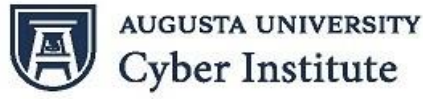


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Augusta University Cyber Institute Expanding Access: Virtual Labs for K-12 Cyber Career Pathways Initiative Call for Proposal (CFP)

Title: Expanding Access: Virtual Labs for K-12 Cyber Career Pathways

Purpose: To expand access to Augusta University (AU) Cyber Institute's cyber Lab for [local area high schools within the CSRA](#) and provide hands on cybersecurity activities for students in Security+, Network+ and Linux Series 1 and 2. See <http://cyber.augusta.edu/>

Deadlines: Completed applications must be submitted by midnight **Friday, June 1, 2018.**

Eligibility: Must be a school system superintendent-endorsed local area public high school (within the CSRA)

Administrative Contact: Walidah Walker, MPH, wawalker@augusta.edu

Background and Program Description:

Workforce projections estimate that by the year 2022 there will be a 1.8 million cybersecurity workforce gap in the US¹. Addressing this workforce shortage will require the formation of collaborative partnerships with a shared vision and focused goal of educating future cybersecurity professionals. Aligned with its commitment to growing the K-12 cyber pipeline, Augusta University's Cyber Institute has developed the initiative, *Expanding Access: Virtual Labs for K-12 Cyber Career Pathways*. As part of this initiative, the Cyber Institute proudly announces a Call for Proposal (CFP) aimed at ensuring that local area high schools have remote access to its cyber lab environment or "mini" cyber range. AU utilizes NDG Lab (NETLAB+) software, which provides content for IT training in a variety of disciplines including networking, virtualization, storage, and cybersecurity. As such, the CFP targets and challenges school district superintendent – endorsed local area high schools e.g., principals, teachers, counselors, and/or administrators within the CSRA to submit compelling application(s) which serve to address why their school should be selected as a partner of the Cyber Institute's NDG NETLAB+ network.

Support:

Augusta University's Cyber Institute currently provides over 300 CSRA high school students across four local area high schools with virtual lab access to Security+, Network +, and Linux Series 1 & 2 hands-on lab experience. Our support includes student access during cybersecurity pathway class time, and initial faculty development regarding the use of our Augusta University's Cyber Institute virtual lab. Faculty and students are required to sign a 'White Hat' agreement to gain access to Augusta University's Cyber Institute resources.

Renewal:

Award winners will be evaluated over the first year of implementation. Access beyond the initial grant year will be contingent on the availability of funds.

Review Criteria:

Proposals will be scored based on the following areas:

Abstract

High School Overview Narrative

1. **MAJORITY MINORITY POPULATION**
2. **RURAL COUNTY DESIGNATION**
3. **HIGH CONCENTRATION OF ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY FAMILIES**

Compelling Rationale

Relevant Curriculum/Course Offerings And Enrolled Student Cohort(s)

Relevant On-going School Activities

Relevant On-Going Collaborations, Funding & Partnerships

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Contact Program Leader (CPL) Qualifications
Student/Teacher Impact Evaluation Plan
Curriculum Vitae/Resume

A Review Committee will evaluate proposals based on outlined thematic areas of the proposal. The committee will provide recommendations to Augusta University's Cyber Institute's leadership team. Awardees will be announced no later than **Friday, June 15, 2018**. Award letters will be sent to CPLs, their respective school principal(s) and superintendent.

Please note: Special consideration will be given to: 1) applicants with majority minority student population(s), 2) high schools located in [rural CSRA counties \(map\)](#), and/or 3) those with higher student body enrollment of an enlisted and/or active duty military parent/guardian. Documented proof to substantiate these considerations will be required upon acceptance.

Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must be a school system superintendent-endorsed local area public high school (within the CSRA). One applicant per school district. A contact project leader (CPL) must be identified for communication(s) regarding the application e.g., school Principal or his/her designated administrator/teacher.

Application Procedure(s):

A complete application will consist of the following components and **should not exceed 5 pages** (excluding the cover page and curriculum vitae/resume):

- **Cover page** (not included in overall page count) -The cover page should include: project title, name and address of nominating high school, name of high school principal, and names and titles of submitting school faculty. The CPL's name and contact information should be included and emboldened. In addition, the cover page should include the following acknowledgement statement:

If selected to join the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network, the superintendent will be provided a memorandum of understanding (MOU) outlining the terms and conditions in support of the cybersecurity curriculum. In addition, submission of a final report will be required at the completion of the project. The report should succinctly describe student/teacher impact as a result of the awarded school's participation. You agree to acknowledge Augusta University's Cyber Institute in any and all subsequent media coverage, publications, and/or presentations resulting from m school's participation. Failure to comply with these agreements could jeopardize future opportunities with Augusta University's Cyber Institute.

Following the acknowledge statement, the CPL, his/her school principal, and the local area school superintendent must indicate by signature, their attestation to the aforementioned acknowledgement statement. A sample cover page is attached. Proposals **should not exceed 5 pages** (excluding those not included in the overall page count).

- **Abstract/Summary** – 30 lines
- **Proposal Narrative**– 5 page limit that includes the following:
 - High School Overview
 - Compelling rationale for becoming a partner of the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network.
 - Relevant Curriculum/Course Offerings and Enrolled Student Cohort(s)
 - Relevant On-Going School Activities
 - Relevant On-Going Collaborations, Funding & Partnerships
 - CPLs Qualifications
 - Student/Teacher Impact Evaluation Plan
- **Curriculum vitae/resumes** for the CPL (not included in overall page count – not to exceed 3 pages).

Formatting:

All application documents should be single-sided. Be sure to insert the CPL's name in the header of each page. Minimum font size of text: 12-point Times New Roman or 11-point Arial. Minimum margin: 0.5-inch. Single-spaced text is acceptable, and space between paragraphs is recommended.

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Proposal Submission:

Final applications should be submitted as a single-file pdf, via email to: cybergrants@augusta.edu. For additional inquiries, please contact, Walidah Walker via email: wawalker@augusta.edu.

Review Process:

Awards will be based on the merits and design of the proposal as well as its compelling rationale. Proposals should address each item in the section *Application Procedures*, and written in language appropriate for the educated lay reader. Notification of winning proposals will be sent to CPLs and their respective school principal by **Friday, June 15, 2018**.

Required Report(s):

At the close of the 2019 school year, awarded recipients will be asked to complete a brief survey designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network, specifically its impact on student/teacher. Additionally, awardees will be required to **provide a 500 word report** no later than **Friday, May 31, 2019** which should include descriptive information pertaining to how participation in the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network impacted students/teachers e.g., increased or improved academic performance, influenced course design, lesson plans and/or classroom instruction. Reports should be submitted to cybergrants@augusta.edu, with the wording 'Augusta University's Cyber institute's NDG NETLAB+ network-Impact Evaluation' included in the subject line.

Timeline:

Tuesday, Apr 10 – Augusta University's Cyber Institute announces release of Call for Proposal (CFP)
Friday, Jun 1 – Deadline, receipt of NDG applications
Friday, Jun 8 – Review Committee will review applications and provide final recommendations
Friday, Jun 15 – Announcement of 2018 Virtual Labs for K-12 Cyber Career Pathways Awardees
Friday, May 31, 2019 - Deadline for the receipt of surveys and descriptive reports.

Section Descriptions:

Abstract – This section should be 30 lines in length. The abstract should be a complete but concise description of your compelling rationale.

High School Overview – This section should include an overall description of your high school's location, student body, (including demographics), enrollment, retention, and graduation rates etc. This section should also include information specific to student enrollment in computer science, information technology, and cyber-related courses. In addition, this section should include information pertaining to the applicant's: majority minority student population(s), 2) location e.g., rural area and/or 3) rate of student body enrollment with an enlisted and/or active duty military parent/guardian. This section should list all relevant curriculum and/or coursework offerings.

Incorporated in this section, should be language which describes how current (or that under development) curriculum and/or coursework offerings will be impacted by access to the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network.

Compelling rationale for becoming a partner of the Cyber Institute's NDG NETLAB+ network – This section should further strengthen your compelling rationale as to why your school should be selected for access to the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network. It should include information as to who will manage access as well as a brief description of how access will be managed i.e., implementation plan including a listing of other support staff and their proposed role/responsibility. Questions you may want to consider answering in support of your rationale include:

- How access will benefit teachers and students?
- How will having access benefit the school?
- How will not having access impact teachers and students?

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Relevant On-Going School Activities – This section should list relevant on-going school activities such as cyber, computer science, or robotics clubs, school memberships, and competitions in which teachers and/or students have participated. Professional development activities can also be included in this section.

Relevant On-Going Collaborations, Funding & Partnerships – This section should list and briefly describe any relevant on-going collaborations, funding (including total funding amount(s)), and partnerships.

CPLs Qualifications – This section should briefly describe and demonstrate how the CPL is qualified to manage student and teacher access to the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network i.e., experience in computer science, information technology, computer programming, etc.

Student/Teacher Impact Evaluation Plan – This section should succinctly describe your school's long-term plan to track and evaluate student/teacher progression in effectively using the CI's NDG NETLAB+ network. How will you measure success if access to the CI's NDG NETLAB+ is awarded?

¹Reference: <https://www.isc2.org/News-and-Events/Press-Room/Posts/2017/06/07/2017-06-07-Workforce-Shortage>