project-based learning

INCREASING VIRGINIA'S CYBER WORKFORCE is an essential part of CCI's mission. Experiential learning programs provide students with the skills they need to start a meaningful career in cybersecurity.

CCI has launched a **Project-Based Learning Program** to provide experiential learning opportunities for cyber and cyber-adjacent students attending a college or university within the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative's 40+ institution network.

To accomplish this goal, **CCI works with industry partners to ensure success for both students and partnering companies**. Partners gain access to a talent pool of highly skilled potential employees while receiving full-service recruitment assistance on projects customized to their needs.

CCI advertises, recruits, and pre-selects candidates for the sponsor to consider and select for positions. In accordance with CCI's equitable access principles, CCI will provide stipends to participants. Partners who sponsor the projects will provide guidance and mentoring to those students.

project-based learning

Our first project involves a partnership with **Northern Virginia Community College** and **CACI International**. Seven NVCC students will begin their program in the fall of 2023.

PARTICIPATE IN CCI'S PROJECT-BASED LEARNING PROGRAM

If you're interested in seeing this program at your school or sponsoring a program at your company, contact Sarah Hayes at sshayes@vt.edu. For more information about CCI go to cyberinitiative.org.

"CCI has been a great partnership because it's focused on students in certain areas where we desperately need talent. It's very economical and efficient for us to interface with (CCI) to identify students to come and work for us.

What we bring...is experiential learning. I'm a huge fan of it. Decades ago, my grandfather told me you learn to do by doing. Every student goes to class. Every student takes tests. But what we can provide to a unique subset of students are experiences. Apply your learning to real-world problems, and that's where we get to see you shine as a student. That's where we get to see talent come alive, when we see passion for the field. That's when you might be at the start of a great career with CACI."

– Glenn Kurowski
Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for CACI International Inc

Commonwealth Cyber Initiative