Alabama Commission on Higher Education

Accessibility. Affordability. Coordination.

New Program Proposal

The following must be submitted to complete a new program request:

Submission Checklist:

- ☒ New Program Proposal
- ☐ Business Plan (https://www.ache.edu/index.php/forms/)
- ☐ Undergraduate or Graduate Curriculum Plan (https://www.ache.edu/index.php/forms/)

Primary Contact Information

Institution: Drake State Community & Technical College

Contact: Lydia Owens

Title: CIS Instructor / Division Chair

Email: lydia.owens@drakestate.edu

Telephone: 256-551-3128

Program Information

Date of Proposal Submission: 8/12/2025

Award Level: Associate's Degree

Award Nomenclature (e.g., BS, MBA): AAS

Field of Study/Program Title: Cybersecurity

CIP Code (6-digit): 43.0403

Administration of the Program

Name of Dean: Dr. Carolyn Henderson

Name of College/School: Drake State Community & Technical College

Name of Chairperson: Lydia Owens

Name of Department/Division: Computer Information Systems

Implementation Information

Proposed Program Implementation Date: 8/13/2026

Anticipated Date of Approval from Institutional Governing Board: 11/3/2025

Anticipated Date of ACHE Meeting to Vote on Proposal: 12/12/2025

SACSCOC Sub Change Requirement (Notification, Approval, or NA): Notification

Other Considerations for Timing and Approval (e.g., upcoming SACSCOC review):

New Program Proposal

I. Program Description

A. Concise Program Summary (one paragraph) to be included in ACHE Agenda: Drake State Community and Technical College's proposed Cybersecurity program integrates core principles of cyber technology with advanced computer science to prepare graduates for the modern workforce. Students gain hands-on experience in systems design, automation, and data analytics. The focus of this program will be on the principles and techniques used to identify, search, seize and analyze digital media and to conduct cyber investigations against criminal and terrorist activity.

B. Specific Rationale (Strengths) for the Program

List three (3) to five (5) strengths of the proposed program as specific rationale for recommending approval of this proposal.

1. The cybersecurity field is experiencing rapid growth due to increasing cyber threats across industries. An AAS in Cybersecurity directly addresses the workforce gap by preparing students for entry-level roles such as security analysts, network defenders, and incident responders.
2. The program emphasizes practical, real-world skills through labs, simulations, and certifications (e.g., CompTIA Security+, CompTIA Network+), making graduates job-ready upon completion.
3. The curriculum can be aligned with frameworks such as the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) and NSA/DHS CAE-CD standards, ensuring quality and relevance in cybersecurity education. The AAS degree can articulate into bachelor's programs in cybersecurity or information technology, offering students a clear academic and career progression.

C. External Support (Recommended)

List external entities (more may be added) that may have supplied letters of support attesting to the program's strengths and attach letters with the proposal at the end of this document.

1. Drake State collaborates with Leidos, Mission Multiplier and ABSI Engineering to enhance its CIS and Cybersecurity program. The members from these companies serve on the CIS Advisory Board providing industry knowledge on the IT Workforce contract needs. This partnership has led to the sourcing of 3 entry-level positions as Computer Systems Analysts I, Computer Systems Analysts II and Computer Systems Analysts II and Network Administration. This partnership also provides access to additional resources, expertise, and best practices, enriching the educational experience for students.
2. The program includes exposure to multiple cybersecurity technologies, processes, and procedures. Students learn to analyze threats, vulnerabilities, and risks, and develop

strategies to mitigate potential cybersecurity problems. Students are better prepared to tackle complex, interdisciplinary challenges with innovative solutions.

D. Student Learning Outcomes

List four (4) to seven (7) of the student learning outcomes of the program.

1. Protect and defend computer systems and networks from cybersecurity attacks by identifying vulnerabilities and implementing appropriate security controls.
2. Characterize privacy, legal, and ethical issues in information security, and apply this understanding to real-world cybersecurity challenges.
3. Plan, develop, and implement a cybersecurity risk management program tailored to organizational needs.
4. Demonstrate red/blue team skills to simulate attacks (red team) and defend systems (blue team), including auditing information system resources.
5. Secure, manage, and assess cloud-based information resources, understanding the unique challenges and solutions in cloud environments.
6. Communicate effectively in professional settings, conveying technical cybersecurity concepts to both technical and non-technical audiences.

E. Similar Programs at Other Alabama Public Institutions

List programs at other Alabama public institutions of the same degree level and the same (or similar) CIP codes. If no similar programs exist within Alabama, list similar programs offered within the 16 SREB states. If the proposed program duplicates, closely resembles, or is similar to any other offerings in the state, provide justification for any potential duplication.

CIP Code	Degree Title	Institution with Similar Program	Justification for Duplication
14.0901	Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity Engineering	UAH	This is not a duplication --- This program focuses on the Engineering side of Cybersecurity. This program is unique in Alabama.
11.0101	Computer Information Systems A.A.S. Cybersecurity/IT Concentration	Calhoun CC	This is not a duplication, as Calhoun offers a concentration within the existing AAS CIS program but not a stand-alone Cybersecurity program as proposed by Drake State. Cybersecurity professionals are in high demand. Cybersecurity roles are surging, with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting a 32% growth for information security analysts through 2032.

F. Relationship to Existing Programs within the Institution

Nearly all new programs have some relationship to existing offerings through shared courses, faculty, facilities, etc. Is the proposed program associated with any existing offerings within the institution, including options within current degree programs? **Yes ☒ No ☐**

If ***yes***, please describe these relationships including whether or not the program will replace or compete with existing offerings: (***Note:*** If this is a graduate program, list any existing undergraduate programs which are directly or indirectly related. If this is a doctoral program, also list related master's programs.)

Related Degree Program Level	Related Degree Program Title	Explanation of the Relationship Between the Programs
AAS	Computer Information Systems	Existing course offerings and shared resources. Students learn general technical competencies that are crucial for both business-oriented IT roles and security-focused careers. Both programs will cover networking fundamentals; however, the Cybersecurity Program focuses on all Cybersecurity subjects.

If ***not***, please describe how the institution plans to support a program unrelated to existing offerings.

G. Collaboration

Have any collaborations **within your institution** (i.e., research centers, across academic divisions, etc.) been explored? **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***yes***, provide a brief explanation of the proposed collaboration plan(s) for the program:

Have collaborations with **other institutions or external entities** (i.e., local business, industries, etc.) been explored? **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***yes***, provide a brief explanation of the proposed collaboration plan(s) for the program:

H. Programmatic Accreditation

Select the appropriate program accreditor from the drop-down menu below:

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Provide a detailed timeline for gaining accreditation (i.e., when will full candidacy be reached?):

I. Professional Licensure

Will the program be considered a Professional Licensure Program based on the following definition: **Yes ☐ No ☒**

Professional Licensure Program: As defined in federal regulations, an instructional program that is designed to meet educational requirements for a specific professional license or certification that is required for employment in an occupation or is advertised as meeting such requirements.

If ***yes***, please explain:

Select the appropriate licensure body from the table below:

Choose an item.

Select the appropriate license from the table below:

Choose an item.

J. Professional Certification

Will students earn industry certifications while completing the degree or be prepared for industry certifications upon graduation? **Yes ☒ No ☐**

1. If ***yes***, please explain: The program includes preparatory coursework for several high-demand, industry-recognized certifications, such as:

- **CompTIA Network+**
- **CompTIA Security+**
- **CompTIA Linux+**
- **CompTIA Data+**
- **Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)**
- **Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)**

These certifications are widely respected across the IT and cybersecurity industries and serve as benchmarks for foundational and advanced technical skills. The curriculum is designed to align directly with the objectives of these certifications, ensuring that students are not only prepared to pass the exams but also to apply the skills in real-world settings.

K. Admissions

Provide any additional admissions requirements beyond the institution's standard admissions process/policies for this degree level. Include prerequisites, prior degrees earned, etc. N/A

L. Mode of Delivery

Provide the planned delivery format(s) of the program as defined in policy (i.e., in-person, online, hybrid). Please also note whether any program requirements can be completed through competency-based assessment.

The planned delivery format for this program will be in-person, online (asynchronous/synchronous course offerings) via Zoom or Microsoft Teams (or a similar platform), and hybrid.

Can students complete the entire degree program through distance education (100% online) based on the following definition? **Yes ☒ No ☐**

Distance Education: An academic program for which required instructional activities can be completed entirely through distance education modalities. A distance education program may have in-person requirements that are non-instructional (e.g., orientation, practicum).

M. Instructional Site(s)

Provide the planned location(s) where the program will be delivered (i.e., main campus, satellite campus, off-campus site.) If the program will be offered at an off-campus site, provide the existing site name or submit an ***Off-Campus Site Request*** if new.

Will more than 50% of this program be offered at an off-campus site(s) **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***yes***, which sites?

N. Industry Need

Using the federal **Standard Occupational Code (SOC) System**, indicate the top three occupational codes related to post-graduation employment from the program. A full list of SOCs can be found at https://www.onetcodeconnector.org/find/family/title#17.

SOC 1 (**required**): Information Security Analysts - 15-1212.00

SOC 2 (optional): Computer Systems Analysts - 15-1211.00

SOC 3 (optional): Penetration Testers - 15-1299.04

Briefly describe how the program fulfills a specific industry or employment need for the State of Alabama. As appropriate, discuss alignment with Alabama's Statewide or Regional Lists of In-Demand Occupations (https://www.ache.edu/index.php/policy-guidance/) or with emerging industries as identified by Innovate Alabama or the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama (EDPA).

Alabama is currently facing a shortage of information security and cybersecurity analysts. This degree program is designed to prepare students for career pathways as cybersecurity analysts, equipping them with the skills and knowledge necessary to serve in both the public and government sectors, where the demand for qualified professionals continues to grow.

Huntsville, Alabama is experiencing a cybersecurity boom, with the job market expanding rapidly thanks to its strong ties to aerospace, defense, and federal agencies. According to recent projections, the local cybersecurity workforce is expected to grow by **25%**, adding over **2,500 new jobs by 2024**. This surge is fueled by major employers like NASA, the U.S. Army, and defense contractors such as Boeing and Lockheed Martin, as well as the expansion of the FBI's cyber operations in the region.

O. Additional Education/Training

Please explain whether further education/training is required for graduates of the proposed program to gain entry-level employment in the SOC occupations selected above.

Upon completing this degree, students will be prepared to acquire jobs in the professional cybersecurity field. While certifications are not required, students who pursue and achieve professional certifications will enhance their qualifications, giving them a competitive edge and increasing their chances of securing employment in this high-demand industry.

P. Student Demand

Please explain how you projected the student enrollment numbers in the **Business Plan, Lines 24-27** and provide evidence to substantiate student demand (i.e., surveys, enrollments in related courses, etc.).

To determine the level of student demand for this program, the primary methods used included analyzing enrollments in related coursework at the institution. Enrollment data from the past three years showed a steady increase in students taking courses related to the program, indicating growing interest.
Courses:

- CIS 199 – Network Communications
- CIS 244 – Intro to Cyber Security
- CIS 246 – Ethical Hacking

II. Program Resources and Expenses

A. All Proposed Program Personnel

Provide all personnel counts for the proposed program.

Employment Status of Program Personnel		Personnel Information		
		Count from Proposed Program Department	Count from Other Departments	Subtotal of Personnel
Current	Full-Time Faculty	2	0	2
	Part-Time Faculty	3	0	3
	Administration			
	Support Staff			
**New To Be Hired	Full-Time Faculty	N/A		
	Part-Time Faculty	N/A		
	Administration	N/A		
	Support Staff	N/A		
		Personnel Total		5

Provide justification that the institution has proposed a sufficient number of faculty (full-time and part-time) for the proposed program to ensure curriculum and program quality, integrity, and review: N/A

Note: Include ***any new funds*** designated for compensation costs (faculty, administration, and/or support staff to be hired) in the **Business Plan, Line 7 - Personnel Salaries and Benefits**. Current personnel salary/benefits ***should not be included*** in the Business Plan.

B. Proposed Faculty Roster*

Complete the following **Faculty Roster** to provide a brief summary and qualifications of current faculty and potential new hires specific to the program.

***Note**: Institutions must maintain and have current as well as additional faculty curriculum vitae available upon ACHE request for as long as the program is active, but CVs are **not** to be submitted with this proposal.

Current Faculty			
1	**2**	**3**	**4**
CURRENT FACULTY NAME (FT, PT)	**COURSES TAUGHT including Term, Course Number, Course Title, & Credit Hours (D, UN, UT, G, DU)**	**ACADEMIC DEGREES and COURSEWORK Relevant to Courses Taught, including Institution and Major; List Specific Graduate Coursework, if needed**	**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS and COMMENTS Related to Courses Taught and Modality(ies) (IP, OL, HY, OCIS)**
Lydia Owens - FT	Fall 2024 - CIS 150 - Programming Logic – 3 CH	MS – MIS, Florida Institute of Technology	Project Management Institute PMP / CompTIA A+
Chad Gross - FT	Spring 2025 - CIS 202 – Python 3 CH Fall 2024 – CIS 171 Linux – 3 CH	MS – Information Assurance, Liberty University	
Nate Sullivan - PT	Summer 2025 –CIS 270 - CISCO – 3 CH, Fall 2025 Information Assurance – CIS 282, – 3 CH, Fall 2025 CIS 280 - Network Security– 3 CH	PhD – Information Assurance, University of Fairfax	CCNA / Security + / CEH, MCSA, Linux +
Anthony McGee PT	Summer 2025 – CIS 251 - C++ Spring 2025 - 3 CH	MS – Computer Science, Alabama A&M University	Programmer
Cedarric Collins PT	Fall 2024 – CIS 251 C++ 3 CH, Summer 2025 – CIS 207 - Web Development 3CH	MS – Computer Science, Alabama A&M University	Software Engineer
Additional Faculty (To Be Hired)			
1	**2**	**3**	**4**
FACULTY POSITION (FT, PT)	**COURSES TO BE TAUGHT including Term, Course Number, Course Title, & Credit Hours (D, UN, UT, G, DU)**	**ACADEMIC DEGREES and COURSEWORK Relevant to Courses Taught, including Institution and Major; List Specific Graduate Coursework, if needed**	**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS and COMMENTS Related to Courses Taught and Modality(ies) (IP, OL, HY, OCIS)**

Abbreviations: (FT, PT): Full-Time, Part-Time; (D, UN, UT, G, DU): Developmental, Undergraduate Nontransferable, Undergraduate Transferable, Graduate, Dual: High School Dual Enrollment
Course Modality: (IP, OL, HY, OCIS): In-Person, Online, Hybrid, Off-Campus Instructional Site

C. Equipment

Will any special equipment be needed specifically for this program? **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***yes***, list the special equipment and include all special equipment costs in the ***Business Plan, Line 8***:

D. Facilities

Will new facilities or renovations to existing infrastructure be required specifically for the program? **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***yes***, describe the new facilities or renovations and include all *new* facilities and/or *renovation* costs in the ***Business Plan, Line 9***:

E. Assistantships/Fellowships

Will the institution offer any assistantships specifically for this program? **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***yes***, provide the number of assistantships to be offered and include all *new* costs for assistantships in the ***Business Plan, Line 10.***

Explain the function of the Assistantships (i.e., teaching, research, etc.)?:

F. Library

Will any **additional** library resources be purchased to support the program? **Yes ☒ No ☐**

If ***yes***, briefly describe new resources to be purchased and include the cost of new library resources in the ***Business Plan, Line 11***:

To fully support the program, the libraries will need to expand their collections to include current textbooks in ethical hacking, digital forensics, cloud security, and incident response, as well as certification guides for credentials like CompTIA Security+, CISSP, and CEH. Additionally, curated ebook collections from platforms like Safari Tech Books Online would greatly enhance learning outcomes and align the resources with industry standards

G. Accreditation Expenses

If programmatic accreditation was indicated above, please include all accreditation costs in the ***Business Plan, Line 12*** and itemize and explain below:

H. Other Costs

Please include all other costs incurred with program implementation, such as marketing or recruitment, in the ***Business Plan, Line 13*** and explain below:

III. Program Revenue and Funding

A. Tuition Revenue: Please describe how you calculated the tuition revenue that appears in the ***Business Plan, Line 17***. Specifically, did you calculate using cost per credit hour or per term?Did you factor in differences between resident and non-resident tuition rates?
Note: Tuition Revenue should be proportional to total enrollment.

B. Reallocations: For each year will tuition revenue and/or external funding cover projected expenses?YES
No

If ***yes***, please include all external funding in the ***Business Plan, Line 18*** and explain specific sources and funding below:

C. Reallocations: For each year will tuition revenue and/or external funding cover projected expenses? **Yes ☐ No ☒**

If ***not***, budget reallocation may be required. Please include all reallocations in the ***Business Plan, Line 19*** and describe below how your institution will cover any shortfalls in any given year.

ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM PROPOSAL SUMMARY

INSTITUTION:	**Calhoun Community College**		
PROGRAM NAME:	**Video Game Production**	**CIP CODE:**	**50.0411**
SELECT LEVEL:	**UNDERGRADUATE (ASSOCIATE)**		

ESTIMATED *NEW* EXPENSES TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSED PROGRAM

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	TOTAL
FACULTY								$0
ADMINISTRATION/STAFF								$0
EQUIPMENT					$125,000			$125,000
FACILITIES								$0
ASSISTANTSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS								$0
LIBRARY								$0
ACCREDITATION AND OTHER COSTS	$8,000	$15,000	$10,000	$12,000				$45,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	$8,000	$15,000	$10,000	$12,000	$125,000	$0	$0	**$170,000**

NEW REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	TOTAL
REALLOCATIONS								$0
EXTERNAL FUNDING					$125,000			$125,000
TUITION + FEES	$17,472	$24,960	$37,440	$44,928	$57,408	$72,348	$77,376	$331,932
TOTAL REVENUES	$17,472	$24,960	$37,440	$44,928	$182,408	$72,348	$77,376	**$456,932**

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Note: "New Enrollment Headcount" is defined as unduplicated counts across years.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	AVERAGE
FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT	No data reporting	4	6	7	9	11	11	**8.00**
PART-TIME ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT		2	3	4	5	7	9	**5.00**
TOTAL ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT		6	9	11	14	18	20	**13.00**
***NEW* ENROLLMENT HEADCOUNT**		6	8	10	12	12	13	**10.17**
Validation of Enrollment			**YES**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**	

DEGREE COMPLETION PROJECTIONS

Note: Do not count Lead "0"s and Lead 0 years in computing the average annual degree completions.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	AVERAGE
DEGREE COMPLETION PROJECTIONS	No data reporting	3	6	7	8	10	12	**7.67**

Undergraduate Curriculum Plan

Undergraduate Curriculum Checklist:

1. Overview ☐
2. Components ☐
3. Options (as required) ☐

1. Undergraduate Overview

Enter the credit hour value for all applicable components (N/A if not applicable).
The credit hours MUST match the credit hours in the Curriculum Components table.

Curriculum Overview of Proposed Program	
Credit hours required in **General Education**	16
Credit hours required in **Program Courses & Required Electives**	27
Credit hours in **Program Options (concentrations/specializations/tracks)**	18
Credit hours in **Free Electives**	
Credit hours in required **Capstone/Internship/Practicum**	
Total Credit Hours Required for Completion:	**61**

Maximum number of credits that can be transferred in from another institution and applied to the program:	12
Intended program duration in semesters for full-time students:	6
Intended program duration in semesters for part-time students:	12

	YES	NO
Does the program require students to demonstrate industry-validated skills, specifically through an embedded industry-recognized certification, structured work-based learning with an enployer partner, or alignment with nationally recognized industry standards?:	☐	☑

If **yes**, please explain (i.e., number of hours required, etc.):

	YES	NO
Does the program inlcude any concentrations/ tracks/ options?	☐	☑

If **yes**, please explain (i.e., define):

2. Undegraduate Components

Please provide all course information as indicated in the following table. Indicate new courses with "Y" in the associated column. If the course includes a required work-based learning component, such as an internship or practicum course, please indicate with a "Y" in the WBL column.

Insert Additional Rows as Needed				
Institution:	Drake State Community & Technical College			
Program Name:	Cybersecurity			
Program Level:	UNDERGRADUATE (ASSOCIATE)			
Curriculum Components of Proposed Program				
Course Number	**Course Name**	**Credit Hours**	**New? (Y)**	**WBL? (Y)**
General Education Courses		**16**		
Area I	Written Composition	3		
Area II	Humanities and Fine Arts	3		
Area III	Natural Science and Mathematics	7		
Area IV	History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences	3		
Program Courses and Required Electives		**27**		
CIS 199	Network Communications	3		
CIS 202	Python Programming	3		
CIS 211	Principles of Information Assurance	3	Y	
CIS 214	Security Analysis (Pen Testing)	3	Y	
CIS 238	Cloud Computing: Infrastructure and Services	3	Y	
CIS 244	Introduction to Cybersecurity	3		
CIS 245	Cyber Defense	3		
CIS 246	Ethical Hacking	3		
CIS 282	Computer Forensics	3	Y	
Program Options (enter total credit hours from all options below)				
Free Electives				
Capstone/Internship/Practicum				
Total Credit Hours Required for Completion:				

3. Undergraduate Options

Please provide all concentrations/ tracks/ options in the following table. Indicate new courses with "Y" in the associated column. If the course includes a required work-based learning component, such as an internship or practicum course, please indicate with a "Y" in the WBL column.

Insert Additional Rows and Tables as Needed

Option Name:	**Program Electives/Concentrations/Tracks (18 Credit Hours)**			
Course Number		**Credit Hours**	**New? (Y)**	**WBL? (Y)**
CIS 134	IT Fundamentals	3		
CIS 149	Digital Literacy	3		
CIS 171	Linux / Unix I	3		
CIS 172	Linux / Unix II	3		
CIS 222	Database Management	3		
CIS 235	Data Analytics	3		
CIS 249	Microcomputer Operating Systems	3		
CIS 270	CISCO CCNA I	3		
CIS 271	CISCO CCNA II	3		
CIS 272	CISCO CCNA III	3		
CIS 276	Server Administration	3		
CIS 277	Network Services Administration	3		
CIS 280	Network Security	3		
CIS 281	Systems Analysis and Design	3		
CIS 284	CIS Internship	3		
SYS 101	Introduction to Systems Engineering	3		
	Option's Total Credit Hours Required for Completion:	**18**		

Option Name:				
Course Number		**Credit Hours**	**New? (Y)**	**WBL? (Y)**
	Total Option Credit Hours Required for Completion:			

Option Name:				
Course Number		**Credit Hours**	**New? (Y)**	**WBL? (Y)**
	Total Option Credit Hours Required for Completion:	**61**		

1300 Meridian Street N
Suite 101
Huntsville, AL 35801
256.384.3356
July 14, 2025

Drake State Community and Technical College
3421 Meridian Street North
Huntsville, AL 35811

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Mission Multiplier, it is my pleasure to submit this strong letter of support for the proposed AAS (Associate of Applied Science) in Cybersecurity at Drake State Community and Technical College [Drake State]. Drake State intends to offer this curriculum as a committed service to its students, local community, and global learning communities which is paramount to their mission.

Having first-hand experience with an educational journey that crosses community colleges as well as 2- and 4-year institutions, I value the program structure and the hands-on cybersecurity training at a community college. As I currently hold a doctorate in Cybersecurity, I recognize the growing demand for skilled Cybersecurity professionals. The advanced technical training in the subsequent courses at Drake State and the AAS will graduate highly trained members for a technical workforce which we require in consideration of current growth of Cybersecurity threats worldwide.

Being a provider of business-focused Cybersecurity solutions at Mission Multiplier, we would very much welcome this type of program, which will fill a gap in the educational offerings, and we are proud for this to be instructed in Alabama. The AAS program is most welcome, and the student learning outcomes address important areas of need such as identifying and investigating cyber attacks and troubleshooting complex computer and network infrastructures.

At Mission Multiplier, we are excited to see this new AAS program being available in Huntsville, Alabama and beyond. We offer our support to this important mission of Drake State in Huntsville and the curriculum to support this important technical cyber-focused workforce.

Please feel free to reach out for any further information, questions, or input.

Sincerely,

Philomena Compton

Dr. Philomena Compton, DBA, BSED, MLIS, NBCT, EDS, MSCM, Public Notary
Capture, Program, & Business Development Manager
Work E-mail: pcompton@missionmultiplier.com
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Mobile #: (256) 642.8684
www.missionmultiplier.com

ABSI LLC.
Engineering & Construction

July 9, 2025

To whom it may concern:

I am writing on behalf of ABSI LLC., a proud industry partner in the field of Information Technology and Cybersecurity, to express our full support for the proposed Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in the Cybersecurity program at Drake State Community and Technical College.

As a company concerned about protecting digital infrastructure, we recognize the increasing demand for skilled cybersecurity professionals. The hands-on, practical focus of an AAS degree aligns perfectly with the needs of today's workforce and prepares students to contribute effectively from day one.

We believe graduates of this program will be well-equipped to fill essential roles such as:

- Cybersecurity Analyst
- Network Security Technician
- Security Operations Center (SOC) Associate

In addition to our support, ABSI LLC., is open to offering internships, apprenticeships, and entry-level employment opportunities to qualified graduates. We are also eager to collaborate with Drake State through curriculum development, guest lectures, and mentorship initiatives to ensure the program remains aligned with evolving industry standards.

256-603-3615
Absieng.com
513 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, AL 35816

ABSI LLC.
Engineering & Construction

In conclusion, we strongly endorse the addition of the AAS in Cybersecurity program and believe it will be an asset to both students and the regional workforce. Please feel free to contact me directly if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Erlene Adams
ABSI LLC.
IT Operations Manager
256-603-3615

256-603-3615
Absieng.com
513 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, AL 35816