



TechQuest Initiative - Cybersecurity Practitioner Fundamentals

Overview:

iQ4 and its Cybersecurity Workforce Alliance (CWA) has teamed-up with Clark University on this exciting cybersecurity initiative through a Department of Labor Grant awarded to Clark University. There is no academic pre-requisite. The goal is to help you get a great job in cybersecurity!

This course will introduce you to the fundamentals of cybersecurity, and the common threats to an organization and how to maintain a robust cybersecurity posture. It will also provide you with an overview of the legal and ethical aspect of cybersecurity and explain opportunities and career pathways using the iQ4 Wallet.

You will meet with subject matter experts to gain cybersecurity knowledge and experience for success in employment.

In addition, you will earn an industry-recognized credential that confirms the knowledge, skills, and abilities you gained, leading to great careers, regardless of your previous work history or educational background. These skills will help you get a great job in cybersecurity.

The \$600 fee for this project is waived for those who are eligible.

Eligibility:

TechBoost is an equal opportunity program open to participants who meet the following criteria:

- 17 years of age or older and not attending secondary school (high school)
- U.S. citizen or legally authorized to work in the U.S.
- Unemployed or underemployed (across all diversity, equity, and inclusion communities)
- Veterans and those in transition from the military, and their spouse and dependents

Note for When Applying

1. If eligible, if you select TechQuest you may also apply for TechBoost.

2. You are not required to provide your Social Security Number (SSN) to be eligible for TechQuest enrollment/funding support, however, the Department of Labor (DOL) would appreciate having this information so they can more accurately track this grant's overall outcomes. The [AGS Prime](#) portal used for data collection is secure and encrypted. AGS Prime works closely with many grantees and the DOL to ensure the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) provided is accessible only to the grantee for reporting and to the DOL for overall metrics. Your specific PII is never shared with third parties by the DOL.

3. TechQuest Apprenticeship (TQA) partners with AGS Prime for a safe and secure way to collect and retain participant information and documentation for TQA grant participants. The AGS Prime platform provides an industry-standard environment for data encryption and management.



Quotes:

Dug Jones, Program Director for Workforce Grants, Clark University “Clark University is very excited about the opportunities being generated for veteran’s transitioning to private sector Cybersecurity jobs through the partnership between iQ4 and Clark’s DOL funded, TechBoost grant. We are positioned to fund over 500 students into this excellent program”. Additionally, the iQ4 Wallet is an asset that helps non- traditional students document their skill sets and credentials to employers”.

Professor Ian MacDonald, CWA Instructor/Facilitator, iQ4 Corp/CWA “For the last 7 years, I have been an instructor and facilitator for the Insider Threat project through the iQ4 experiential learning platform. In early April, I began working with my first cohort of veteran students for the Clark University initiative. After spending only a month with these students, I must say that I have never encountered such high quality deliverables, professionalism and work ethic. I am profoundly moved by the talent and mutual respect displayed by our veteran students!”

Peter Meehan, SVP International & Partnerships, iQ4 Corp/CWA “The combination of iQ4 and Clark University seamlessly delivers up-skilling to underserved and underemployed communities, with all stakeholders benefiting: learners are rapidly prepared for the workforce by iQ4 and the Cybersecurity Workforce Alliance mentored programs at no cost - because they are funded by the Clark University DOL grant. This initiative can rapidly produce the next generation of cybersecurity talent, which is better prepared to hit the ground running upon being hired”

Description: This cybersecurity pre-apprenticeship program is conducted 100% online. Utilizing the National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, you will be introduced to the fundamentals of cybersecurity, and the common threats to an organization and how to maintain a robust cybersecurity posture. It will also provide you with an overview of the legal and ethical aspect of cybersecurity and explain opportunities and career pathways using the iQ4 Wallet. There are no course meetings, instruction is 100% online, at your pace, keeping in mind that each week you are requested to complete the assigned Lesson and Assignment. There is a mentoring (digital coach – industry subject matter expert) component. You can meet with the program mentors at a scheduled time once per week or at a more convenient time for you. When you complete the course, you may wish to embark on a course of study to further prepare you with the skills critical to fill positions in the cybersecurity field or enter a registered apprenticeship. At the end of the course, an iQ4 - Cybersecurity Workforce Alliance (CWA) certificate will be issued validating successful completion and that work was performed with the guidance of industry subject matter expert mentors.

iQ4 Wallet: You will receive access to your personal iQ4 “Digital” Wallet. The Wallet enables you to promote your workplace skills, experience, education, and portfolio of work, find career pathways to suitable cybersecurity job roles and be matched to employers’ skills-based hiring needs. It will capture your industry recognized credential from this project.

Additional Details

- Duration: 6-Weeks
- Mentor Meeting: Once a week for 90 minutes
- Weekly Lessons: Takes approximately 3 hours to complete
- Job Role: Cybersecurity Practitioner

Updated: July 5, 2022