



Colorado-Washington Security Scholars Program (CWSSP) program provides funding to students pursuing studies and careers in cybersecurity.

Recipients have access to activities developed for CWSSP students and will be fully integrated into the department's research programs as well as development of teamwork and leadership skills through the Virtual Team Course.

CWSSP is funded through a grant awarded by the National Science Foundation and is a CyberCorps Scholarship for Service (SFS) program. Upon graduation, recipients agree to work for the U.S. Government for a period equal to their length of participation in the CWSSP program. More information available at <https://www.uccs.edu/cwssp/>

Scholarship Benefits

While the scholarship is typically for up to two years, the funding period may be extended to three years for doctoral students or for students in combined bachelor's and master's degree programs. The specific benefits are:

Tuition and fees: Colorado Resident Tuition and education related fees (does not include items such as meal plans, housing, or parking). Non-Residents will have tuition waived up to resident amount.

Stipend: Academic year stipends of \$25,000 per year for undergraduate students and \$34,000 per year for graduate students.

Professional development: Professional allowance of \$6,000 for program-related travel, research and projects, and professional certification in cybersecurity. Participation in virtual and in-person job fairs in Washington D.C. Virtual Teams Course for learning and developing teamwork skills and knowledge.

Research: Each student will work on a research project under the direction of a CWSSP faculty member

Employment: Participants commit to post-graduation government service for a period equivalent to the length of scholarship.

Requirements and Eligibility

The eligibility criteria are as follows:

A United States citizen or permanent resident.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

April 15, 2022 (For new students applying to UCCS)

June 1, 2022 (For currently enrolled UCCS students)



A full-time Cybersecurity student at the UCCS Computer Science department, including a qualified junior/senior at UCCS pursuing a Computer Science degree with a Cybersecurity concentration, a Master's student in Cybersecurity, or a Ph.D. student in Security.

Each student must meet selection criteria for the US federal executive agency employment.

Internship placements and final job placements in federal government organizations typically require security clearances. Scholarship recipients are required to undergo the background investigation necessary to obtain such clearances as part of the job/internship application process.

Obligation for Scholarship Recipient

In return for receiving scholarship benefits, each recipient will have the following requirements:

Complete the degree program successfully and on time.

Participate in government internship positions in the summers during the years of scholarship study; doctoral students may be allowed to replace their summer internship with a research activity following a recommendation from their CWSSP advisor and approval from the CWSSP and SFS offices.

Upon graduation, each student will be required to work in a position related to cybersecurity in a federal executive agency of the US government for a period equal to the length of the scholarship for a period equal to the length of the scholarship or one year, whichever is longer (an academic year of scholarship establishes a requirement for one calendar year of work).

Each student is responsible for identifying, applying for, and securing a qualified position.

Participate in other CWSSP and CyberCorps® SFS activities, such as conferences, workshops and seminars.

Application Process and Criteria

Each applicant to the CWSSP program should provide the following:

1. Completed CWSSP application
2. Statement of purpose and description of goals and motivations to pursue a career in cybersecurity.
3. Official transcripts of all college work
4. Resume including a list of academic recognitions, awards, honor or distinctions that you have received and/or academic research.
5. Two Letters of Reference from persons familiar with your background and potential; At least one should be from a current faculty and may be from UCCS or other institutions

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Additional letters of recommendation from employers, supervisors, or other faculty members are encouraged, though not required

Applicants should send in electronic form all the information listed above to Ms. Carrie Olson at colson4@uccs.edu. Please include "**CWSSP Application**" in the Subject line.

Criteria for Selection

The selection criteria are as follows:

Undergraduate Students

United States citizen or permanent resident

Junior or Senior at UCCS. Students must be able to complete their undergraduate degree requirements in no more than two years (i.e., four regular semesters) following acceptance into the program

Competitive GPA

Recommendation letters from two faculty members. Additional letters from employers or faculty members are acceptable

Evaluation of the student's potential for success in the program

Graduate Students (Master's or Ph.D.)

United States citizen or permanent resident

Official acceptance into the graduate program by UCCS

Competitive GPA

Recommendation letters from two faculty members. Additional letters from employers or faculty members are acceptable

Evaluation of the student's potential for success in the program

Additional Criteria for Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

Interest in cybersecurity

Potential or experience in conducting research or project in cybersecurity

Commitment to participate in summer internship and service following degree completion according to the guidelines of the CWSSP program

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University of Colorado
Colorado Springs

**Colorado-Washington Security
Scholars Program (CWSSP)**

Demonstrated leadership, participation in team activities, prior social service, and/or evidence of creative and independent thinking and/or acting

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Program Overview

The CWSSP program is designed to increase and strengthen the cadre of cybersecurity professionals to protect the government's critical information infrastructure.

Requirements

The requirements for the CWSSP program are as follows:

- U.S. Citizenship or permanent resident
- Ability to obtain a U.S. security clearance
- Enrolled at UCCS cybersecurity degree programs at the Computer Science Department during the time of scholarship
- Undergraduate
 - Rising Junior or Senior standing (within two years of graduation)
 - Competitive GPA
- Graduate
 - Competitive GPA

Application Material

Students interested in applying for the CWSSP scholarship should submit the following:

- Completed and signed application form (the next two pages of this document)
- Statement of purpose and description of goals and motivations to pursue a career in cybersecurity.
- Official transcripts of all college work
- Resume including a list of academic research and recognitions, awards, honor or distinctions that you have received.
- Two Letters of Reference from persons familiar with your background and potential; At least one should be from a current faculty and may be from UCCS or other institutions

All application materials must be sent to: Ms. Carrie Olson at colson4@uccs.edu

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Applicant Information

Legal Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Unit#

City State Zip Code

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Are you a resident of Colorado? Yes No

Are you a citizen of the U.S? Yes No If no, are you a permanent resident? Yes No

Education Background (List most recent program first)

University: _____ Major: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? Yes No Degree: _____

GPA: _____



University: _____ Major: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? Yes No Degree: _____

GPA: _____



University: _____ Major: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? Yes No Degree: _____

GPA: _____





If you are in the Ph.D. Program, state your area of research: _____

References

Please list two professional references. At least one of your references must be a faculty member.

Full Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Full Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Obligation Affirmation and Signature

CWSSP Scholarship recipients are obliged to:

- Complete the degree program successfully and on time.
- Complete a summer internship with a US government agency.
- Serve in the federal executive agency of the US government after graduation. Service obligation will be equal to one year of service in a cyber-security related position for each year of funding received.

For more information regarding the government agency service obligation, please consult the Federal Register CyberCorps Scholarship for Service website: [Federal Cyber SFS](#)

Affirmation and Signature

I have read and understand the requirements of the CWSSP program.

I affirm that I will adhere to the government service obligation as defined by the program. Failure to do so shall be subject to the repayment provisions of the United States government. I affirm that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: _____ Date: _____