



Cyber Defense Certificate - 30 credits

Program Area: Computer Information Systems (Fall 2025)

*****REMEMBER TO REGISTER EARLY*****

Program Description

The Cyber Defense certificate is designed to prepare participants with foundation-level skills for a job in computer networking and security. The curriculum in this program will help prepare students for the following certifications: CompTIA Net+, CompTIA Security+, Cisco RSTECH, and EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH).

The 30-credit Cyber Defense Certificate transfers seamlessly into LSC's Network Administration and Security Diploma (58 credits), and AAS degree (72 credits).

Program Outcomes

- Describe the OSI Reference Model, layered communications principles and routing/switching principles with associated devices, as well as use these concepts effectively in verbal and written communication
- Manage Cisco router hardware and the Cisco Internet Operating System (IOS), including planning, installation, configuration, management, upgrading and troubleshooting of routers and switches
- Analyze organizational network needs, as well as design and implement networks that include hardware/software configuration and management and security (access control)
- Determine the factors involved in developing a secure information security strategy
- Describe and identify common security threats and attacks and describe how to safeguard against them
- Apply a common ethical hacking methodology to carry out a penetration test and describe how to implement countermeasures for these types of attacks

Required Courses

Number	Name	Credits	Term
CIS 1402*	Foundations of CIS	3	
CIS 1946*	CISCO Networking I	3	
CIS 2811*	Intrusion Detection/Prevention Systems Fundamentals	3	
CIS 2812*	Network Security	3	
CIS 2813*	Forensics and Incident Response	3	
CIS 1745*	Unix System Administration	3	
CIS 1810*	Security Fundamentals	3	
CIS 1947*	CISCO Networking II	3	
CIS 1952*	Windows Server Administration	3	
CIS 2814*	Ethical Hacking and Systems Defense	3	

Total Credits **30**

*Requires a prerequisite or a concurrent course

Pre-program Requirements

Successful entry into this program requires a specific level of skill in the areas of English/reading and mathematics.

English/Reading:

- Eligible for ENGL 1106 - College Composition I, or
- Completion of ENGL/READ 0950/0955 (or equivalent or higher). ENGL/READ 0950/0955 may be taken concurrently with Semester I coursework.

Mathematics:

- Eligible for MATH 0970 - Intermediate Algebra, or
- Completion of MATH 0950/0955 (or equivalent or higher). MATH 0950/0955 may be taken concurrently with Semester I coursework.

There are other ways to qualify. Visit [Course Placement](http://lsc.edu/course-placement) (lsc.edu/course-placement) to find out more.



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For interpretation of test results and selection of appropriate coursework; or general information about the program, admissions, financial aid, and getting started at LSC, contact the [professional advising team](mailto:advising@lsc.edu) (advising@lsc.edu) or 218-733-7601

For more information about the Cyber Defense Certificate including course descriptions, course prerequisites, the program report, and potential career opportunities, see the [program website](https://www.lsc.edu/degrees/cyber-defense-certificate/) (https://www.lsc.edu/degrees/cyber-defense-certificate/)

or

Contact Faculty Advisor



MINNESOTA STATE

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All courses in diploma and/or certificate programs are acceptable for credit toward Lake Superior College degree programs as indicated on individual program planners. This is not a contract; Lake Superior College reserves the right to change the planner as necessary. This document is available in alternative formats upon request, by contacting [Student Accessibility Services](#) or (218) 733-7650 or MRS/TTY (800) 627-3529.