

11.18.2020

Information on the Department of Defense Cybersecurity Scholarship Program 2021

Paraphrased from the *Department of Defense Cyber Scholarship Program SOLICITATION FOR PROPOSALS 2021*

If you are selected to participate in the Department of Defense (DoD) Cybersecurity Scholarship Program (CySP), you will be *required* to sign a written agreement obligating you to work for the U.S. Department of Defense as a civilian employee for one calendar year for each year of scholarship assistance. This agreement is provided to the selecting agency for their records to ensure compliance with the service commitment. You will also be *required* to serve in internship positions, if timing permits, with the DoD organizations during the time you are receiving scholarship support until you complete the course of study provided for by the scholarship. These internships will be arranged by the Department of Defense to occur during the summer or other breaks between school terms, as appropriate to the your circumstances and the Illinois Tech calendar. These internships do not count toward satisfying the period of obligated service incurred by accepting the CySP scholarship. You will be *required* to formally accept or decline the scholarship within 15 days of notification. Non-acceptance by this date will mean your scholarship will be offered to the next available student.

You will be *required* to complete a security investigation questionnaire to initiate the process for a background investigation in preparation for your internships, if applicable, and as a condition of future employment with the DoD. Drug tests or other suitability processing will occur as appropriate. You will also be *required* to sign an agreement stating that you will accept assignments requiring travel or change of duty stations as an intern or employee. If you voluntarily terminate employment during intern appointments or before the end of the period of obligated service required by the terms of Chapter 112, title 10, United States Code, you will be *required* to refund the United States, in whole or in part, the cost of the educational assistance that has been provided to you. Web links have been provided in the Application Background and Application Package for review about security clearances to assist you in understanding these requirements before you apply.

An opportunity also exists for scholarship payback through military service. If you choose to enlist or accept a commission to serve on active duty in one of the Military Services, you shall incur a service obligation of a minimum of 4 years on active duty in that Service upon graduation. Each of the Military Services may establish a service obligation longer than 4 years, depending on the occupational specialty and type of enlistment or commissioning program selected.

Undergraduate scholarship recipients will be required to maintain a 3.2 out of 4.0 grade point average or the equivalent; graduate students will be required to maintain an overall 3.5 out of a 4.0 grade point average, or equivalent. Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress will constitute grounds for termination of your financial assistance and termination of internship and/or employment appointment. Additionally, if you fail to complete the degree program satisfactorily or to fulfill the service commitment upon graduation, you shall be required to reimburse the United States, in whole or in part, the cost of the financial (scholarship) assistance provided to you. Illinois Institute of Technology's **Center for Cyber Security and Forensics Education (C²SAFE)** will be responsible for monitoring student progress and will notify the DoD CySP Program Manager should any student scholar fail to attain minimum academic standards required for continuing scholarship support.

Except for small achievement awards, not to exceed \$5,500 in an academic year, a student may not accept simultaneous remuneration from another scholarship or fellowship. The DoD CySP is a first pay scholarship program.

Graduate programs may include a reasonable amount of teaching or similar activities that are, in Illinois Institute of Technology's opinion, contributory to the student's academic progress; however, the development of students, not service to the university, will govern the assignment of these activities.

If you are selected to participate in the DoD CySP, you are *required* to sign a written agreement obligating you to work for the Department of Defense. Additional information about obligations can be found in the "Guidelines for DoD Civilians and Military Personnel Academic Opportunities for Calendar Year 2021."

*Quoted from the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Scholarship Program
Application Background and Requirements, Recruitment / Basic Scholarships
ATTACHMENT C*

An acceptable application package for the CySP consists of the following requirements:

- ◆ The CySP Student Application completely filled out and signed. (Attachment D)
- ◆ Separate sheet highlighting recognitions, honors and awards. Attach a separate sheet of plain 8 ½” x 11” paper on which you record your responses or the continuations of your responses. On each such page, indicate your name.
- ◆ Supplemental Academic Sufficiency Statement. You must complete the Statement of Academic Sufficiency supplement to the OF612, to which you must attach the following additional supplemental statements:
- ◆ Resume a template has been provided in the application. Applicants are required to use the template.
- ◆ One (1) Letter of Reference from a current faculty member who is fully knowledgeable of your potential for successful learning, your knowledge, and your ability. See remainder of application package for instructions about the content of this Letter of Reference. Letters must be on University letterhead and contain the full name and contact information of the faculty member (phone, email, and address).
- ◆ One (1) additional Letter of Reference from either a current or former faculty member, or a current or former supervisor who is fully knowledgeable of your potential for successful learning, your knowledge, and your ability. See remainder of application package for instructions about the content of this Letter of Reference. Letters must be on official letterhead and contain the full name and contact information of the faculty member or current/former supervisor (phone, email, and address).
- ◆ Official (certified) Transcripts from all the institutions of higher learning you have attended. Electronic transcripts may be accepted as long as they are certified by the institution. NOTE: University POCs processing applications for submission may open the transcripts.
- ◆ Supplemental Competency Statement: Knowledge, Skills and Attributes: You must complete the OF612 Supplemental Competency Statement with narrative responses that describe the level of your attainment of the knowledge and ability factors indicated. See remainder of application package for instructions about the content of this supplemental statement.
- ◆ Signature of the Supplemental Statement of General Academic and Employment Conditions. If you agree with the all of the academic and employment conditions required for your receipt of scholarship assistance and appointment under the CySP, and wish to be considered for it, you must sign the OF612 Supplemental Statement of General Academic and Employment Conditions, which is the last page of the Attachment D, Student Application.