KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
CERTIFICATION OF CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Preparation Date | Curriculum Bulletin _____

Effective Date **Fall 2020** | Approved by EPC _____

Department	**Information Technology**
College	**AP - Applied and Technical Studies**
Degree	**AAB - Associate of Applied Business**
Program Name	**Cybersecurity** Program Banner Code
Concentration(s)	Concentration(s) Banner Code(s)
Proposal	**Establish program**

Description of proposal:

This proposal is to establish a major, Cybersecurity, in the AAB degree.

Does proposed revision change program's total credit hours? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Current total credit hours: Proposed total credit hours

Describe impact on other programs, policies or procedures (e.g., duplication issues; enrollment and staffing considerations; need; audience; prerequisites; teacher education licensure):

No impact on other Associate degree programs. The focus of the existing Associate of Applied Business in Information Technology is on computer support. Supporting computer infrastructures relies on securing them. As the proposed AAB in Cybersecurity major will be designed to provide job opportunities and articulate into the existing Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT).

Units consulted (other departments, programs or campuses affected by this proposal):

Regional Campus Faculty Councils, CATS Curriculum Committee, EPC, Faculty Senate

REQUIRED ENDORSEMENTS

Will Walt III — 1/2020
Department Chair / School Director

Susan J. Stocker (Ashtabula) — 1/21/2020
Campus Dean (for Regional Campuses proposals)

Susan J. Stocker (CATS) — 1/21/2020
College Dean (or designee)

___/___/___
Dean of Graduate Studies (for graduate proposals)

___/___/___
Provost (or designee)

INITIAL INQUIRY
REQUEST TO OFFER A NEW PROGRAM

Date of submission: *To come*

Name of institution: Kent State University

Primary institutional contact for this request:
Therese E. Tillett
Associate Vice President of Curriculum Planning and Administration
Office of the Provost
330-672-8558,
ttillet1@kent.edu

Name of program: Cybersecurity major, Associate of Applied Business degree

Classification of Instructional Program (CIP): **11.1003 Computer and Information Systems Security/Information Assurance.** A program that prepares individuals to assess the security needs of computer and network systems, recommend safeguard solutions, and manage the implementation and maintenance of security devices, systems, and procedures. Includes instruction in computer architecture, programming, and systems analysis; networking; telecommunications; cryptography; security system design; applicable law and regulations; risk assessment and policy analysis; contingency planning; user access issues; investigation techniques; and troubleshooting.

Proposed start date: Fall 2020
Start date is contingent upon final approval from the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission.

Type of request:
☐ New degree designation at Kent State
☒ New major within an existing degree at Kent State

Delivery options:
☒ Campus-based
☒ Online/hybrid delivery
☐ Flexible or accelerated delivery
☐ Offering the program at a new offsite location
☐ Offering the program at an existing offsite location
☐ Program contains off-campus experiences (e.g., internship, clinical, student teaching)

The institution will be seeking specialized accreditation for the program:
☒ No ☐ Yes

Provide a brief description of the request.

Kent State University proposes the establishment of an Associate of Applied Business (A.A.B.) degree in Cybersecurity. The program will be administered by the university's College of Applied and Technical Studies and offered fully online as well as online/on-ground at six regional campuses (Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Trumbull, Tuscarawas) and at Kent State's Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg. The Trumbull Campus will be the admitting campus for first-time Kent State students declaring the fully online program.

Explain the academic unit's rationale for making the request.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the job outlook for information security analysts (those who plan and carry out security measures to protect an organization's networks and systems) will grow by an astounding 32 percent in the next 10 years.[1] Cybersecurity Ventures, a researcher and publisher covering the global cyber economy, announced that the employment rate has dropped to zero percent and predicts that there will be 3.5 million unfilled cybersecurity positions by 2021.[2]

The proposed Cybersecurity degree will complement the existing computer-related degree programs at Kent State University and respond to a national need for more graduates trained to provide a secure infrastructure.

The College of Applied and Technical Studies currently offers an Information Technology major within the A.A.B. and B.S.I.T. degrees. Those degree programs focus on educating future computer support specialists. The proposed Cybersecurity associate degree major will be designed to articulate as a seamless pathway into the B.S.I.T. degree, which offers a concentration in applied computer security and forensics. Both the proposed Cybersecurity major and the B.S.I.T. degree will be/are offered fully online in addition to hybrid (online/on-ground) at Kent State's regional campuses. In fall 2019 (15th-day census), there were 274 students enrolled in the B.S.I.T. degree, of which 83 students are enrolled in the Applied Computer Security and Forensics concentration.

Indicate whether additional resources (e.g., faculty, staff, facilities, technology) will be needed to support the proposed request.

There is no anticipated need for additional faculty or staff to support this degree program. Six of Kent State's regional campuses, as well as the Regional Academic Center, will offer the cybersecurity coursework for the proposed degree. This coursework can also be used for the existing A.A.B. degree in Information Technology. Approximately 12 full-time faculty members teach the major courses (on-ground and online) for the information technology programs.

[1] Bureau of Labor Statistics: U.S. Department of Labor (2018). Retrieved from www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/information-security-analysts.htm.

[2] Morgan, S. (21 December 2018). Top 5 cybersecurity jobs that will pay $200,000 to $500,000 in 2019. Cybercrime Magazine. Retrieved from https://cybersecurityventures.com/career-news.