



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY
IN EACH REGION

Virginia Cyber Alliance



Chart Your Course to a Cutting-edge Career

3-Pronged Approach to growing the Cyber Industry

The Virginia Cyber Alliance is a partnership of over 60 industry, government, and academic institutions working to expand GO Virginia Region V's influence in cybersecurity, data analytics, and unmanned autonomous systems (UAS). The VCA drives economic growth through internships and subsidies (Digital Entrant), outreach (Cyber Trial), and technology assistance (Cyber Arena).

Digital Entrant Program

High School Internships

- VCA provides funding to support internships for 35 high school students
- All high schools in Region V are eligible to participate. Internship positions must be in Region V
- All Peninsula high school positions are coordinated through the New Horizons Regional Education Center in Hampton
- Internships (20-hours each) can be completed at any time during the calendar year



College - University - Exiting Military Internships

- Twenty intern positions are supported. VCA contributes a maximum of \$2200 each towards internship costs
- Participating companies from anywhere in Region V can participate. Individual interns are NOT required to be from Region V, but internships must be completed in the region
- Companies may have more than one intern and are encouraged to do so as a way to evaluate potential new employees
- One person advanced from being an intern to full time employment using the Digital Entrant program
- Veterans in related fields are treated as equivalent to college and university students in recognition of experience. Three veterans filled positions in the first year
- Program marketed and administered through the Virginia Space Grant Consortium (also administers Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program and other opportunities. See <http://csiip.spacegrant.org/VCAI>)
- Internships can be completed at any time during the calendar year

Digital Entrant New Employee Salary Subsidies

- Eight positions are available for Year Two
- Employing companies receive one-half of first year's salary (up to \$30,000) for employees in new positions as agreed upon professional milestones are completed
- Participating employees accomplish professional goals and agree to remain with the company working in the field for a second (unsubsidized) year
- Companies and individuals participating in the first year enthusiastically endorse the program
- Eight full time employees placed in five different companies in Year One



For more information on the Virginia Cyber Alliance visit <https://virginiacyberalliancecareers.org/>

Cyber Trail Outreach

- Virginia Cyber Alliance Website: <https://virginiacyberalliancecareers.org/>
- Sponsored workshops provide opportunities for professional advancement and networking.
- Potential workshop topics include cybersecurity internship and apprenticeship programs, educational and career pathways, trends in cyber-attacks and business risks, & business opportunities in cybersecurity
- Conferences provide opportunities to share knowledge, advance innovation, and demonstrate products. Networking opportunities enhance partnerships. Planned conferences for 2019 include Thomas Nelson Community College Regional Cybersecurity Conference, Old Dominion University CyberOPS'19, and Regent University Cybersecurity Summit
- Career fairs and industry-student mixers support meetings between growing companies and eager professionals
- Monthly VCA Advisory Board meetings



Cybersecurity networking event

Cyber Arena (laboratory) support

- The Unmanned autonomous Surface Vehicle Lab supports product development and partnerships at no- to minimal cost.
- Cybersecurity and unmanned autonomous vehicle research and testing is supported with equipment and highly qualified technical assistance at no- to minimal cost.
- Informal Unmanned Autonomous System association formed. Participating companies and ODU are pursuing partnership proposals and projects that will further grow the UAS industry
- An Internet based SCADA training system for professional development, developed through partnership with Peregrine Technical Solutions and the University of Alaska Southeast supports professional growth

Cybersecurity college students working on a project



Cybersecurity college students learning network infrastructure

