



**SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE**

Board of Trustees

Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

Monday, August 12, 2024

3:30 p.m.

**Ann Richards Administration Building
Board Room
Pecan Campus
McAllen, Texas**

Online Copy

**South Texas College
Board of Trustees
Education and Workforce Development Committee
Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas
Monday, August 12, 2024 @ 3:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

“At anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the Board of Trustees under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code.”

- I. Approval of Minutes for the Tuesday, June 11, 2024 Committee Meeting..... 3 - 6
- II. Review and Recommend Action of Proposed New Program: Network Security Certificate..... 7 - 49

Approval of Minutes for the Tuesday, June 11, 2024 Committee Meeting

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meetings of Tuesday, June 11, 2024 are presented for Committee approval.

**South Texas College
Board of Trustees
Education and Workforce Development Committee
Ann Richards Administration Building A 142 Conference Room
Pecan Campus, McAllen, Texas
Tuesday, June 11, 2024 @ 3:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

The Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 in the Ann Richards Administration Building A 142 Conference Room at the Pecan Campus in McAllen, Texas. The meeting commenced at 3:32 p.m. with Mrs. Victoria Cantu presiding.

Members present: Mrs. Victoria Cantu and Mr. Danny Guzman, with Mrs. Dalinda Gonzalez-Alcantar attending via teleconference

Other Trustees present: Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr., Mr. Paul R. Rodriguez, and Mr. David De Los Rios, with Ms. Rose Benavidez attending via teleconference

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Ricardo J. Solis, Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Dr. Jesus Campos, Dr. Matthew Hebbard, Dr. Rodney Rodriguez, Dr. Rebecca De Leon, Dr. Brett Millan, Ms. Olivia De La Rosa, Mrs. Lisa Aleman, Mrs. Christina Cavazos, Ms. Shannon Perales, Mr. Leonel Garcia, Ms. Daniela Masten, Ms. Yolanda Martinez, Mrs. Myra De La Garza, Mr. Daniel Montez, and Mr. Andrew Fish.

Approval of Minutes for the Tuesday, May 14, 2024 Committee Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Danny Guzman and a second by Mrs. Victoria Cantu, the Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meetings of Tuesday, May 14, 2024 were approved as written. The motion carried.

Review and Recommend Action on Proposed 2025-2026 Academic Calendar

The Education and Workforce Development Committee was asked to review the proposed 2025-2026 Academic Calendar and recommend Board approval as presented.

The Academic Calendar Steering Committee, which includes membership from each area of the College and Student Government representation, developed the FY 2025 – 2026 Academic Calendar.

The calendar was developed to be compatible with local area school district calendars and other higher education institutions in Texas. The calendar was presented to South Texas College faculty and staff for review, feedback, and input during the months of March and April. Input received from staff and faculty was incorporated into the proposed calendar.

The proposed calendar was approved by the Academic Calendar Steering Committee and has been reviewed by Faculty Senate, Council of Chairs, Academic Council and Institutional Leadership Council.

The proposed calendar was included in the packet for the Committee's review and consideration.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Victoria Cantu and a second by Mr. Danny Guzman, the Education and Workforce Development Committee recommended Board approval of the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar as presented. The motion carried.

Presentation and Discussion of South Texas College Summer Camps Offered in 2024

Ms. Olivia De La Rosa, Director of Continuing, Professional and Workforce Education, presented on the College's Summer Camp offerings in 2024.

Summer Camps have been a successful strategy to engage prospective and current students and partner with local school districts to provide a variety of educational and fun activities throughout our service area. These camps offer hands-on activities to engage and excite students as young as 9-years-old and up through young adults. Activities help participants discover and explore new interests, or expand on established skills.

This year's offerings included camps held throughout the Valley, including sections at the Mid-Valley Campus, Nursing and Allied Health Campus, Pecan Campus, Pecan Plaza, Starr County Campus, and Technology Campus.

Ms. De La Rosa provided an overview of camp opportunities that included the following titles:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3D Printing Basics• Advanced Welding• Arduino Projects Engineering• Automotive/Diesel Repair Fundamentals• Aviation Camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drone Piloting Fundamentals• Exploring the World of Welding• FAA Remote Pilot Certificate Review• FANUC Robotics Fundamentals• Home Maintenance Mastery• Job Interviewing Workshop
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bachelor's Summer Youth Leadership Camp• Basic Floral Design• Biology Explorers• Biotechnology Camp• Cookie Decorating Camp• Cyberpatriot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lego EV3 Robotics• Sewing Camp• Speech and Debate Camp• Summer Drumline Camp• Tool & Die Making• Virtual Reality Architecture
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The presentation included a review of marketing efforts, including the dedicated website at <https://www.southtexascollege.edu/youth-camps/index.html>, and an overview of the registration process and pricing structure for the camps.

During the presentation, trustees asked for further details on participating by students from each local school district, as well as a report on participation at each campus. Administration agreed to provide these reports after the completion of all camps, in Fall 2024.

No action was requested. This information was presented to the Education and Workforce Development Committee for discussion and feedback.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Education Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct Minutes of the June 11, 2024 Education and Workforce Development Committee of the South Texas College Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Victoria Cantu, Presiding

Review and Recommended Action of Proposed New Program: Network Security Certificate

The Committee is asked to recommend Board approval to offer the proposed new Network Security Certificate in Spring 2025.

At the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the Network Security certificate would prepare students to gain a better understanding of a computer network's foundation and the security measures and technologies required to keep it safe. It will provide students with the education needed to help them implement, maintain and safeguard computer networks that serve as the infrastructure for the information systems of an organization.

Analysis by Lightcast™, a labor market analytics tool, anticipated job growth projections of the mapped occupations to this credential, which included 12.2% for Computer User Support Specialists and 30.0%, for Computer Network Support Specialists, from 2024 through 2034 in the South Texas region. Jobs for which graduates would be prepared are among the Texas Workforce Solutions' *2023 Target Occupations List and 2023 Demand Occupations List* for the Rio Grande Valley. Students graduating from the certificate will have the opportunity to gain employment with local employers as Network Technicians and Network Specialists averaging a salary of up to \$47,570 for Hidalgo and Starr Counties.

This program would be built upon South Texas College's existing course offerings through the Information Technology department. Of the eight courses within the credential, three result in completion of an Occupational Skills Award in Networking Fundamentals with a certification in CompTIA A+. Completion of the Network Security certificate would result in four additional certifications, as outlined on page 13 of the Program Development Proposal.

This program supports a stackable-credential pathway in the information technology sector. Upon completion of the Network Security certificate, students would hold a valuable workforce credential, and would also have 32 semester credit hours completed towards an associate degree. This potentially provides a meaningful pathway to the Information Technology: Network Systems Associate of Applied Science degree and even the Bachelor of Applied Technology in Computer and Information Technologies from South Texas College.

In the Committee packet, administration has provided the Program Development Proposal, which includes the following:

- Program Development Approval Checklist
- Program Development Checklist
- Program Summary
- Enrollment Management Plan
- Student Survey
- Proposed Curriculum, Course Descriptions & Learning Outcomes
- Instructional Costs and Projected Revenues

- Supporting Documentation

Ms. Christina Cavazos, Director of Curriculum, Ms. Angelita Teniente, Department Chair for the Information Technology program in the Math, Science, IT and Bachelor's division, and Ms. Maby Rosenbaum, Information Technology faculty, will present the proposal and respond to questions.

The Education and Workforce Development Committee is asked to recommend Board approval to offer the proposed new Network Security certificate program as presented.

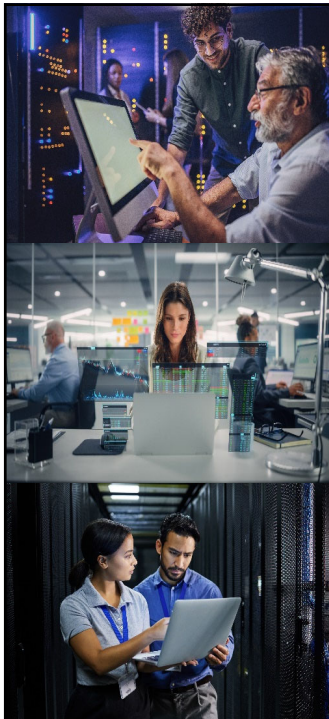


NETWORK SECURITY

CERTIFICATE

Presenters:

Christina Y. Cavazos, Director of Curriculum
Angelita Teniente, Department Chair, Information Technology
Maby Rosenbaum, Faculty, Information Technology



Outline



- Program Objective
- Approval Process
- Occupational Need
- Educational Pathways
- Projected Outcomes & Funding
- Advisory Committee Membership
- Proposed Curriculum

Program Objective



The Network Security Certificate will:

- Prepare students to gain a better understanding of a **computer network's foundation** and the **security measures** and technologies required to keep it safe.
- Prepare students to implement, maintain and **safeguard** computer networks that serve as the **infrastructure** for the information systems of an **organization**.
- Provide knowledge on the use of **networking scanning tools** to perform **network traffic analysis**, protocol identification, report preparation, and evidence presentation.



Approval Process



APPROVAL PROCESS	
INTERNAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advisory Committee (external stakeholders and internal resources)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Division Curriculum Committee
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College-Wide Curriculum Committee
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SACSCOC Liaison (Substantive Change Review)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic Council
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Institutional Leadership Council
	<input type="checkbox"/> Education and Workforce Development Committee
	<input type="checkbox"/> STC Board of Trustees (Certification Form)
EXTERNAL	<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Regional Council/Workforce Solutions (Letter of Intent)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Education
	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Program Accreditation or Licensing Agencies (if applicable)

Program Development Checklist



Program Demand and Projected Outcomes must be **documented** prior to the development of any new workforce or academic program.

The following categories serve as an **initial guide** for program developers to start the development process.


Occupational Need

- Student Demand
- Existing Programs
- Educational Pathways

Projected Outcomes

- Declared Majors
- Number of Graduates

Occupational Need



Occupational Growth	Occupational growth in the field of Network Security* for the South Texas region** is projected to be 21.1% between 2024 to 2034. Occupational growth for the state of Texas is projected to be 23.1% .
Number of New Jobs	In Texas , approximately 17,905 new jobs in the field of Network Security* are expected between 2024 to 2034. In the region , approximately 241 jobs are expected.
Pay Level	In the South Texas region, the projected median pay level for professionals in this field* is \$22.87 an hour. The U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics reports a median hourly wage of \$29.61 for Computer User Support and a median hourly wage of \$36.57 for Computer Network Support Specialists.

* Lightcast™ and Bureau of Labor Statistics reports referenced include Computer User Support Specialists and Computer Network Support Specialists.

Student Demand



Student demand exists and is documented through student survey data collected by the South Texas College Research & Analytical Services department.

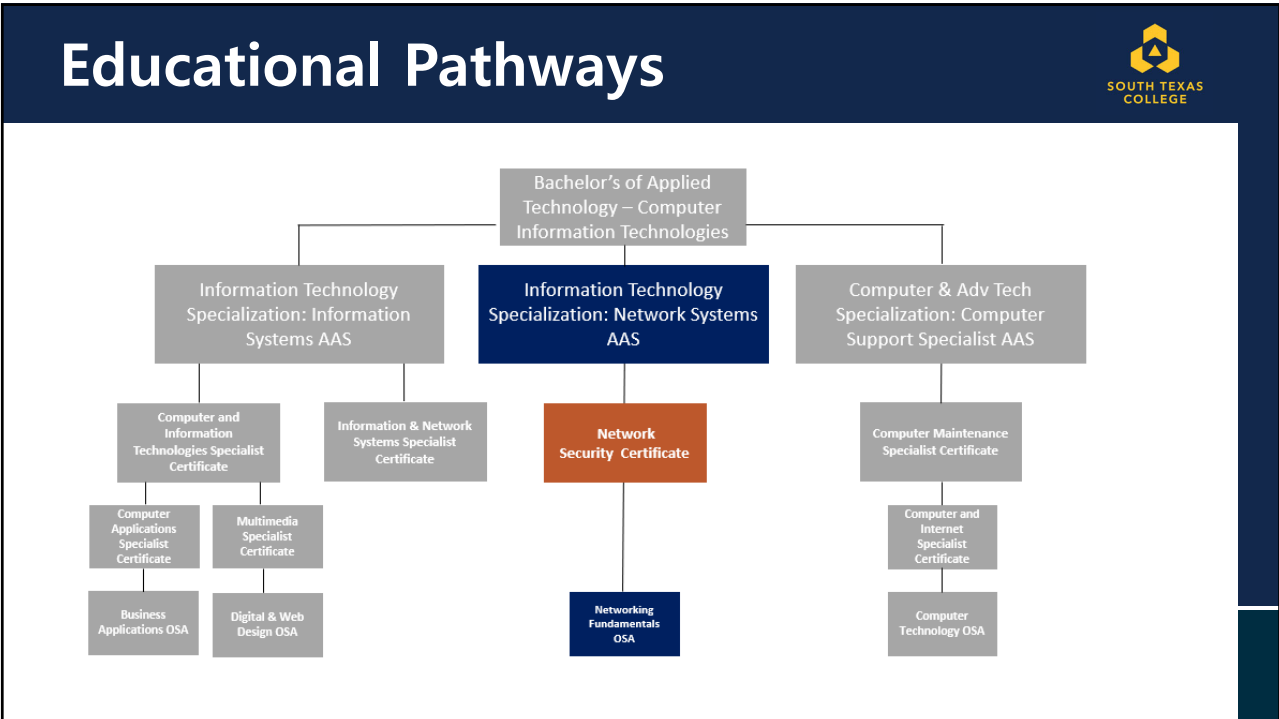
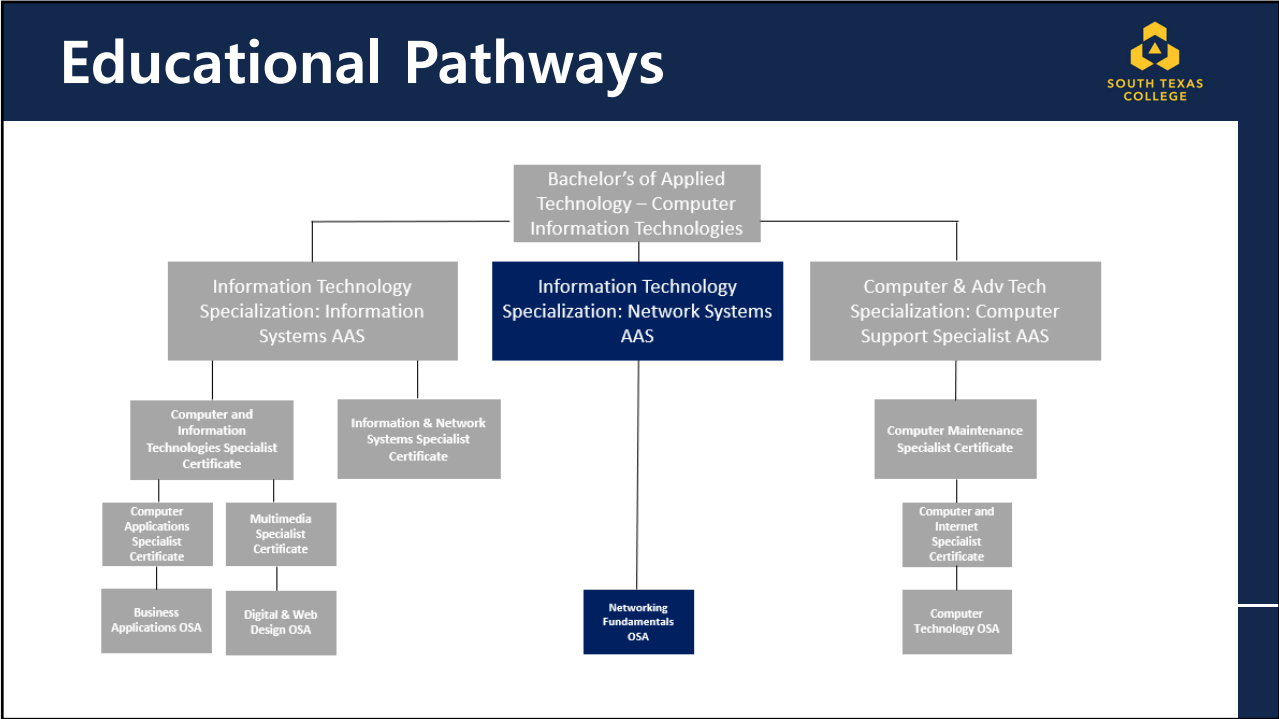
Student survey administered to 10,000 students:

- **76%** felt it sounded like a good-paying job
- **54%** felt it sounded like a job that would make their family proud
- **62%** felt it sounded like the kind of job that employers are hiring for in the Rio Grande Valley

Existing Programs



- **Alamo CCD – Northwest Vista College:** approximately 253 miles from McAllen
 - Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Information Security Analyst
- **McLennan Community College:** approximately 420 miles from McAllen
 - Certificate in Network with Security
- **Trinity Valley Community College:** approximately 507 miles from McAllen
 - Certificate in PC Support, Networking and Information Security



Projected Enrollment



Projected Declared Majors in Certificate – Network Security

Years	AY2025	AY2026	AY2027	AY2028	AY2029
	6	17	21	29	37

Projected Number of Graduates

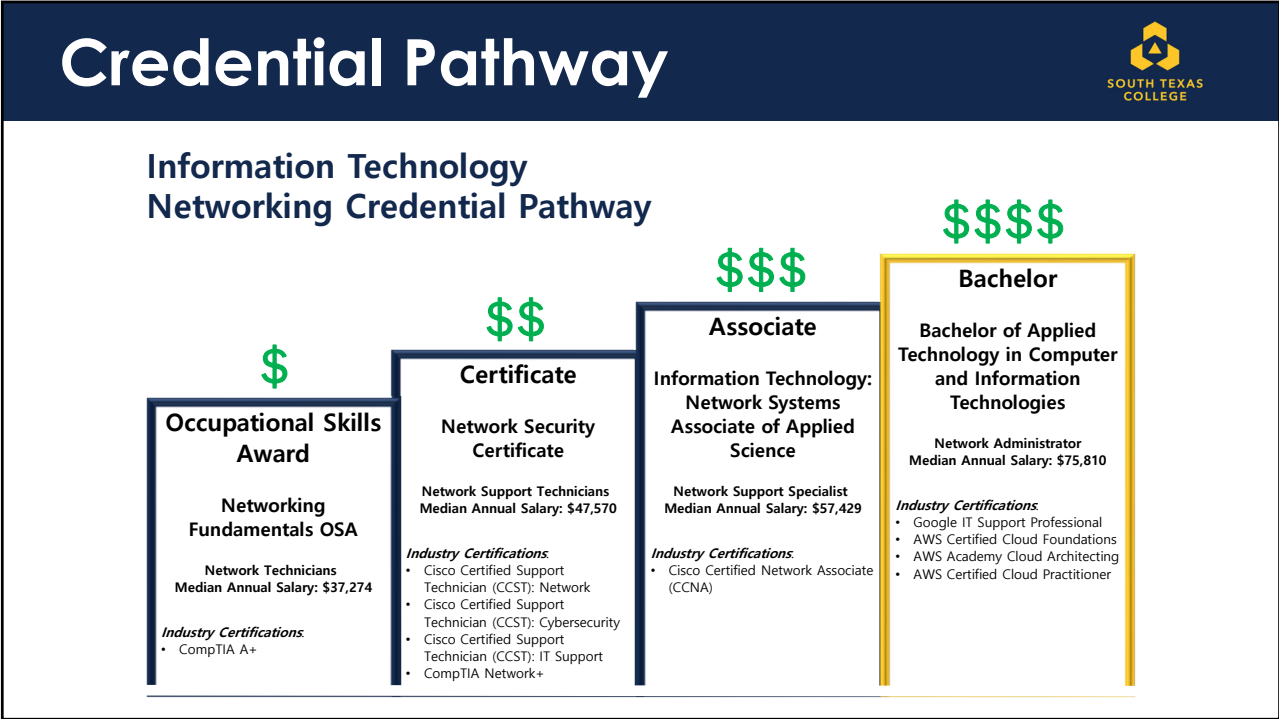
Years	AY2025	AY2026	AY2027	AY2028	AY2029
	0	8	11	15	20

Performance-Based Funding (HB8)



The projected funding for the **Network Security Certificate** based on projected number of graduates:

State Appropriations	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
No. of Unduplicated Students	-	8	11	15	20	
Level I Certificate (High Demand @\$3,500 per student)	0	\$28,000	\$38,500	\$52,500	\$70,000	
Total Funding Reimbursement	0	\$28,000	\$38,500	\$52,500	\$70,000	\$189,000




Advisory Committee Membership



Diana Berger, Operations Manager, South/West Texas, New Mexico
Netsync

David M. Culberson, Chief Technology Officer
Sharyland ISD


Adan Mendoza, IT Security Analyst
Urban Strategies

Daira Natividad, Technology Solutions Specialist
City of San Juan

Maggie Pena, Chief Experience Officer
Interlace Health

Proposed Curriculum



		 SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE					
Program: Information Technology				FICE CODE: 031034			
Specialization: N/A				CIP CODE: TBD			
Award Title: Network Security Certificate				Major: TBD			
TSI Exempt							
Semester One		Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	External Hours	Contact Hours	Credit Hours	
ITNW	1451	Fundamentals of Wireless LANs	3	3	0	96	4
ITSC	1405	Introduction to PC Operating Systems	3	3	0	96	4
ITSC	1425	Personal Computer Hardware	3	3	0	96	4
ITCC	1414	CCNA1: Introduction to Networks	3	3	0	96	4
Total Semester Hours:		12	12	0	384	16	
Semester Two		Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	External Hours	Contact Hours	Credit Hours	
ITSY	1442	Information Technology Security	3	3	0	96	4
ITSE	1402	Computer Programming	3	3	0	96	4
ITNW	2444	Network Protocol Analysis	3	3	0	96	4
ITCC	1444	CCNA2: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials	3	3	0	96	4
Total Semester Hours:		12	12	0	384	16	
					Total Contact Hours:	768	
STC Inventory Coursework					Total Credit Hours:	32	

QUESTIONS





SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

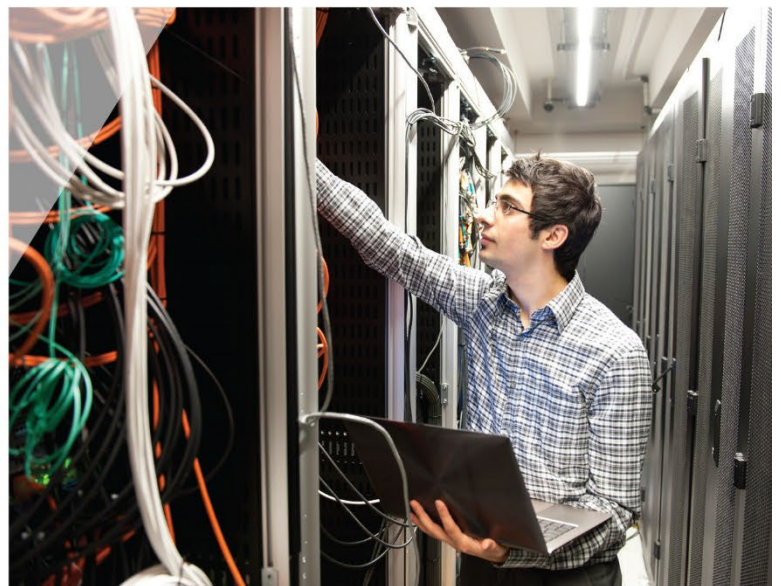
Program Development Proposal

Network Security

Certificate

Math, Science, IT & Bachelor Programs

June 17, 2024



Network Security

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Network Security

APPROVAL PROCESS	DATE
✓ Advisory Committee	10/30/2023
✓ Division Curriculum Committee	3/7/2024
✓ College-Wide Curriculum Committee	3/19/2024
✓ SACSCOC Liaison • Substantive Change	4/29/2024
✓ Academic Council	4/29/2024
✓ Institutional Leadership Council (ILC)	06/06/2024
<input type="checkbox"/> Education and Workforce Development Committee (EWDC)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Regional Council/Workforce Solutions (Letter of Intent)	
<input type="checkbox"/> STC Board of Trustees (Certification Form)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Education	
<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Program Accreditation or Licensing Agencies (if applicable)	

Program Development Process

Proposed instructional programs at South Texas College are identified either at the college or at divisional level through environmental scans, documented workforce needs, recommendations by Program Advisory Committees, or local business and industry demands. All proposed programs undergo a review process before being approved for development. The approval process includes reviews by department, division, and college-wide curriculum committees, and Academic Council. Programs that receive approval to proceed are then presented to the Institutional Leadership Council (ILC) for review and recommendation. A program that receives ILC approval to move forward is presented to the Board of Trustees' Education Workforce Development Committee (EWDC) for review and recommendation. Following review by the EWDC, programs are presented to the full Board of Trustees for final review and approval.

Curriculum Department Review: Network Security Certificate

The Network Security certificate will prepare students to gain a better understanding of a computer network's foundation and the security measures and technologies required to keep it safe. It will provide students with the education needed to help them implement, maintain and safeguard computer networks that serve as the infrastructure for the information systems of an organization.

According to Lightcast™, Inc., which utilizes data from the Texas Workforce Commission, occupations for the Network Security program are expected to grow by the following from 2024 to 2034 in the Lower Rio Grande Regional Area: 12.2%, resulting in an additional 172 job openings for Computer User Support Specialist, and 30.0% resulting in an additional 69 job openings for Computer Network Support Specialist. Letters of support from Netsync Network Solutions, Interlace Health, the City of Pharr, as well as McAllen ISD and Sharyland ISD have demonstrated strong employer support to address the need for employment of qualified individuals who possess the technical and soft skills needed in such a critical operational area.

Student demand exists and is documented through student survey data. According to a survey conducted by South Texas College's Research & Analytical Services department, the proposed Network Security certificate revealed that 24% of student respondents preferred this program to their current major; 76% felt it "sounded like a good-paying job"; 54% felt it "sounded like a job that would make their family proud"; and 62% responded that this occupation "sounds like the kind of job that employers are hiring for here in the Rio Grande Valley". Additionally, student demand is supported by enrollment in related programs, which has been persistent over the last few years considering the impact of COVID19 and the enrollment recovery period that followed. Student enrollment for some of the coursework to be shared with the Network Security program totaled **1,060** students for the past three years.

The cost to implement this program is expected to be below average as most of the coursework is taught by existing faculty and the courses utilize the Cisco curriculum and teaching materials, thus branding it as a zero textbook cost course to students. Adjunct faculty will likely be utilized due to the anticipated growth.

A review conducted by the Curriculum Department indicates the program complies with the criteria set forth from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and recommends the proposed Certificate in Network Security continue through the established approval process.

Career & Technical Education/Workforce Programs

Program Demand and Projected Outcomes must be documented prior to the development of any new workforce or academic program. The following questions and checklist serve as an initial guide for program developers that must be completed at the start of the development process.

Proposed Award:

Program Title: Network Security (CT1)

Program Location: Pecan Campus

Targeted Term for Implementation: Spring 2025

Please list any similar programs currently offered by STC in this subject area, if applicable (stackable certificates or degrees, AAS Specializations, etc.)

For Curriculum Office Use Only

Program Developer Info:

Name: Maby Rosenbaum

Title: Information Tech Program Instructor

Division: Math, Science, IT and Bachelor Programs

Phone: 956-872-6491

Proposed CIP Code: 11.1003

AAS – Information Technology: Specialization – Information Systems, AAS – Information Technology: Specialization – Network Systems, Computer and Information Technologies Specialist Certificate, Information and Network Systems Certificate, and Networking Fundamentals OSA

1. Documentation of Program Checklist:

Category	Standard	Met the Standard	Did not meet the Standard	Comments
1. Occupational Need	A) *EMSI data (provided by the Curriculum Department) projects a significant occupational growth rate in South Texas, the state, and/or nationally.	✓		<u>Computer User Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: 12.2% (+172 jobs) Texas: 19.3% (+14,543 jobs) Nation: 11.4% (+81,657 jobs) <u>Computer Network Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: 30.0% (+69 jobs) Texas: 27.0% (+3,362 jobs) Nation: 12.3% (+21,248 jobs)
	A-1)*Wage data			<u>Computer User Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: \$21.68/hour Texas: \$24.72 hour National: \$27.83 /hour <u>Computer Network Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: \$24.06/hour Texas: \$31.56 hour National: \$32.72 /hour
	A-2)*Job Posting Intensity			<u>Computer User Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: 3:1 (171 unique postings out of a total of 525 postings) Texas: 4:1 (11,706 unique postings out of a total of 29,585 postings)

Category	Standard	Met the Standard	Did not meet the Standard	Comments
				<u>Computer Network Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: 2:1 (23 unique postings out of a total of 48 postings) Texas: 3:1 (844 unique postings out of a total of 2,319 postings)
<i>*Growth rates and wage data are estimated projections for a 10-year period from 2024-2034. Job Posting Intensity is derived from the time period of September 2023 – March 2024. Data sources include the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Education. For a complete list, refer to the EMSI Data Source Appendix.</i>				
	B) Occupational Outlook Handbook indicates graduates will have an average or above average job outlook for the next 5 to 10 years (national data).	N/A		
	C) Program is on Targeted/In-Demand Occupations lists produced by the Texas Workforce Commission OR Program is an emerging and/or evolving occupation for the region or state in the Texas Workforce Commission’s Labor Market and Career Information.	✓		Both occupational groups are listed in the 2023 Target Occupations List for Texas Workforce Solutions.
	D) High employer demand exists and is documented through letters of support.	✓		
	E) Educational and/or employer publications or news articles document a growth in the industry or demand for employees.	N/A		
2. Student Demand	Student demand exists and is documented through the use of student surveys .	✓		
	High enrollment exists in related programs (Stackable certificates or degrees).	✓		Refer to Program Development Packet
	High number of graduates are produced in related programs (Stackable certificates or degrees).	✓		Refer to Program Development Packet
3. Existing Programs	Similar programs from institutions of higher education, as defined by Texas Education Code §61.003, do not exist within STC’s service area – Hidalgo and Starr Counties (Please include documentation of the nearest similar programs).	✓		Alamo CCD – Northwest Vista College (which is approximately 253 miles from McAllen) offers a Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Information Security Analyst. McLennan Community College - (which is approximately 420 miles from McAllen) offers a Certificate in Network with Security. Trinity Valley Community College (which is approximately 507 miles from McAllen) offers a Certificate in PC

Category	Standard	Met the Standard	Did not meet the Standard	Comments
				Support, Networking and Information Security.
4. Program Linkage & Opportunities for Further Education	Courses are currently offered or can be offered within local high schools via the Dual Enrollment Program. (Please provide a list of schools and/or districts)		✓	
	Program-specific articulation agreements with other institutions of higher education (IHEs) currently exist or will be pursued in the future (Please include list of IHEs)	✓		

2. Projected Outcomes:

Category	Standard	Met the Standard	Did not meet the Standard	Comments
1. Program Enrollment & Declared Majors	Program projects a steady increase in the number of declared majors in the program over the course of five years.	✓		Refer to Enrollment Management Plan.
2. Number of Graduates	Program Review Standard: The Program will achieve a minimum of 5 graduates per year or 25 graduates during the most recent 5-year period.	✓		Refer to Enrollment Management Plan.
3. Graduate Earnings	EMSI data (provided by the Curriculum Department) projects that program graduates will earn a median hourly earnings wage that is above the “living wage” for South Texas, the state, and/or nationally.	✓		<p><u>Computer User Support Specialists</u> South Texas: \$21.68/hour Texas: \$24.72 hour National: \$27.83/hour</p> <p><u>Computer Network Support Specialist:</u> South Texas: \$24.06/hour Texas: \$31.56/hour National: \$32.72 /hour</p> <p>According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics: - Computer User Support Specialists earned a median salary of \$63,640 as of 2023. - Computer Network Support Specialists earned a median salary of \$78,640 as of 2023.</p> <p>Living wage calculation for Texas: 1 Adult/0 Children - \$20.92 per hour</p> <p>Source: https://livingwage.mit.edu/states/48</p>

Program Summary

Institution: South Texas College, McAllen Texas

Proposed Award: Network Security Certificate

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Program Objective: The Network Security certificate prepares students to gain a better understanding of a computer network's foundation and the security measures and technologies required to keep it safe. It will provide students with the education needed to help them implement, maintain and safeguard computer networks that serve as the infrastructure for the information systems of an organization. They will learn about the different types of wired and wireless networks in an organization and the skills to configure, secure and maintain the different network devices that comprise a network. Students will also learn about the use of networking scanning tools to perform network traffic analysis, protocol identification, report preparation, and evidence presentation. Graduates of this degree hired in any organization will be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to install, maintain and secure the organization's network perimeter and information systems. Students that complete this degree can continue their education into the Associate in Network Systems.

Curriculum: The Certificate consists of 32 semester credit hours (SCH) of technical coursework derived from the Workforce Education Course Manual (WECM).

Admissions Requirements: The admissions requirements for this program would follow the general admissions policies set forth in the South Texas College catalog.

PROGRAM DEMAND

Occupational Need:

Computer User Support Specialists

According to Lightcast™, Inc. which utilizes data from the Texas Workforce Commission, Computer User Support Specialist occupations are expected to experience a 12.2% growth from 2024 to 2034 in the Lower Rio Grande Regional Area (Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties) with 172 additional job openings expected during this time period; a 19.3% growth between 2024 and 2034 in State of Texas with 14,543 additional job openings expected during this time period; and a 11.4% growth between 2024 and 2034 nationally with a total of 81,657 job openings expected during this time period.

According to the Lightcast™, Inc., the median hourly earnings wage for Computer User Support Specialist occupations is \$21.68. for Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy Counties; \$24.72/hr. for the State of Texas; and \$27.83/hr. as a national average.

The job posting intensity for this occupation for the region was 3:1, meaning for every 3 job postings, there was 1 unique job to fill for a total of 171 unique job postings. The job posting intensity for the state was 4:1, with a total of 11,706 unique job postings.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook, in 2023 the median annual earnings for Computer User Support Specialist was \$63,640 nationally.

Computer Network Support Specialists

According to Lightcast™, Inc. which utilizes data from the Texas Workforce Commission, Computer Network Support Specialists occupations are expected to experience a 30.0% growth from 2024 to 2034 in the Lower Rio Grande Regional Area (Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties) with 69 additional job openings expected during this time period; a 27.0% growth between 2024 and 2034 in State of Texas with 3,362 additional job openings expected during this time period; and a 12.3% growth between 2024 and 2034 nationally with a total of 21,248 job openings expected during this time period.

According to the Lightcast™, Inc., the median hourly earnings wage for Network Security occupations is \$24.06/hr. for Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy Counties; \$31.56/hr. for the State of Texas; and \$32.72/hr. as a national average.

The job posting intensity for this occupation for the region was 2:1, meaning for every 2 job postings, there was 1 unique job to fill for a total of 23 unique job postings. The job posting intensity for the state was 3:1, with a total of 844 unique job postings.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook, in 2023 the median annual earnings for Computer Network Support Specialist was \$78,640 nationally.

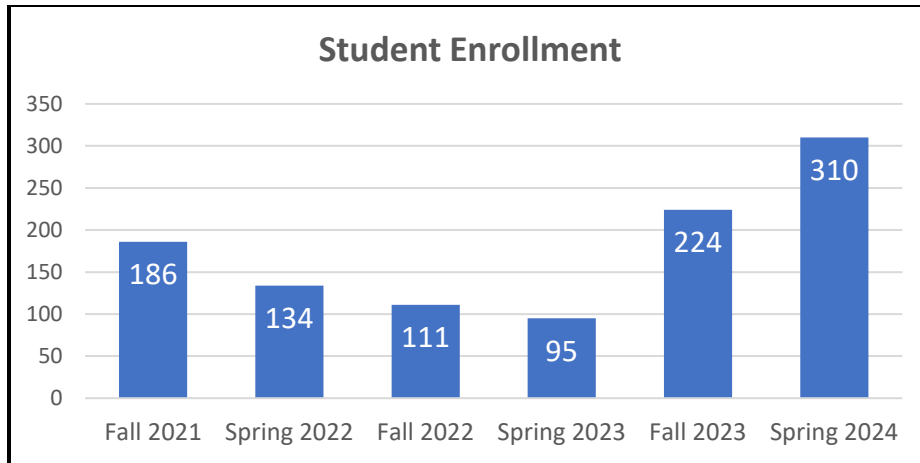
Student Demand:

A survey sample of 10,000 students yielded 324 responses (5%). The margin of error associated with this survey is plus/minus 5%. The survey revealed the following results:

- Twenty-four (24%) of students preferred this proposed award to their current major;
- Seventy-six (76%) felt it sounded like a good-paying job;
- Fifty-four percent (54%) felt it sounded like a job that would make their family proud; and
- Sixty-two percent (62%) felt it sounded like the kind of job that employers are hiring for in the Rio Grande Valley.

Suggested coursework for this program includes courses currently offered at South Texas College, which are: ITNW 1451 – Fundamentals of Wireless LANs, ITSC 1405 – Introduction to PC Operating Systems, ITSC 1425 – Personal Computer Hardware, ITCC 1414 – CCNA1: Introduction to Networks, ITSE 1402 – Computer Programming and ITCC 1444 – CCNA2: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials. ¹Student enrollment for these shared courses totaled **1,060** students for the past three years and revealed steady growth.

¹ Source: Course Schedules from Fall 2021 – Spring 2024 (as of 4/11/24)



Furthermore, ²declared majors and graduates in related programs for the past five years have also been persistent during the recovery period following the COVID19 pandemic that occurred in 2020.

Declared Majors					
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
Information Technology: Specialization – Information Systems	54	33	42	38	27
Information Technology: Specialization – Network Systems	40	24	24	17	22
Computer and Information Technologies Specialist Certificate	47	45	71	57	44
Information and Network Systems Certificate	17	17	21	23	18

Graduates					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Information Technology: Specialization – Information Systems	17	17	10	12	4
Information Technology: Specialization – Network Systems	20	7	4	1	5
Computer and Information Technologies Specialist Certificate	20	22	5	13	9
Information and Network Systems Certificate	27	36	18	7	13

² Source: STC Factbook

Existing Programs:

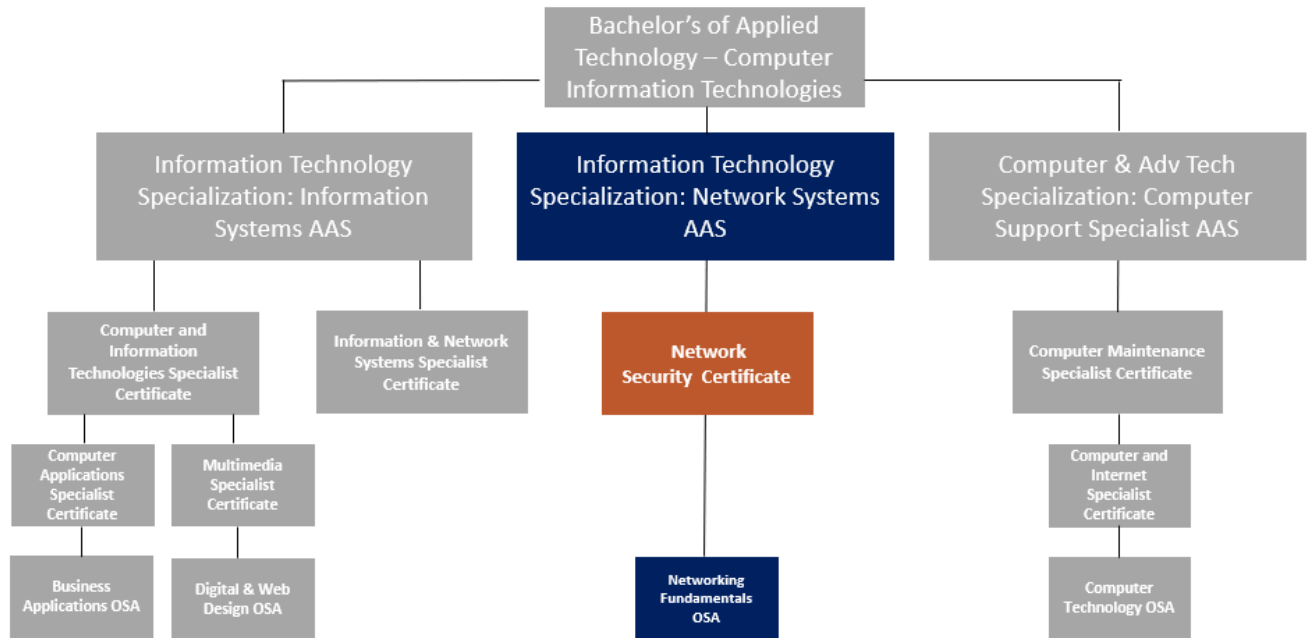
- Alamo CCD – Northwest Vista College (which is approximately 253 miles from McAllen) offers a Certificate and Associate of Applied Science in Information Security Analyst.
- McLennan Community College (which is approximately 420 miles from McAllen) a Certificate in Network with Security.
- Trinity Valley Community College (which is approximately 507 miles from McAllen) offers a Certificate in PC Support, Networking and Information Security.

Enrollment Data Comparison					
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
Alamo Colleges – Northwest Vista	291	339	331	366	377
McLennan Community College	2	4	2	1	7
Trinity Valley Community College	50	32	26	58	76

Graduation Data Comparison										
	Fall 2019		Fall 2020		Fall 2021		Fall 2022		Fall 2023	
	Cert	Assoc	Cert	Assoc	Cert	Assoc	Cert	Assoc	Cert	Assoc
Alamo Colleges – Northwest Vista	54	39	52	32	46	28	98	51	57	36
McLennan Community College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trinity Valley Community College	30	12	8	2	11	5	10	5	10	5

Program Linkage and Opportunities for Further Education:

Workforce Education Course Manual (WECM) coursework transfers to other technical and community colleges that offer the same courses in related programs. Currently the Network Systems Associates and the Bachelors of Applied Technology in Computer Information Technologies accepts credits from the technical coursework for the proposed Network Security Certificate giving our students the opportunity to stack their degrees as they achieve completion.



Currently, the courses in the proposed certificate are not taught at the high school level as dual credit courses. Our networking curriculum comes from our partnership with the Cisco Networking Academy. Instructors have to be trained and certified through our academy in order to teach our networking courses (ITCC 1414 CCNA1: Introduction to Networks and ITCC 1444 CCNA2: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials). The remaining courses that do not require certification can be considered for dual enrollment offerings in the future.

Students that complete the Certificate in Network Security will have an opportunity to be certified in the Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) Network, Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) Cybersecurity, Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) IT Support, and the CompTIA Network+ certifications. Students that pursue further education in to the Associates could pursue the Cisco Certified Network Associate certification.

Expected Enrollment & Declared Majors:

The Network Security Certificate is a new program that will enroll students wishing to pursue a degree related to networking in the Information Technology field. The students can then follow the guided pathways to our networking specialization via the Network Systems Associate. We utilized persistence rates from related programs to calculate our enrollment projections for this new award.

Years	AY 2025	AY 2026	AY 2027	AY 2028	AY 2029
Declared Majors	6	17	21	29	37

PROGRAM SUPPORT

Faculty

This new award consists of eight courses, six of which are currently taught by existing faculty and some of which are offered in the related programs. It is anticipated that all of the

coursework will be taught by existing faculty from the Information Technology department to either meet their baseload or compensated through overloads. However, to supplement the anticipated growth of the award, adjuncts would be hired as needed. The courses would average between 15-18 students per course.

Supplies & Materials

Supplies & Materials costs would cover the purchase of office supplies and consumables.

New Costs

Total costs for this award are projected to be \$119,073.90. The funding to defray the costs of this program will come from state appropriations: \$66,500.00 and tuition & fees: \$431,648.00. The total projected 5-year revenue is \$498,148.00. Refer to the budget for specific details.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Program Review and Improvement Plans

The Program Review and Improvement Process at South Texas College is embedded within the bi-annual Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Plan cycle. Academic, administrative, and educational support units of the College develop, implement, and monitor IE Plans. This continuous improvement process establishes expected outcomes at the unit level which support the achievement of STC's strategic plan and mission. IE Plans for academic units generally establish goals and action plans that focus on enhancements or innovations, as well as addressing any element of the program that needs to be improved, as indicated by the annual program review criteria, student learning assessment results, or individual program accreditation requirements.

Each educational program undergoes an annual program review, including criteria such as: enrollment, awards of degrees and certificates, persistence, course success rate, transfer rate, job placement rate, professional accreditations or certifications, licensure/credential exam pass rate, and program advisory committee meetings.

Program learning outcomes (PLOs) are developed for each educational program at STC. Each year, all educational programs assess student learning to demonstrate the level to which students have attained the knowledge or skills that make up these outcomes. Assessment data are collected and reported each year and form the bases for improvement strategies developed and implemented by program instructional staff.

Accreditation

The Network Security certificate is designed to be consistent with the standards of the Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC).

Enrollment Management Plan

POTENTIAL SOURCE OF STUDENTS

Potential students include recent high school graduates as well as individuals who are currently working within the Networking or Information Technology fields and are looking to obtain a degree to further advance their education. Graduates will likely find employment with any organization that has an Information Technology department. They could find employment as well within organizations that provide consultative services and solutions for their clients.

MARKETING

We market our degrees at every school Career Fair we attend, our own annual IT Expo and Rockin' IT events, and any other event the college holds with an opportunity to represent our departments. Cisco Networking Academy provides us with a marketing toolkit that includes presentations, banners, and many other different types of marketing materials.

RETENTION

Once students join our program, we will use Starfish to help advise students who are at risk or need services like tutoring to assist with their coursework. Faculty will continually advise students every semester on how to successfully complete their degrees. Students can also meet with our Guided Path Specialist to discuss any questions or concerns they might have about their degrees and schedules.

STUDENT SUPPORT

We will collaborate with the college's Centers for Learning Excellence to help students with their courses via tutoring services. We will work with our counselors and advisors in order to make the necessary accommodations needed for some students. We will assist those students with military duties that pull them away from their studies for a determined period of time.

Students can take advantage of the library services available as well as take advantage of the free databases like O'Reilly that provide additional books and other material to further enhance their coursework. We will use Blackboard messages and announcements in order to make students aware of these services.

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

The Network Security Certificate is a new program that will enroll students wishing to pursue a degree related to networking in the Information Technology field. The students can then follow the guided pathways to our networking specialization via the Network Systems Associate. We utilized persistence rates from related programs to calculate our enrollment projections for this new award.

Years	AY 2025	AY 2026	AY 2027	AY 2028	AY 2029
Declared Majors	6	17	21	29	37

PROJECTED NUMBER OF GRADUATES

The table below references the projected number of graduates based on the latest persistence rates and projected growth rates. These numbers are based on the persistence rate for our current Information and Network Systems Certificate. The most recent findings for the persistence rate from Fall 2022 to Fall

2023 is 52.9%. The persistence rate from Fall 2022 to Spring 2023 is 72.2%. We used a growth rate of 15% for each new Fall semester which is when we historically see our numbers grow.

Year	AY 2025	AY 2026	AY 2027	AY 2028	AY 2029
Graduates	0	8	11	15	20

PROGRAM SUCCESS METRICS

We will track and analyze our graduation rates to continue to support our students with any obstacles that might prevent them graduating from our program. We will offer support services like advising and tutoring to continue supporting students who wish to continue their education. We plan to track and analyze transfer rates from our Network Security Certificate in to the Network Systems Associate which aligns with the pathway for our networking degree. These students can also choose to further their education into our Bachelor of Applied Technology Computer Information Technologies. With the help and support of our advisory committee, we will continually gather feedback and make proposed changes to ensure that our program remains relevant and in step with industry.

Student Survey Summary



Student Survey for New Program Development Certificate in Network Security

Field Dates: September 19 – October 23, 2023

Sample Size: n=324, margin of error +/- 5%

Summary

Research & Analytical Services conducted a survey of students for the Curriculum Office. The eligible cohort was traditional students aged 18 and over enrolled in the Fall 2023 semester, from which a sample of 10,000 was drawn. Three hundred and twenty-four (n=324, 5%) responded. The sample was post-stratified and weighted by gender and program division to create a representative portrait of the traditional student body. The margin of error associated with this survey is plus/minus 5%. The data reported in this document is weighted.

Student interest in Network Security certificate was assessed. RAS tested three programs this semester and the correct interpretation of the data is to compare against the average of this cohort.

For a Certificate in Network Security, students expressed an average interest of 4.4 on a 1-to-10 scale, compared to 4.5 for the cohort average (cohort maximum 4.9). Business, Public Safety & Technology (BPST) majors expressed an average interest of 5.0, and male students averaged at 5.5.

Students rated the program on attributes that included:

- *Prefer this program to my current major* (24% vs. cohort average 27%, cohort maximum 33%, BPST 28%, MSITB 27%);
- *Sounds like a good-paying job* (76% vs. cohort average 76%, cohort maximum 77%, BPST 71%, MSITB 79%);
- *Sounds like the kind of job that would make my family proud* (54% vs. cohort average 58%, cohort maximum 66%, BPST 53%, MSITB 59%); and
- *Sounds like the kind of job that employers are hiring for here in the Valley* (62% vs. cohort average 56%, cohort maximum 70%, BPST 57%, MSITB 67%).

Curriculum & Course Descriptions



**SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE**

Program: Information Technology
 Specialization: N/A
 Award Title: Network Security Certificate

FICE CODE: 031034
 CIP CODE: TBD
 Major: TBD

TSI Exempt

Semester One			Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	External Hours	Contact Hours	Credit Hours
ITNW	1451	Fundamentals of Wireless LANs	3	3	0	96	4
ITSC	1405	Introduction to PC Operating Systems	3	3	0	96	4
ITSC	1425	Personal Computer Hardware	3	3	0	96	4
ITCC	1414	CCNA 1: Introduction to Networks	3	3	0	96	4
Total Semester Hours:			12	12	0	384	16

Semester Two			Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	External Hours	Contact Hours	Credit Hours
ITSY	1442	Information Technology Security	3	3	0	96	4
ITSE	1402	Computer Programming	3	3	0	96	4
ITNW	2444	Network Protocol Analysis	3	3	0	96	4
ITCC	1444	CCNA2: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials	3	3	0	96	4
Total Semester Hours:			12	12	0	384	16

STC Inventory Coursework						Total Contact Hours:	768
						Total Credit Hours:	32

Network Security

Course Descriptions – Workforce Courses

ITNW 1451 – Fundamentals of Wireless LANs

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:00

This focus of this course is to design, plan, implement, operate, and troubleshoot Wireless Local Area Networks (WLANs). Includes WLAN design, installation, and configuration; and WLAN security issues and vendor interoperability strategies.

Prerequisites: None.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Explain wireless technologies, topographies, and standards
- Design, install, configure, monitor, maintain, and troubleshoot wireless networks
- Implement wireless security using encryption, MAC filtering, Authentication, Authorization, and 802.1x technologies.

ITSC 1405 – Introduction to PC Operating Systems

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

This course is a study of personal computer operating systems. Topics include installation and configuration, file management, memory and storage management, control of peripheral devices, and use of utilities.

Prerequisite: None

Course Learning Outcomes

- Install, configure, and maintain the operating system
- Perform basic file management operations
- Organize and allocate primary and secondary storage
- Access and control peripheral devices
- Run utilities.

ITSC 1425 – Personal Computer Hardware

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

This course is a study of current personal computer hardware including personal computer assembly and upgrading, setup and configuration, and troubleshooting.

Prerequisite: None.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Assemble/setup and upgrade personal computer systems
- Diagnose and isolate faulty components
- Optimize system performance
- Install/connect peripherals

ITCC 1414 – CCNA1: Introduction to Networks

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

This course covers networking architecture, structure, security, and functions; introduces the principles and structure of IP addressing and the fundamentals of Ethernet concepts, media, and operations to provide a foundation for curriculum.

Prerequisite: None.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Configure a small network using basic security
- Perform basic configuration on routers and switches
- Implement IP addressing schemes.

ITSY 1442 – Information Technology Security

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

This course describes the instruction in security for network computer hardware, software, virtualization, and data, including physical security; backup procedures; relevant tools; encryption; and protection from viruses. Topics may adapt to changes in industry practices.

Prerequisite: ITCC 1414.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Apply National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidelines and other best practices
- Develop backup/recovery procedures to provide for data security
- Use desktop/device operating system features to implement security
- Identify computer and network threats and vulnerabilities and methods to prevent their effects
- Use tools to enhance network security
- Use encryption techniques to protect network local and distributed systems data.

ITSE 1402 – Computer Programming

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

This course is an introduction to computer programming including design, development, testing, implementation and documentation.

Prerequisite: None.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Design, write, test, and document computer programs.

ITNW 2444 – Network Protocol Analysis

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

Structured experience with the equipment, techniques and hardware necessary to measure horizontal and vertical angles and distances used in surveying This course describes the use of networking scanning tools to perform network traffic analysis, protocol identification, report preparation, and evidence presentation. Emphasizes technical aspects of network protocol analysis where cybersecurity is employed.

Prerequisite: ITCC 1414.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate network traffic pattern analysis preventing malicious and illegal network intrusion and penetration
- Explain detection of harmful networking data targeting organization business

- Identify business impact and corrective action
- Document network analysis and findings
- Demonstrate basic traffic pattern analysis utilizing scanning tools
- Analyze case studies involving collaborative investigation
- Present findings of network analysis.

ITCC 1444 CCNA 2: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials

CRT HRS:04 LEC HRS:03 LAB HRS:03 OTH HRS:0

This course describes the architecture, components, and operations of routers and switches in small networks and introduces wireless local area networks (WLAN) and security concepts; provides an in-depth understanding of how routers and switches operate and are implemented in the LAN environment.

Prerequisite: ITCC 1414.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Configure, secure, and maintain routers and switches
- Resolve common issues with routing protocols, virtual LANs, and inter-VLAN routing in both IPv4 and IPv6 networks
- Configure WLANs.

Program Learning Outcomes

- PLO 1: Graduates will configure, secure, and maintain routers and switches. (ITCC 1444 - CCNA 2: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials)
- PLO 2: Graduates will identify computer and network threats, vulnerabilities, and methods to prevent their effects. (ITSY 1442 - Information Technology Security)
- PLO 3: Graduates demonstrate basic traffic pattern analysis utilizing scanning tools. (ITNW 2444 - Network Protocol Analysis)

Instructional Costs & Projected Revenue

Projected Budget Impact - Network Security Certificate						
Faculty Salary & Benefits	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Totals
No. Sections						
LHE Rate	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	
Avg. # of LHE's per Course	5.01	5.01	5.01	5.01	5.01	
Subtotal	\$ 3,757.50	\$ 3,757.50	\$ 3,757.50	\$ 3,757.50	\$ 3,757.50	
# of Sections Taught by Adj/Sum/OV	1	2	3	4	4	
# of Sections Taught by Re-classified F/T	0	0	0	0	0	
# of Sections Taught by New F/T	0	0	0	0	0	
Salary Breakdown						
Adjunct/Overload Compensation	\$ 3,757.50	\$ 7,515.00	\$ 11,272.50	\$ 15,030.00	\$ 15,030.00	
Benefits Rate for Adjunct/Overload (18%)	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	
Compensation + Benefits for Adjunct/OV	\$ 4,433.85	\$ 8,867.70	\$ 13,301.55	\$ 17,735.40	\$ 17,735.40	\$ 62,073.90
New F/T Faculty @ \$48,000 avg salary	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Benefit Rate for F/T (30%)	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	
Salary + Benefits for New F/T	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
Administrative Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Benefits Rate for Stipends (18%)	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	
Compensation + Benefits for Stipends	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
Cost for Faculty Salary/Benefits	\$ 4,433.85	\$ 8,867.70	\$ 13,301.55	\$ 17,735.40	\$ 17,735.40	\$ 62,073.90
Projected Revenue						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Totals
State Appropriations						
Total # of Unduplicated Students per Year	0	8	11	15	20	
Level I Certificate (HD) @3500	\$ -	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 52,500.00	\$ 70,000.00	
State Appropriations Generated	\$ -	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 52,500.00	\$ 70,000.00	
State Appropriations Received	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 66,500.00
Tuition						
Enrollment # Projected (Duplicated)	24	101	133	169	231	
Tuition Rate per SCH	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00	
Subtotal	\$ 3,840.00	\$ 16,160.00	\$ 21,280.00	\$ 27,040.00	\$ 36,960.00	
# of SCH per Course	4	4	4	4	4	
Total Tuition	\$ 15,360.00	\$ 64,640.00	\$ 85,120.00	\$ 108,160.00	\$ 147,840.00	\$ 421,120.00
Mandatory Fees						
Student Activity Fee (\$4/SCH)	\$ 384.00	\$ 1,616.00	\$ 2,128.00	\$ 2,704.00	\$ 3,696.00	
Total Fees:	\$ 384.00	\$ 1,616.00	\$ 2,128.00	\$ 2,704.00	\$ 3,696.00	\$ 10,528.00
Total Tuition & Fees:	\$ 15,744.00	\$ 66,256.00	\$ 87,248.00	\$ 110,864.00	\$ 151,536.00	\$ 431,648.00
Notes: LHE rate of \$750 was used because most of the current faculty teaching the existing courses hold a Master's Degree. The average number of LHEs per course was derived from the proposed 5-year course schedule and based on the respective academic year. Number of credit hours per course is 4 SCH. Number of sections is based on projected enrollment due to program demand.						

Operating Costs						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Totals
Faculty Salaries and Benefits	\$4,433.85	\$8,867.70	\$13,301.55	\$17,735.40	\$17,735.40	\$62,073.90
Supplies and Materials (Operating)	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00	\$22,000.00
Library Resources	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment and Software (Capital)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facilities (Furniture) (Operating)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Faculty Professional Development/(Travel)	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$35,000.00
Subtotal - Instructional & Operating Costs	\$15,833.85	\$20,267.70	\$24,701.55	\$29,135.40	\$29,135.40	\$119,073.90
Total Budget Per Year	\$15,833.85	\$20,267.70	\$24,701.55	\$29,135.40	\$29,135.40	\$119,073.90
Revenue						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Totals
State Appropriations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 66,500.00
Tuition & Fees	\$ 15,744.00	\$ 66,256.00	\$ 87,248.00	\$ 110,864.00	\$ 151,536.00	\$ 431,648.00
Total Revenue	\$ 15,744.00	\$ 66,256.00	\$ 87,248.00	\$ 138,864.00	\$ 190,036.00	\$ 498,148.00

Supporting Documentation

Network Security Certificate Advisory Committee Membership

Name	Title	Contact
Diana Berger	Operations Manager, South/West Texas, New Mexico	Netsync 1224 East Jasmine Ave., Suite B McAllen, TX 78501 (956) 451-8628 dberger@netsync.com
David M. Culberson	Chief Technology Officer	Sharyland ISD 1200 N. Shary Rd. Mission, TX 78572 (956) 584-6410 dculberson@sharylandisd.org
Adan Mendoza	IT Security Analyst	Urban Strategies 299 E. Heywood St. San Benito, TC 78586 amendoza11278@gmail.com
Daira Natividad	Technology Solutions Specialist	City of San Juan S. Nebraska St. San Juan, Texas 78537 (956) 223-2259 dnatividad@sjtx.us
Maggie Peña	Chief Experience Officer	Interlace Health 13421 Manchester Road Suite 208 St. Louis, MO 63131 (314) 677-3800 mpena@interlacehealth.com



Pharr



MAYOR Ambrosio Hernandez, MD

COMMISSIONERS Michael Pacheco | Roberto "Bobby" Carrillo | Ramiro Caballero, MD | Daniel Chavez | Ricardo Medina | Itza Flores

November 28th, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

We at the City of Pharr Innovation & Technology department fully support this new Network Security Certificate program being considered at South Texas College. As we continue to grow our department due to the growth of our city operations with our TeamPharr.Net initiative as well as improving our internal services we offer, we always look at candidates that fit our culture of excellent customer service, having excellent soft skills as well as having experience and higher education in technology. Security is at the forefront in everything we do and for this reason, we expect all our staff to understand how this is critical in our daily operations. We are a team of 46 technology employees and now have multiple dedicated security professionals like Cybersecurity Analysts on our Systems & Security division as well as a Network Analyst to assist our Network Administrator on our Network & Support division.

This credential will help us better understand the capabilities of candidates applying for jobs with us as it shows they have the foundation to know how networks operate as well as the importance of having a security first, zero trust mindset. This is a skill that all public sector agencies highly need, and this is one sector that continues to develop and adapt to the ever-growing demands for these types of jobs as well as the systems available to solve and assist in this sector. Having quality education is critical for securing our public networks, which is why we highly support this initiative.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JP".

Jose J. Peña
Director of IT

Telephone (956) 402-4100 | Fax (956) 702-5313 | P.O. Box 1729 | 118 S. Cage | Pharr, Texas 78577

www.pharr-tx.gov



Judith Escamilla
Executive Director of Technology
4309 Warrior Drive
McAllen, TX 78501

December 7th, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

There's an immediate need to have a Network Security certificate available to our community and our future workforce. The need to understand the basics of networking and the intricacies of the importance of knowing how data flows within an organization is imperative.

In K-12 users' dependance on wireless and hardline devices is changing the entry level technician positions to require networking knowledge. As well as IOT (Internet of Things) has posed higher demands on networking and how to secure these devices. This certificate will prepare and provide skilled workforce from our own local college.

If you need additional justification do not hesitate to contact me at 956-286-5694 or by email at judith.escamilla@mcallenisd.net

Thank you for asking the community and keeping our area up to date with the constant changes and demands in the Technology field.

Sincerely,

Judith Escamilla
Judith Escamilla

MCALLEN ISD
DEPARTMENT For TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS
V 4-5-19

NETSYNC

Dear Texas Workforce Commission Jet Grant Representative,

We are pleased to inform you that Netsync Network Solutions is fully supportive of South Texas College's Information Technology Program. We have hired several graduates from this program and they have proven time and again that they are competent, receptive to teaching, and are willing to be trained to become team players in our organization.

We will be willing to hire your graduates as appropriate and provide them with the support they need while they grow in the information technology profession.

Sincerely,

Authorized Employer Title: Operations Manager, South/West Texas

Print Name: Diana Berger

Diana
Berger

Digitally signed by Diana Berger
DN: cn=Diana Berger, o=Netsync,
ou=Email: dberger@netsync.com,
c=US
Date: 2023.12.05 08:35:36 -0600

Signature: _____

Date: 11/22/23

Name and type of Business: Netsync Network Solutions - Technology Integrator

Contact Information: (telephone number, email address or mailing address) _____

956.451.8628; dberger@netsync.com; 1224 E. Jasmine, Ste. B McAllen, TX 78501



SISD SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Maria M. Vidaurri

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jose "Pepe" Garcia – President

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David Keith – Asst. Secretary

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Meagan Sullivan – Member

Julio Cerda – Member

1200 N. SHARY ROAD, MISSION, TX 78572 PHONE: 956-580-5200 FAX: 956-580-5229 WWW.SHARYLANDISD.ORG

12-04-2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing this letter in support of the proposed Network Security Certificate. Having this option available for students will give them an opportunity to start working in that area of study while continuing their education if they choose to do so. This will benefit our industry with providing entry level network security team members sooner than later which can be a stepping stone to further their career at our organization. A certificate in that field will give students an advantage when applying for jobs in the network security arena. Based on my own personal experience, students with a certificate that are given the chance to work in the network security field will pick up a wealth of knowledge and work with cutting edge hardware and software used in the field today. Please let me know if there is anything we can do to further support this endeavor.

David M. Culberson

Chief Technology Officer | Sharyland Independent School District

E: dculberson@sharylandisd.org | T: (956) 584-6410

SISD does not discriminate on basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age or disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

Trust • Communication • Collective Responsibility • Care • Pride



March 1, 2024

To whom it may concern:

Your Network Security Certificate program is crucial for addressing the increasing importance of network security in today's technology industry. As our world becomes more interconnected, where data is constantly transmitted across networks, ensuring integrity, confidentiality, and availability of information is vital. By offering comprehensive training in network security, your program not only equips students with essential skills but also helps meet the industry's demand for qualified talent. As a potential employer invested in our community's workforce development, I see tremendous value in supporting initiatives like yours. I'm fully committed to backing your program and excited to see how its graduates will contribute to our industry.

I am confident that your Network Security Certificate program will make a significant impact on our community and the technology industry. Should you require any further assistance or support, please don't hesitate to let me know. Looking forward to seeing the program thrive.

Best regards,

Maggie Peña, MBA
Chief Experience Officer at Interlace Health

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