Department of Defense
Cyber Service Academy (CSA)
Information Session

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Towson University

Agenda

- Student Application

- Introduction

- Requirements and process

- Q&As.

Nov 1st – Feb 1st

Student Application (2/2)

public.cyber.mil/wid/csa/

Timeline

May

Notifications

August

CSA starts

What is CSA?

- To support the recruitment of new *cyber talent* and the retention of current *highly skilled professionals* within the DoD cyber workforce.

- To enhance the national pipeline for the development of cyber personnel by providing grants to institutions of higher education.

Benefits (1/2)

- $29,000 yearly stipend (undergraduate)

- $34,000 yearly stipend (graduate)

- **Job guarantee**
  - Work for the DOD/NSA Agency

Benefits (2/2)

- Full coverage
  - Tuition
  - Health insurance
  - Mandatory fees

- $1,000 yearly book allowance

- $1,650 one-time laptop purchase

Obligations

- Summer internship (paid)

- Job employment

  - Join a DoD/NSA agency with competitive salary and promotion

  - Must work the same number of years receiving the scholarship.

Eligibility

- Juniors / Seniors
  - Sophomores promoting to a Junior in Fall are eligible to apply

- Graduate students (MS or D.Sc.)

- Cyber-Security/Operations focus (preferred)

Statistics

Year	New Students	Returning Students
2019	1	0
2020	2	1
2021	6	2
2022	3	7
2023	2	7
2024	3	4
2025	You	TBD

Requirements (1/2)

- US Citizenship

- Minimum GPA: 3.2 (undergrad) or 3.5 (grad)

- Security Clearance
  - Required for Federal employment

Requirements (2/2)

- A strong commitment & responsibility

  - Must work for the DoD after graduation

  - Back-out results in repayment of all scholarship money

Sample Application

Item	Title
a	DoD New Student Application
b	Official Transcripts (TU and prior institutions)
c	Resume (use template)
d	Awards and Recognitions (optional)
e	Letters of recommendation
f	Statement of Competency

Application Requirements (1/3)

- Letters of recommendation

  - Minimum 2 letters

  - Should be specific

  - Request them ASAP

Application Requirements (2/3)

- Transcripts

  - Official (electronic) transcripts recommended.

  - Request them ASAP

Application Requirements (3/3)

- Statement of purpose / competency

  - Strong motivation

  - Be honest, respectful, passionate and confident

  - Proof-read and revise your statements

The Review Process
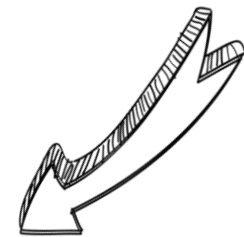

1. Application Pool

2. Complete Applications

3. Interview with PIs

4. Applicant Recommendations

5. Grant submission

U.S. DEPT OF DEFENSE

Important Notes (1/2)

- We DO NOT select scholarship recipients
  - We only recommend them to the DoD

- The DoD agencies will solely make their selections
  - Awardees will be contacted by the sponsoring agencies

- We are the Point-of-contact at TU
  - Answer your academic questions or concerns

Important Notes (2/2)

- The PIs will be in close contact with the applicants regarding incomplete application materials

  - We will email/call you (multiple times) if necessary.

  - Don't hate us :(

Resources

- Principle Investigators
  - Dr. Nam Nguyen (npnguyen@towson.edu)
  - Dr. Marius Zimand (mzimand@towson.edu)

- TU's webpage: tinyurl.com/TUCSA

- CAS webpage: public.cyber.mil/wid/csa/

Student Application (Recap)

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