

Cybersecurity Internships in NSA-CAE Programs: An Overview

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Abstract

Internships and co-ops are widely recognized as one of the most beneficial types of experiences for college students. A large number of studies have identified the value of internships for different types of students. Few studies have explored how internships are integrated into academic coursework for NSA-CAE programs. In this study, attention is given to the use of internships and co-ops in cybersecurity programs certified as National Centers of Academic Excellence. Implications for expanding internship programs are addressed along with patterns that predict the inclusion of internships and co-ops in different cybersecurity programs. The paper concludes with recommendations for ensuring that internships are both academically rigorous and relevant to workforce needs.