The Florida International University Board of Trustees (FIU) – Miami, FL

Award Amount: $1,999,961
Project Name: Cyber-CAP: A Novel Cybersecurity Apprenticeship Program for IT-Related Industries (Cyber-CAP)
Projected Apprentices to Be Served: 800
Industry Focus: Information Technology, Cybersecurity
Private Sector Partners include the Society for Human Resource Management Foundation and additional employers, such as Cylance, ForeScout Technologies, and McAfee.

Type(s) of Apprenticeship Program Proposed: Other Apprenticeship; also, FIU will work with the Florida Department of Education to create a Registered Apprenticeship Program.

Cyber-CAP: A Novel Cybersecurity Apprenticeship Program for IT-Related Industries (Cyber-CAP) targets the high-demand occupation of cybersecurity within the IT industry, and specifically seeks to address the cybersecurity needs of employers in IT and IT-related industries, including the medical, healthcare, financial, construction, transportation, and hospitality sectors. Cyber-CAP is providing cybersecurity apprenticeship training targeted to such occupations as Information Security Analyst, Cybersecurity Specialist/Analyst, Vulnerability Analyst, and Threat Intelligence Analyst. In addition, the project is modeling its training curriculum on three industry standards: 1) CompTIA Security+, 2) CompTIA Cybersecurity Analyst (CySA+), and 3) CompTIA PenTest+, all of which are compliant with ISO 17024 standards and Federal Information Security Management Act regulations, and which are approved and officially recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense to fulfill various DoD Directives.

The Cyber-CAP curriculum is aligned with the national standards and frameworks for cybersecurity education outlined in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) - Cybersecurity Workforce Development Framework. In addition to earning the three industry-recognized credentials noted above, apprentices will receive digital badges. While apprentices with prior work experience in cybersecurity can earn credit for prior learning, the project also is developing a prior learning assessment for the program that will allow apprentices to translate their apprenticeship experience to college credits. Finally, lead grantee FIU is working with the Florida Department of Education to become a RAP sponsor; as designed, its programs offer 144 hours of related training and instruction over three semesters per year, and 2,000 hours of on-the-job training aligned with the concepts learned each semester.

Cyber-CAP is first launching in the South Florida Tri-County area (Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach). To scale the project, the SHRM Foundation will deploy its local chapters to market the apprenticeship programs to employers, while the project's consortium partner Coalition of Urban Serving Universities and its 37 member institutions will identify universities around the country that are capable of building local partnerships and rapidly scaling the program in their regions.

IHE consortium member is the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities (USU), a coalition of 37 urban, diverse universities.