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ETA[®] INTERNATIONAL



PRESS RELEASE

University of Charleston Awards Credits for Students Earning ETA's Cybersecurity Credential

ETA[®] International's Information Technology Security (ITS) accredited certification is one way to ensure there are well-trained cybersecurity workers today as well as a strong pipeline of future cybersecurity leaders for tomorrow. To validate students' cyber skills, the University of Charleston West Virginia recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with ETA to award three college credits to students when they earn ETA's ITS certification and extend a tuition discount to ETA members.

Greencastle, May 10, 2017: Cyberspace and its underlying infrastructure are vulnerable to a wide range of risks stemming from both physical and cyber threats and hazards. The demand for an experienced and qualified workforce to protect networks and information systems has never been higher. To develop a more resilient and capable cyber nation, [ETA[®] International \(ETA\)](#) and the [University of Charleston West Virginia \(UCWV\)](#) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together to develop a highly-skilled cybersecurity workforce across industry and government.

Effective cybersecurity workforce development with ETA's [Information Technology Security \(ITS\)](#) can help organizations more efficiently and effectively recruit qualified cybersecurity professionals.

Under the School of Business and Leadership, the University of Charleston West Virginia (UCWV) offers a Bachelor's of Science in Cybersecurity with a mixture of academic and practitioner-level certifications. A combination of foundational courses (28 hours), Cyber prerequisite courses (nine hours), Cyber required courses (nine hours), Cyber elective courses (15-18 hours), minor selection (18 hours), and general electives worth 38 hours round out the total Bachelors of Science in Cybersecurity degree. ETA's ITS could be taken as a junior-level cyber elective that would earn the student three college credits.

"I'm excited to have a signed partnership between ETA and UCWV enabling us to help train today's and tomorrow's cyber warriors," said Matthew D. Gonzalez, PhD, CEH, CHFI, PMP, Cyber Program Director, UCWV. He added, "Our program combines certification training while achieving college credit at the same time so that students can become marketable and knowledgeable to become a part of the cyber workforce!"

UCWV graduates will be prepared to contribute to and lead others in quickly-evolving dimensions of Information Technology (IT) related to cybersecurity. In alliance with The National CyberSecurity Workforce Framework, UCWV graduates will be prepared for a variety of careers in the rapidly growing industry of cybersecurity.

Potential job opportunities, according to The National CyberSecurity Workforce

Framework and U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), include but are not limited to: Information Security Analyst, Information Systems Security Engineer, Intrusion Detection System (IDS) Administrator, Engineer or Technician, Network Administrator, Computer Crime Investigator, Cyber Trainer and Chief Information Security Officer. The DOL's O*NET Online rates Information Security Analysts as a Bright Outlook career with projected job growth predicted to grow much faster than other careers with an average of 14% or higher and the median wages last year for this occupation was \$92,600.

As cyber threats continue to evolve, the nation's protection against them relies on a steady stream of qualified cybersecurity professionals entering the workforce. Training is essential to preparing the cybersecurity workforce of tomorrow, and for keeping current cybersecurity workers up-to-date on skills and evolving threats. These professionals are critical in both private industry and the government for the security of individuals and the nation.

"As our use of the internet increases, the threat to internet security by cybercrimes grow in frequency and intensity," said ETA President Teresa Maher, CSS. She added, "Skilled workers able to identify, remediate and protect against this growing threat are of vital importance to virtually each and every business."

This Memorandum of Understanding is also intended to reflect the cooperative efforts between ETA and UCWV to expand, enhance and improve educational opportunities to ETA members with a reduced tuition rate for UCWV's online and hybrid undergraduate or graduate degree programs in Business or Leadership. Programs include Bachelor's of Science degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Organizational Leadership (with concentrations in Healthcare, Aviation, Non-Profits and Emergency Services) and Cybersecurity.

Become an ETA member and take advantage of this savings program today! To join the professional trade association, call ETA at 800-288-3824 or sign up online at <http://www.eta-i.org/membership.html>. Then find out how to apply the discount by contacting UCWV at 1-800-995-4682 or <http://www.ucwv.edu/>.

About ETA - Since 1978, ETA has delivered over 200,000 professional certifications plus nearly 40,000 FCC license exams. Widely recognized and frequently used in worker job selection, hiring processes, pay increases, and advancements, ETA certifications are often required as companies bid on contracts. ETA certifications measure and validate competencies of persons, not products or vendors. All ETA certifications are accredited through the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC) and align with the ISO-17024 standard. ETA is a professional trade association that connects members with other professionals from around the world to discuss issues, share experiences, and learn from one another. www.eta-i.org

About University of Charleston West Virginia - The mission of the University of Charleston is to educate each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living and community involvement. The University's mission is an expression of shared values and goals, including: Offering selected quality programs affording professional preparation in a liberal arts environment; Preparing students to live in an increasingly complex and changing society by helping them develop the knowledge, abilities, and character needed to be lifelong learners; and Utilizing and enriching the strong relationship between the University and the greater Charleston community to prepare students for a life rich in community involvement. <http://www.ucwv.edu/>

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