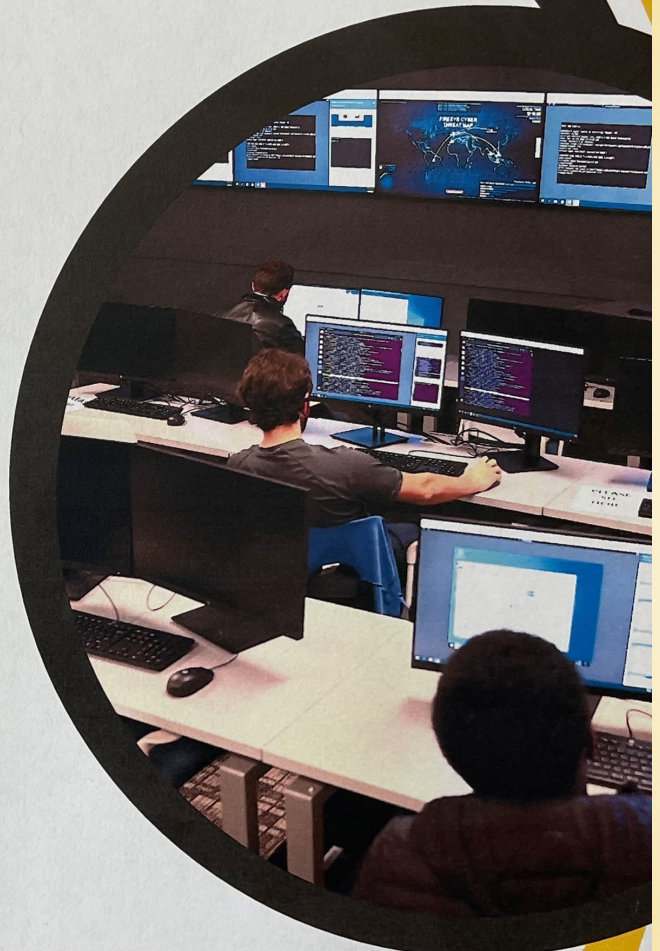
CAROLINA
CYBER
NETWORK

Developing Talent | Protecting Our Future

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP SPRING 2025

Are you in need of funding for classes and books? Maybe the extra funds to pay for that industry certification you've been studying for? Apply for the CCN student scholarship today!

Grants \$1,000 for full-time students and \$500 for part-time students!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY,
COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW**



-  910-486-7309
-  holleyr@faytechcc.edu
-  GCB 202-W

SCHOLARSHIPS / INTERNSHIPS / FELLOWSHIPS

Microsoft Cybersecurity Scholarship Program

Microsoft and Last Mile Education Fund have partnered together to provide a **one-time, \$500 cash assistance grant** for financially vulnerable community college student pursuing cybersecurity pathways.

Grants can be used for **certification exam costs, tuition and books, groceries, utilities bills, a new laptop device and much more!**

There is **no GPA requirement** to apply and **no repayment** for any grant awarded.

SECURE YOUR FUTURE IN CYBERSECURITY.

Scholarship recipients also receive a:

- Free, 1-year, LinkedIn Premium Subscription (one time only) 
- Free membership to Global Mentors Initiative 
- Free Github Global Campus Student Developer Tools 



APPLY TODAY

lastmile-ed.org/microsoftcybersecurityscholarship