The proposed new baccalaureate degree program is an opportunity to provide citizens of Florida greater access to higher education.

- The highly specialized body of skills and technical knowledge acquired by the students who complete the BS in Cybersecurity will prepare them to manage cybersecurity infrastructure, risks, and vulnerabilities in real-world situations.


- The BS in Cybersecurity has been designated as a $10,000 degree; eligible students who meet the criteria will be able to complete the program for a total cost of no more than $10,000 in tuition and fees.

- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) workforce data and Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) labor market projections indicate a projected increase in demand of more than 800 annual job openings in MDC’s service area. The average annual supply of cybersecurity graduates from state universities in the service area has been about 250, which brings the estimated annual workforce unmet need to approximately 550 openings.

- A number of industry organizations, businesses, and educational institutions in and around MDC’s service area, as well as national organizations, support the proposal, including but not limited to Assurant, CyVent, National CyberWatch Center, Florida International University, and University of West Florida Center for Cybersecurity.

- Admission to the BS in Cybersecurity program will provide a seamless articulation for applicants who have completed an Associate in Science (AS) degree in Cybersecurity. The program also accommodates students entering with other technology majors as well as students entering with an Associate in Arts (AA) degree and students from regionally accredited institutions.

- Graduates will acquire the theoretical and practical knowledge they need as well as the opportunity to earn several industry standard certifications to keep pace with the advancement of the profession.