



**National Centers of Academic Excellence in
Cyber Defense Program of Study Validation**

9800 Savage Road
Ft. Meade, MD 20755-6804

06 Jan 2026

Mitchell Community College
Jason Lands
500 W. Broad Street
Statesville, NC 28677

Jason Lands:

I am pleased to inform you that the National Security Agency and a committee of academic peers has validated the following program of study: Information Technology A.A.S - Cyber Security, through academic year 2031. This letter will serve as proof of your Program of Study Validation.

Your ability to meet the increasing demands of the program validation will serve the nation well in contributing to the protection of the National Information Infrastructure. The National Cyber Strategy, September 2018, addresses the critical shortage of professionals with cybersecurity skills and highlights the importance of higher education as a solution to defending America's cyberspace. "A highly skilled cybersecurity workforce is a strategic national security advantage." "The United States Government will continue to invest in and enhance programs that build the domestic talent pipeline, from primary through postsecondary education." Education is the key to promoting these ideals.

Sincerely,

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Renae Weathers
National CAE Program Manager, NSA