

PC4A: Supporting STEM Students Across Pennsylvania

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In AY 2022-23, IUP was awarded almost **\$5 million** to establish a cybersecurity consortium with six community colleges across PA to strengthen the cybersecurity workforce in our country. The PC4A Project will continue through August 2025, with a possible extension to August 2028 and an **additional \$6 million** in funding.

PC4A Partners

- Indiana University of Pennsylvania (LO)
- Bucks County Community College
- Butler County Community College
- Montgomery County Community College
- Northampton Community College
- Penn Highlands Community College
- Westmoreland County Community College



PC4A Objectives



Increase Certification Attainment Rates

WHY: Increasing certification rates will not only help graduates in obtaining employment in their fields but will also provide a pipeline of better-equipped graduates for employment.

HOW: Host certification preparation workshops, award free exam vouchers, offer hands-on labs, and promote career benefits of industry related certifications.



Increase Transfers to Four-Year Institutions

WHY: More students continuing their education at a four-year college or university will result in more qualified graduates seeking employment.

HOW: Establish program-to-program transfer agreements between community college partners and local four-year institutions.



Increase Interest in DoD/DIB Employment

WHY: The US Government is in real need of a skilled, qualified, and prepared cybersecurity and STEM workforce.

HOW: Cultivate and strengthen relationships with DoD/DIB entities, provide paid internship opportunities, train faculty on contemporary topics, and promote employment opportunities.

Financial Support

- Scholarships
- Free textbooks and virtual lab access
- Paid internships
- Certification prep workshops
- Free certification exams

Educational Support

- Free tutoring
- Updated curriculum
- Faculty Development

174
scholarships
awarded

716
free textbooks
awarded

27
paid internships
offered

1.7K
internship hours
completed

15
certification prep
workshops
offered

128
cert-prep
workshops
participants

65
certification exam
vouchers
awarded

19
certifications
earned by
students

12
faculty training
events hosted or
attended

39
faculty trained in
cybersecurity
topics

1.3K
hours of free
tutoring
provided

15
program courses
added and/or
updated

50
events hosted or
attended by
partners

63
collaborations
with outside
institutions

32
bi-weekly
meetings held
with partners

163
posts on PC4A
social media
accounts

PC4A is offering a transfer scholarship to any students or graduates from a PC4A Community College who transfer into IUP's Computer Science – Cybersecurity Track bachelor's degree program!

Scholarship Award

- Full in-state tuition for a minimum of one academic year (**\$8,000 up to \$16,000**).
- Additional award years available (based on funding and academic performance)
- Opportunities to join IUP faculty in ground-breaking research.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a student or graduate of a PC4A community college.
- Must enroll in IUP's Cybersecurity degree program.
- Must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.



IUP DoD Cyber Scholarship Program

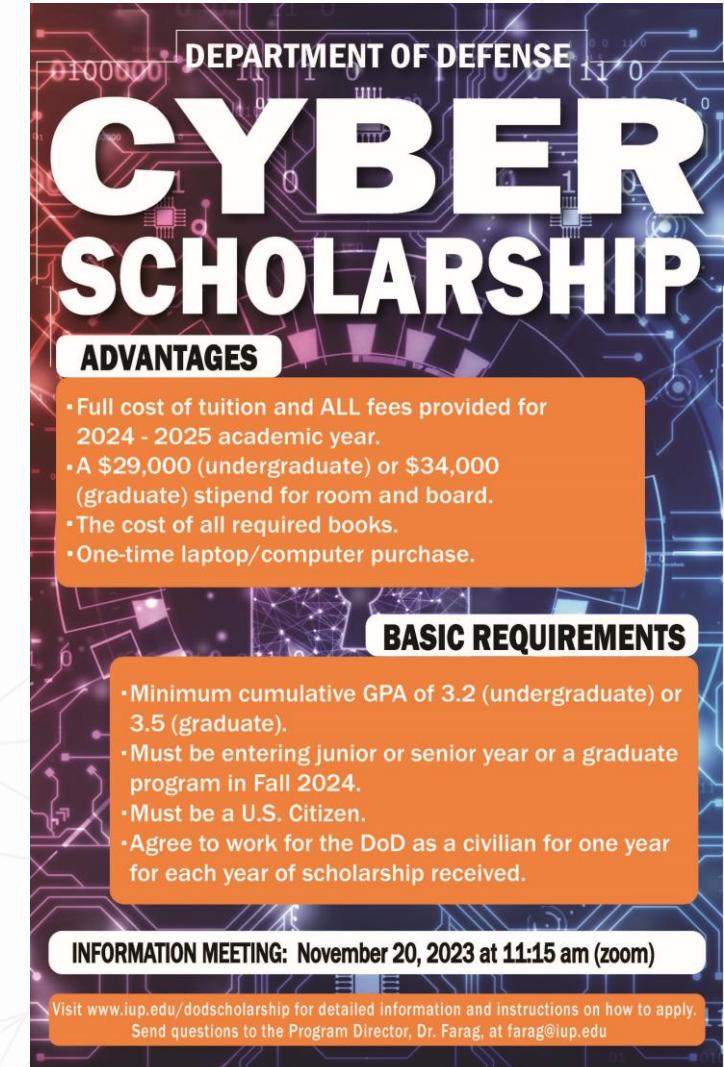


Program Overview

- Funded by the DoD, the CySP provides scholarships to high-achieving undergraduate and graduate cybersecurity students enrolled at NCAE-C institutions.
- While enrolled, students complete a paid internship at a DoD agency, and are hired as employees upon graduation.

IUP CySP Benefits

- Full tuition, books, & fees for up to 2 years.
- \$29,000 stipend to cover living expenses.
- One-time laptop/computer purchase.
- Research opportunities with Department faculty.

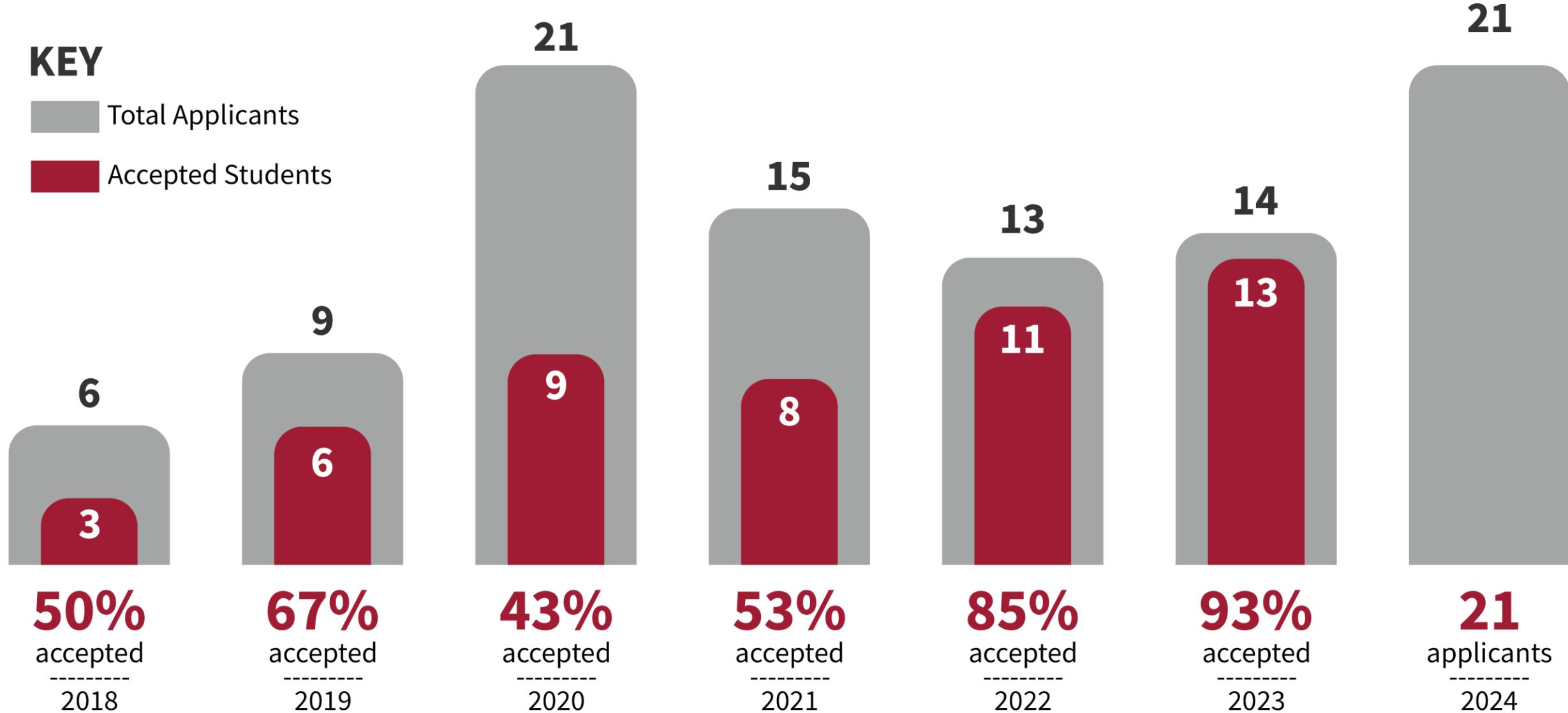
A promotional graphic for the Department of Defense Cyber Scholarship. The background is a dark purple with a digital circuit board pattern. At the top, 'DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE' is written in small white text. The word 'CYBER' is written in large, bold, white letters, and 'SCHOLARSHIP' is written in large, bold, white letters below it. A white box titled 'ADVANTAGES' contains a list of benefits: 'Full cost of tuition and ALL fees provided for 2024 - 2025 academic year.', '\$A \$29,000 (undergraduate) or \$34,000 (graduate) stipend for room and board.', 'The cost of all required books.', 'One-time laptop/computer purchase.' Another white box titled 'BASIC REQUIREMENTS' contains a list of requirements: 'Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 (undergraduate) or 3.5 (graduate).', 'Must be entering junior or senior year or a graduate program in Fall 2024.', 'Must be a U.S. Citizen.', 'Agree to work for the DoD as a civilian for one year for each year of scholarship received.' At the bottom, a white box contains the text 'INFORMATION MEETING: November 20, 2023 at 11:15 am (zoom)' and 'Visit www.iup.edu/dodscholarship for detailed information and instructions on how to apply. Send questions to the Program Director, Dr. Farag, at farag@iup.edu'.

IUP DoD Cyber Application Statistics

KEY

Total Applicants

Accepted Students



We need to hear from you!



All three main PC4A project objectives are centered on students. We need your feedback to improve our offerings and continue to reach our goals.

Please visit bit.ly/pc4a-student-survey to fill our PC4A Student Survey or scan the QR code below.

As a thank you, we're offering **\$100 gift cards** to five randomly selected students who complete the survey.

Enter for a chance to win!

- After you have submitted the survey, you'll be directed to another form to enter your contact information. All survey responses are anonymous.

