Program Information	Contact Information	Date Updated
Information Technology (Systems Security, Systems Security Cyber Defense, Cybersecurity) A25590CS, A25590SS, C25590CD, C25590CY	Victoria Ferrell Program Coordinator, IT Systems & Cybersecurity vferrell@forsythtech.edu	June 2025

This document is intended to support your research on the educational and certification requirements for IT professionals on a state-by-state basis, encompassing the United States territories as well.

Educational Preparation: Forsyth Technical Community College offers focused Information Technology programs in Systems Security, Systems Security Cyber Defense, and Cybersecurity. These programs are designed to prepare students for careers in protecting computer systems, networks, and data from cyber threats. Forsyth Tech's iTec Center is a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense, recognized by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), reflecting the institution's commitment to high standards in cybersecurity education. Coursework includes hands-on labs and simulations in network defense, ethical hacking, digital forensics, and risk management, ensuring students are equipped with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills aligned with industry standards.

Certification Standards: While professional licensure is not required for most IT roles, students in these programs are prepared for industry-recognized certifications that are often preferred or required by employers. These may include CompTIA Security+, Network+, CySA+, Cisco CCNA Security, and Microsoft certifications. Many cybersecurity positions—especially in government or defense-related sectors—may also require background checks or security clearances. Students should research regional employment expectations to determine which certifications are most relevant to their career goals.

Forsyth Tech Website   **Additional Resource (1**)   **Additional Resource (2**)

Disclaimer: It is crucial to acknowledge that laws and regulations in the field of Information Technology (Systems Security, Systems Security Cyber Defense, Cybersecurity) are subject to constant change. For the most current information and requirements, we strongly advise you to consult the specific state board or agency responsible for Information Technology (Systems Security, Systems Security Cyber Defense, Cybersecurity) licensure/certification.

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Alabama	✓	
Alaska	✓	
American Samoa	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Arizona	✓	
Arkansas	✓	
California	✓	
Colorado	✓	
Connecticut	✓	
Delaware	✓	
District of Columbia	✓	
Florida	✓	
Georgia	✓	
Guam	✓	
Hawaii	✓	
Idaho	✓	
Illinois	✓	
Indiana	✓	
Iowa	✓	
Kansas	✓	
Kentucky	✓	
Louisiana	✓	
Maine	✓	
Maryland	✓	
Massachusetts	✓	
Michigan	✓	
Minnesota	✓	
Mississippi	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Missouri	✓	
Montana	✓	
Nebraska	✓	
Nevada	✓	
New Hampshire	✓	
New Jersey	✓	
New Mexico	✓	
New York	✓	
North Carolina	✓	
North Dakota	✓	
Northern Mariana Islands	✓	
Ohio	✓	
Oklahoma	✓	
Oregon	✓	
Pennsylvania	✓	
Puerto Rico	✓	
Rhode Island	✓	
South Carolina	✓	
South Dakota	✓	
Tennessee	✓	
Texas	✓	
US Virgin Islands	✓	
Utah	✓	
Vermont	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Virginia	✓	
Washington	✓	
West Virginia	✓	
Wisconsin	✓	
Wyoming	✓	