



CySER: Ready, Set, Go!

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What does it mean to be a VICEROY Scholar?

- Core VICEROY Scholar Tasks

- Security clearance readiness
- Student club participation
- Cyber competition involvement
- Applied learning experience (mentored research)
- VICEROY Institute LMS
(institute.viceroy scholars.org)

- Honors Tasks

- Mentorship, community engagement
- Internship
- VICEROY Symposium

Excellence

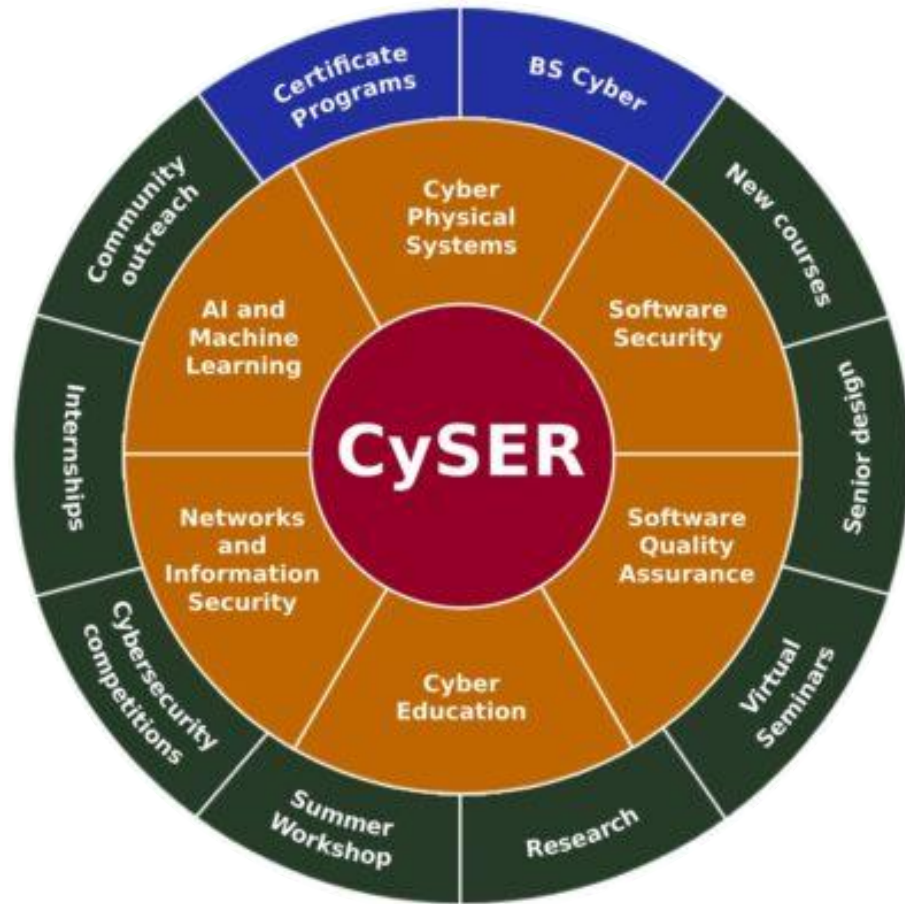
Leadership

Integrity

Technical Expertise

Engagement

What does it mean to be a CySER Scholar?



- Coursework
 - CySER CAE-CO Fundamentals:
 - CptS 327, 427, 428 (required)
 - Plus electives from a long list
 - CySER Basic (see CySER website)
- Seminars
- Summer workshop
- *Mentored research*
- Internship
- Capstone (senior design) project focused on cybersecurity

Mentored Research

- Currently collecting project ideas from faculty and industry
- There will be a student interest survey, watch Canvas
- We will be recruiting mentors – graduate students or senior CySER students
- By end of Fall semester, will have students matched with projects and mentors
- Begin project at start of Spring semester
- There is an opportunity to publish your work in Military Cyber Affairs
- Completion of the research requirement includes presenting a poster at the next CySER summer workshop (May 2027)

Student Club Participation

- Requirement for VICEROY
- WSU student club: Cyber Security Group
- <https://wsu.presence.io/organization/cyber-security-group>
- Discord: <https://discord.gg/MsySM7jBS>
- Meetings are Wednesdays, 6 to 7 PM
- Capture-the-flag events
 - VICEROY holds a series of CTF events throughout the school year, top teams get invited to final event at VICEROY Symposium
 - National Cyber League – strong participation by WSU students in previous years, CySER pays registration fees

WSU Cybersecurity Group



Discord Server

- Student organization for collaborating and practicing cybersecurity fundamentals
- Weekly instructional meetings with hands-on demos around password cracking, networking, forensics, and more
- Admittance into prestigious Capture the Flag (CTF) events such as National Cyber League and the Spokane Cyber Cup
- Industry guest speakers share stories and provide career advice

What is CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service (SFS)?



The SFS program educates high-caliber scholarship recipients from institutions with strong existing academic program in cybersecurity



SFS scholars receive full scholarship support for up to three years



Upon completing their education, recipients are obliged to work for a Federal, State, Local, Tribal, or Territorial Government agency for a period equivalent to the length of the scholarship



OPM administers the program by providing placement assistance, coordinating recipient compliance, and tracking recipients through all phases of the program

Benefits

- Up to three years of scholarship support for undergraduate and graduate education including the following:
 - Tuition paid by the program
 - Stipend of \$27,000 per year for undergraduate students
 - Stipend of \$37,000 per year for graduate students
 - Professional allowance of up to \$6,000/year for travel to annual SFS Job Fair and other travel, certifications, etc
- Access to SFS-specific virtual and in-person job fairs in Washington DC

Commitment

- **Before graduating**
 - Maintain full-time enrollment
 - Maintain good academic standing
 - Respond to requests for information from the SFS Program Office
 - E.g., surveys, questions regarding program participation
 - Complete at least one internship opportunity within government
 - Participate in experiential learning opportunities offered by the WSU SFS program
 - Begin searching for employment to meet the post-graduation service requirement

Commitment

- **After graduating:**
 - Work full-time in qualifying position at an approved agency for a period commensurate with the length of the scholarship
 - Provide documentation to the SFS Program Office and WSU verifying employment annually
 - Ensure contact information is up to date in your SFS profile
 - Complete periodic surveys as requested by the SFS Program Office
 - Respond to all requests from SFS Program Office and WSU for information concerning the SFS program and your status

Examples of Qualifying Agencies

- Federal Executive Agency: Dept's of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, H&HS, Homeland Sec., Justice, Labor, ...
Full list at sfs.opm.gov/Student/Resources, “Federal Executive & Non-Executive Agencies”
- Congress, including any agency, entity, office, or commission established in the legislative branch
- An interstate agency
- State, local, or Tribal government
- State, local, or Tribal government-affiliated non-profit that is critical infrastructure as defined in section 1016(e) of the USA Patriot Act

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States
- In addition, a student must be one of the following:
 - A full-time student within **two years** of completing their **bachelor's** or **three years** completing their **master's** degree in a coherent, formal program focused on cybersecurity
 - A research-based **doctoral** student
- Prospective students will also need to meet any other university-specific eligibility requirements **and** meet the criteria for Federal employment, including the ability to obtain a security clearance, if required

Eligibility Requirements for WSU SFS Program

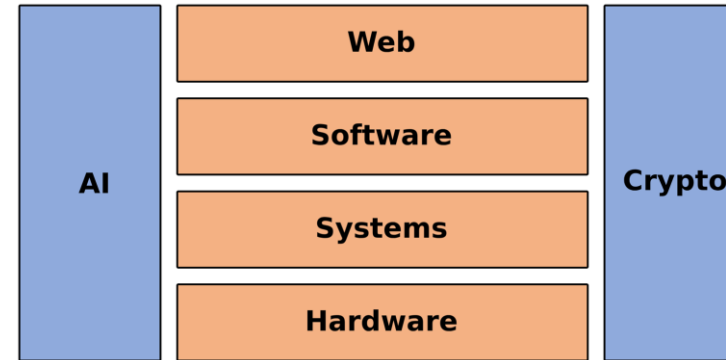
- Must be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States
- Must be a full-time student at WSU with an overall GPA of 3.0 or above and accepted into one of the following undergraduate or graduate programs:
 - **Undergraduate programs**
 - *BS in Cybersecurity*
 - *BS in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or Software Engineering and pursuing the coursework requirements for the CySER CAE-CO Fundamentals certificate*
 - **Graduate programs**
 - *MS in Computer Science*
 - *MS in AI 4+1 track, Computer Science, Software Engineering, or Electrical Engineering*
 - *PhD in Computer Science, Software Engineering, or Electrical Engineering*
 - *All: research focused on cybersecurity and a program of study that includes at least four 400 or 500-level cybersecurity courses*
- Must commit to working for a Federal, State, Local, Tribal, or Territorial Government agency after graduation for the same amount of time as you received scholarship through the SFS program
(1 semester = 6 months commitment)

WSU SFS Program

- Aims to recruit and train around **20 undergraduate and 6 graduate students** over the course of five-years
- Provide excellent academic experience to SFS scholars through *integrated research, career mentoring, experiential learning, and internship* opportunities
- First cohort began in **Fall 2025**
- Second cohort in **Fall 2026**
- **Applications for Spring 2027** are being accepted (priority deadline: Nov. 1, 2026)
- To apply visit: <https://cyser.wsu.edu/sfs/apply/>

WSU SFS Program Research Areas and Team

1. Artificial Intelligence and Security
2. Cyber-Physical Systems Security
3. Cryptography and Post-Quantum Security
4. Software Security
5. Hardware Security
6. Web Security



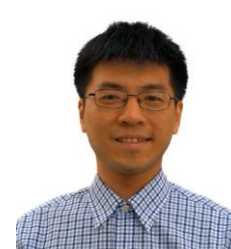
Assefaw Gebremedhin
(PI)



Jana Doppa
(Co-PI)



Monowar Hasan
(Co-PI)



Feng-Hao Liu
(Co-PI)



James Crabb
(Program Coordinator)



NSF-IRES

Study-and-Research-Abroad Program

- **WSU received an NSF IRES award for cyber and AI study-and-research abroad program in Sweden's Linköping University (LiU)**
 - First cohort went to Sweden in Spring 2026
 - Next cohort has been accepted for Spring 2027
 - One more cohort in 2028
 - WSU PI team:
 - A. Gebremedhin (Pullman)
 - J. Iannelli (Tri-Cities)
 - M. Elmahallawy (Tri-Cities)
 - S. Lapin (Everett)



Spring 2026 cohort



Study and Conduct Cybersecurity & AI Research in Sweden

Available to WSU Students @ Pullman - Tri-Cities - Everett

Pursue this Unique Opportunity

- Join WSU's Sweden Program at Linköping University (LiU) – Now featuring a new focus **on AI-driven Cybersecurity**
- Transform your future through an unrivalled **international experience** fully sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Seize the moment – this is the perfect time in your academic journey to explore global research and cutting-edge tech
- Conduct research at one of Sweden's top universities for **cybersecurity**, with **hands-on** labs, **applied AI**, advanced coursework
- Study at LiU in classes taught in English with **No tuition** fees
- Earn **transferable credits** that count toward your **WSU degree** — no graduation delays!
- Receive a **\$12,000** Fellowship to fund a full semester of study and research in Sweden

Apply By May 1st, 2026

- Fill out this [WSU-LiU Application](#) by May 1, 2026



- Describe there any previous research and / or international experience
- Submit the general [WSU-LiU exchange application](#) also by May 1, 2026

Who Can Apply?

- WSU **undergraduates** from Pullman, Tri-Cities, or Everett campuses—with at least two semesters before graduation
- A **GPA of 3.0** or higher
- Cybersecurity, Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Software Engineering, Electrical Engineering, or Data Analytics majors
- US Citizens, Nationals, or Permanent Residents

Requirements

- Resumé
- WSU Transcript
- Motivation Letter
- List of remaining course to graduate
- Contact information of a WSU professor willing to provide a recommendation letter
- Evidence of US citizenship, nationality, or permanent residence

More Information

- WSU-LiU Program: [WSU Europe Program](#)
- WSU Cybersecurity Program: [Cybersecurity at WSU](#)
- LiU's Cybersecurity Program: [Cybersecurity at LiU](#)

Questions?

Pullman: Dr. Assefaw Gebremedhin
(assefaw.gebremedhin@wsu.edu)

Tri-Cities: Dr. Mohamed Elmahallawy
(mohamed.elmahallawy@wsu.edu)

Everett: Dr. Sergey Lapin
(slapin@wsu.edu)

LiU, Sweden, Travel: Dr. Joseph Iannelli
(joseph.iannelli@wsu.edu)

DoW Cyber Service Academy

- Another federal Scholarship for Service program
- Goals
 - Promote higher education in all disciplines of cyber, providing students with hands-on, real-world opportunities
 - Increase the pipeline of students in the areas of cyber
 - Build stronger education programs in these areas to advance the state of the nation and to grow and expand the pool of qualified candidates for future employment
- Application initiated by student (at DoD CSA website)
- WSU qualifies as an NCAE designated school
- Applications for 2026: now closed. Plan to apply for 2027.
- Website: <https://www.cyberworkforce.mil/Academic-Programs/DoW-Cyber-Service-Academy/>
- Next VICEROY Virtual Session (Sep. 22) will include information on Cyber Service Academy



SMART Scholarship

- Open to all STEM disciplines, undergraduate and graduate students
- <https://www.smartscholarship.org/>
- Applications are open now through December 4
- Be a citizen of the United States, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, or United Kingdom
- Have and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Be currently pursuing, or intend to pursue, education in Fall 2027
- Planning to attend, or enrolled in, a regionally accredited U.S. college or university
- Able to obtain and maintain a security clearance
- Be requesting between 1-5 years of degree funding (funding begins August 2027)
- Complete summer internships for awards greater than 1.5 years
- Accept a one-for-one post-graduation service commitment as a civilian employee of the Department of Defense

Thanks!

Questions

