Canberra Institute of Technology

RTO 0101 | CRICOS No. 00001K

CYBER SECURITY TAFE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Your roadmap to a career in the cyber security industry



cit.edu.au/cyberCOE

The Cyber Security TAFE Centre of Excellence is a joint initiative between the Australian Government and ACT Government.



CONTENTS

STEP 1 BUILD YOUR SKILLS WHILE AT SCHOOL (YR 9-12) 4

STEP 2 GETTING STARTED AND EXPLORING YOUR INTERESTS 5

STEP 3 ENTRY POINTS 6

STEP 4 START FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS 7

STEP 5 MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP PATHWAYS 10

CIT can help you gain the critical skills needed to protect Australia's digital world in a fast-growing, high-demand industry. Whether you are interested in hunting down cyber threats, defensive coding, or stopping hackers in their tracks, there is a career pathway waiting for you.

We provide hands-on learning environments through our Cyber Security Department, a state-of-the-art Cyber Security Operations Centre and training labs, and experienced industry-certified educators to equip you for success.

STEP 1 BUILD YOUR SKILLS WHILE AT SCHOOL (YR 9-12)

You don't have to wait until you graduate to get started. While you are still at school, you can start building the skills you need to enter the tech industry:

- **Analytical Thinking:** Choose subjects like Mathematics and Information Technology (IT) to build your logic and problem-solving skills.
- **Digital Technologies:** Take technical electives to learn the basics of coding, networking, and software scripting.
- **Core Systems Knowledge:** Take STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) and computer science streams to learn how to decode networks and spot weaknesses.
- **Practical Hardware Skills**: Study computer systems or electronics units to understand how hardware and devices connect to each other.
- **Hands-on Challenges:** Ask your teachers about taking part in school cyber security exercises, hackathons, and cyber competitions.

STEP 2 GETTING STARTED AND EXPLORING YOUR INTERESTS

You can explore your interests in the cyber security industry by undertaking work experience or attending events or enrolment days to get a deeper understanding of the industry.

- **Explore CIT events and see if the industry is right for you:**
  - CIT Open Day
  - CIT Cyber Security Awareness Day
  - Hackathons
  - CIT Twilight Enrolment Session
  - Career expo events
- **Work experience:** Apply for work experience with local IT teams or tech providers. It is a great way to see if you prefer proactive threat hunting, incident response, or ethical hacking.



STEP 3 ENTRY POINTS

There are a number of ways you can enter the cyber security industry:

- **School-Based Apprenticeship (ASBA) Pathway:** Start an IT or cyber traineeship during year 11 or 12, allowing you to earn money and gain real-world experience while continuing your school studies.
- **Entry-level Roles:** Start immediately in the industry in a role that does not require a formal qualification such as:
  - IT retail
  - Hardware assembly assistant



STEP 4 START FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS

Enrol in an accredited course to begin your formal qualifications for your chosen specialisation.

*Course details correct at time of publication. For the most up-to-date information about courses please visit **cit.edu.au** or **training.gov.au***

CIT Qualifications:

- **ICT30120 Certificate III in Information Technology**
  Build your foundational computer support and digital safety awareness.
- **22603VIC Certificate IV in Cyber Security**
  Launch your career with this technician-level course. Designed to equip you with the technical skills you need to be a cyber security technician.
- **SA-BD55 Statement of Attainment - Introduction to Cyber Security Awareness**
  Take your first step into cyber security with this short introductory course, perfect for learning how to protect devices and stay safe online.
- **SA-BD64 Statement of Attainment - Introduction to Organisational Cyber Security**
  Build a solid foundation in understanding the threats, risks, and vulnerabilities that impact networks, apps, and data in the real world.
- **ICT50220 Diploma of Information Technology (Cyber Security)**
  Learn to administer and manage ICT support using a wide range of cutting-edge technologies.

Other qualifications:

Please note that the courses marked with an asterisk (*) are not offered at the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) but at other TAFEs around Australia

- **22610VIC Advanced Diploma of Cyber Security***
  Focus on building secure networks, testing systems, and planning digital disaster recovery.
- **Bachelor Degrees***
  Degrees like the *Bachelor of Cyber Security* or *Bachelor of Information Technology* equip you with advanced technical defences to protect critical infrastructure.

Specialised qualifications:

After you have obtained your qualifications and have work experience in the industry, you could explore the following areas to specialise your skills.

- **OCA-BD06 Essential Eight Essentials Course**
- **OCA-BD04 Essential Eight Assessment Course**
- **Advanced Ethical Hacking & Vulnerability Assessment Certifications***
- **Security Operations Centre (SOC) Analyst Bootcamps***
- **Bachelor of Information Technology (Cyber and Network Security)***



STEP 5 MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP PATHWAYS

- **Management:** Advance into team leader and manager roles within organisations and help train other cyber security professionals.
- **Leadership Pathways**
  - **Executive Roles:** Move into high-level roles like Chief Information Security Officer, Cyber Risk Director, or IT Infrastructure Lead in the Government and in the private sector.
  - **Consulting:** Set up your own security consulting firm.
- **The Road Ahead**
  - **Educational Training:** Move into academic teaching, course development, or workforce training to train the next generations of cyber security professionals.
  - **Emerging AI:** Advance into specialised learning and use of AI-driven tools as modern threats evolve and change.

WHAT YOU COULD EARN IN THE INDUSTRY

Based on 2026 Australian jobs market data, you could earn annual salaries from between $62,000 up to $184,000 for the many different roles in the cyber security industry.

VISITS AND EXCURSIONS

CIT regularly holds Cyber Security Awareness Day events where you can visit the CIT Cyber Security TAFE Centre of Excellence and explore the interactive environments, real-threat simulators, and training labs we use.

You can also speak to CIT teachers and staff and discover the campus. Talk to your school careers adviser for details.



Canberra Institute of Technology
RTO 0101 | CRICOS No. 00001K

CYBER SECURITY TAFE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Want to know more on how to start your Cyber Security journey?
Speak to your school careers advisor and learn more about available CIT courses and the CIT Cyber Security TAFE Centre of Excellence:

cit.edu.au/study

RTO 0101 | CRICOS No. 00001K
AUG26 | 284923063