



Golden Eagle Cyber Certificate Program Call for Participation – K12 District Leaders

The **Golden Eagle Cyber Certificate (GECC) Program** is a three-course program (nine credit hours) introducing high school students to foundational cybersecurity-related topics and thought processes. The target audience for this program is any student with a natural curiosity for STEM. It is intended to provide a cybersecurity foundation for all interested students, not just those seeking a career in cybersecurity or computing. Accordingly, **a cybersecurity or computer science background is not required. There are no prerequisites for any of these courses.** Rather than focus on an industry certification, each of the courses in the program is designed to contribute to two or four-year higher education program objectives for any major either as major-specific, general education or elective credits.

Available Courses

The initial program will focus on the following three courses offered by Tennessee Tech University (TNTech). Additional courses will be added to the portfolio in later semesters.

- **CSC 1200 (Principles of Computing)** – Lec. 3 Credit 3. This course introduces the field of computer science. Topics include computing as a creative activity, abstraction, data and information, algorithms, programming, the Internet, and global impacts of computing.
- **CSC 2570 (Introduction to Cybersecurity and Privacy)** – Lec. 3 Credit 3. Introduction to fundamental principles, common attacks, and defense mechanisms in the area of cybersecurity, and privacy. Students will be introduced to fundamental concepts and building blocks of computers with cyber defense elements including security objectives, attack types, adversary models, policies and models, threat modeling along with anonymity, cyber security ethics, and legal issues. This is an introduction level course for students interested in cybersecurity.
- **SOC 1010 (Introduction to Sociology - cyber section)** – Lec. 3 Credit 3. Fundamental concepts and basic principles underlying human social relations including a review of cybersecurity implications. This course is open to any major and will count towards general education credit.

The goals of the GECC program are to

- Provide a high-level introduction to the area of cybersecurity exposing the breadth of areas of study in which the topic is relevant
- Encourage high school students to consider cybersecurity as an area of study in their post-secondary education
- Contribute to the cybersecurity workforce development goals for the Cybersecurity Education, Research and Outreach Center at Tennessee Tech University as well as the goals set forth by the State of Tennessee
- Facilitate growth in overall student participation in STEM-related fields

Course Delivery and Scheduling

All courses are offered in an asynchronous, online format via Tennessee Tech learning platforms and are taught by Tennessee Tech faculty. Participating districts need only to provide the following:

- District Memorandum of Understanding (template found on website)
- A learning space with an Internet-connected computer
- Logistical support for students submitting admissions and registration documents to TNTech

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Course Funding Opportunities for Students

Students wishing to participate in the program can use TSAC Dual Enrollment Grant funds (if eligible). Eligibility requirements for the TSAC dual enrollment grant program can be found at <https://www.tn.gov/collegepays/money-for-college/tn-education-lottery-programs/dual-enrollment-grant.html>. Dual enrollment fee schedules (as aligned with TSAC funding) can be found at https://www.tntech.edu/bursar/pdf/fees_22-23/Dual_Enrollment_AY_23.pdf. A three-hour course is \$538.65 and would be fully covered by TSAC for eligible students.

Become a Part of the Program NOW!

Complete information including required forms about the program can be found at <https://www.tntech.edu/ceroc/education/gecc/>.