



**THIS  
MONTH'S  
FOCUS**

# CDSE'S EDUCATION PROGRAM

**DID YOU KNOW?**

*CDSE has 19 Education courses covering topics such as communications, security, management, insider threat, and risk management.*

 **CDSE – Center for Development of Security Excellence**

 **@TheCDSE**

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**CDSE Pulse**

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## CDSE EDUCATION PROGRAM

CDSE has established an education program of advanced and graduate courses designed specifically to broaden DOD security specialists' knowledge and understanding of the security profession and prepare them for leadership positions and responsibilities. All of the Education courses are tuition-free, offered in a virtual instructor-led environment, and open to U.S. military members and civilian government employees. Each completed course earns 160 Professional Development Units

(PDUs) for use towards the maintenance of a Security Professional Education Development (SPeD) Program Certification. The courses also have the American Council on Education (ACE) CREDIT recommendations that may earn transfer credits at participating universities.

### INTRODUCING PBCS: A NEW ROADMAP TO EDUCATION

The post-baccalaureate certificate (PBC) is a program students complete after graduating from an undergraduate program. Although it is

not a degree, the PBC is a higher level of academic achievement. PBC programs allow students to build relevant field experience and cultivate knowledge in a particular discipline to help them attain a graduate certificate or complete prerequisites for admission to a graduate program. PBCs typically take one to two years to complete.

CDSE is offering a PBC program that will prepare security professionals to become leaders in their field of discipline. They will have the opportunity to study with security experts and network with security professionals across the Nation. The certificate requires students to have graduated from an undergraduate program for admission. While not accredited, the certificates are tuition-free to Government civilian employees and the military.

The disciplines for CDSE's PBC program include Risk Management, Security Leadership, Security





Management, Security (Generalist), and Systems and Operations. The courses for these certificates are rigorous and will require a strong commitment to learning from the student. CDSE will launch the PBC program in phases. Once it launches, CDSE will no longer offer education certificate programs. Students currently enrolled in the education certificate program will be given the opportunity to apply for the PBC program first. Students who are currently enrolled in the education certificate program who are not eligible for a PBC program will be allowed to complete their education certificate within a given timeframe.

Students who apply for the PBC must have obtained a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited higher education institution. They must also be a citizen of the United States, and currently be either a U.S. Government civilian employee or a U.S. military service member (U.S.

For applicants who have not successfully completed an education course but meet the other admission requirements may be granted a provisional admission. Provisional admission is granted by CDSE-ED on a case-by-case basis. Applicants who receive a provisional admission are required to register for a course and must successfully complete coursework. Once the course is successfully completed the applicant will receive full admission to the program. Provisional admission can be canceled if the coursework taken is not completed or the course is not successfully passed with an 80 percent score."

Government contractors are not eligible to participate). Applicants must have successfully passed at least one CDSE Education course with a final score of 80% or higher and must have an updated account in the Security Training, Education, and Professionalization Portal (STEPP).

PBC courses are virtual instructor-led asynchronous online programs, allowing students to learn on their own schedule within the overall timeframe of the course. Students will access the courses on the Security Training, Education, and Professionalization

Portal (STEPP). It typically takes one to two years for students to complete a PBC, but CDSE allows students up to three years to complete the programs.

In the current competitive career-landscape, an educational advantage is a great way to separate yourself from the pack. A PBC from CDSE will demonstrate your dedication to increasing your knowledge of the security profession. The enhanced security skills and understanding obtained through the PBC program will benefit you for the rest of your career.

## EDUCATION PROGRAM INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION
<a href="#">Education Program Homepage</a>	Program Information and links to course & program requirements, credit recommendations, course listing/descriptions, PBCs, and FAQs
<a href="#">Education Flyer</a>	Program information and course schedule
<a href="#">Education FAQs</a>	Education program and PBC questions and answers
<a href="#">Education Courses</a>	Course listing and links to course descriptions
<a href="#">PBC Application</a>	PBC application and submission instructions
<a href="#">Credit Recommendations</a>	Information on American Council on Education (ACE) credit recommendations for Education courses
<a href="#">Contact Information</a>	Program email address for any questions or issues



## NEW CDSE EDUCATION COURSES

CDSE is now offering two eight-week virtual instructor-led education courses, *ED202 Writing and Communication Skills in the Security Environment* and *ED203 Writing Incident Reports and Research Papers for DOD Security*. The ED202 course introduces students to the fundamentals of Department of Defense writing and presentation, and the ED203 course prepares students to write security incidents reports and write research reports on security-related topics.

The ED202 and ED203 courses replace the ED201 course which was in a 16-week format. Redesigning the ED201 course into two eight-week

courses provides the student more flexibility in scheduling and balancing their work, school and homelife responsibilities. The ED202 course will be offered each Fall Semester in August and ED203 will be offered each Spring Semester in January. CDSE Education courses are delivered on the CDSE's Security Training, Education and Professionalization Portal (STEPP) in our Collaborative Learning Environment virtual classrooms by experienced instructors. While we recommend students take the ED202 course first, it is not a prerequisite for ED203. Both courses are open to all US government civilian employees and US military service members with



or without a college degree. Upon completing either of these courses, students will earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) which can be used toward maintaining their SP&D Certification. To learn more about these courses and other CDSE Education courses click [here](#).

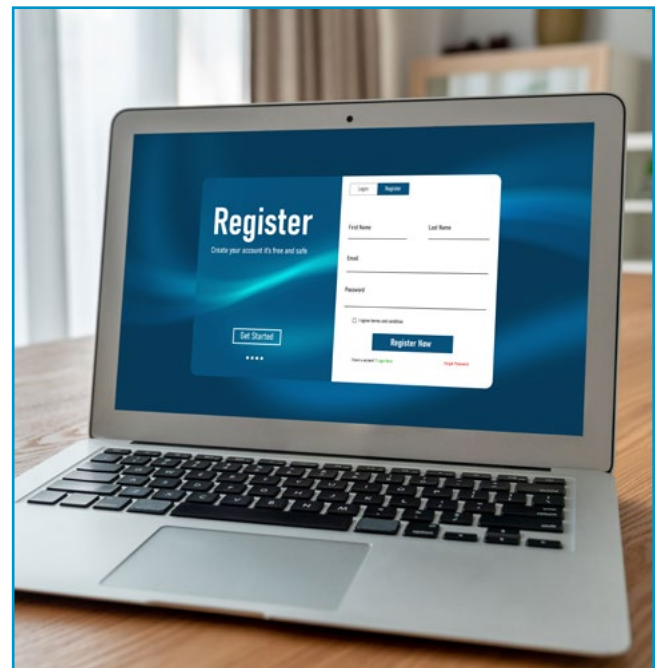
## EDUCATION SPRING SEMESTER REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE

The CDSE Education Program Spring 2024 Semester registration is now open! The spring semester classes will run from January 22 to May 19, 2024. Classes fill quickly, so please register early to secure your spot in the spring semester.

CDSE Education Division offers:

- Tuition Free & Flexible 100% virtual instructor led courses
- Five Security Education Certificate programs
- Highly qualified instructors
- Real-world practical assignments
- Virtual networking with professionals throughout the security community

You can learn more about the classes being offered and register for them by accessing the [course webpage](#). To register, log into [STEPP](#). If you have any questions, or need additional information, contact the [CDSE Education Program](#).





## CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AND RESILIENCE MONTH

November is designated Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience (CISR) Month. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) leads the national recognition of this month which focuses on educating and engaging all levels of government, infrastructure owners and operators, and the American public about the vital role critical infrastructure plays in the Nation’s well-being and why it is important to strengthen critical infrastructure security and resilience. CISA is asking all Americans to “Resolve to be Resilient. We all play a role in keeping our shared critical infrastructure resources secure and resilient. Visit CISA for more information and resources regarding **CISR** month.

CDSE also provides training and resources in support of critical infrastructure security:

COURSES	TOOLKITS	JOB AIDS
Antiterrorism Officer (ATO) Level II (eLearning)	Acquisition	Counterintelligence Awareness for Defense Critical Infrastructure
Assessing Risk and Applying Security Controls to NISP Systems (Instructor-led)		Insider Threat Programs for the Critical Manufacturing Sector
Cybersecurity Awareness (eLearning)	Counterintelligence Awareness (CI)	Insider Risk Programs For the Healthcare and Public Health Sector
Introduction to Physical Security (eLearning)	Cybersecurity	Security-in-Depth (SID) vs. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
NISP Reporting Requirements (eLearning)	Deliver Uncompromised	Deliver Uncompromised: Supply Chain Risk Management
Physical Security and Asset Protection (Instructor-led)		Understanding Espionage and National Security Crimes
Physical Security Measures (eLearning)		Implementing Effective Physical Security Countermeasures
Physical Security Planning and Implementation (eLearning)		
Protecting Assets in the NISP (eLearning)		
Thwarting the Enemy: Providing Counterintelligence & Threat Awareness to the Defense Industrial Base (eLearning)		



## RECORDINGS AVAILABLE FOR DCSA CONFERENCES FOR DOD AND INSIDER THREAT

The 2023 Virtual DCSA Security Conference for DOD was held on August 16-17. This year's conference theme was "Elevating Security Through Vigilance and Innovation." The agenda topics included Insider Threat, controlled unclassified information, security classification guides, personnel security vetting, policy updates, and more. The conference was open to .mil and .gov email holders.

The Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency Conference for Insider Threat in support of National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NITAM) was held on September 7. This event provided insider threat practitioners in DOD, federal agencies, private industry, critical infrastructure sectors, and academia with a virtual conference to engage with senior leadership on the topic of insider threat. This year's NITAM theme was "Bystander Engagement." The agenda included such topics as counter-insider threat professionalization, organizational resources, toolkits for insider threat mitigation, and more.

If you missed these events or would like to revisit the presentations, access the recordings in the [Conference Archive](#).

### INSIDER THREAT SENTRY APP



As of October 24, 2023, CDSE has discontinued the Insider Threat Sentry mobile application. Thank you for those who have downloaded and used the application for posters, security awareness games, job aids, case studies and more!

For insider Threat training, products, and resources, please visit the [Insider Toolkit](#).



### UPCOMING WEBINAR

Sign up for the following upcoming live webinars:

**The Enemy Within: A Case Briefing**







Wednesday, December 13, 2023  
12:00 to 1:30 p.m. ET

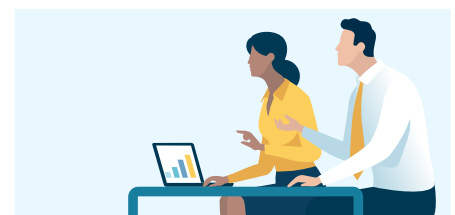
Visit CDSE's [webinar webpage](#) to register for these events and join the discussion!



## FY 2024 UPCOMING COURSES

Consider signing up for one of CDSE's instructor-led training (ILT) or virtual instructor-led training (VILT) courses! Training is free and the VILT eliminates travel expenses. Complete CDSE courses to earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) toward maintenance of Security Professional Education Development (SPeD) Program certifications and credentials. Select courses have the American Council on Education (ACE) CREDIT recommendations that may earn transfer credits at participating universities. Classes fill quickly, so get an early start in planning your security training for FY24. Access the [training schedule](#) today to learn more! Below is a list of ILT/VILT courses available from January 2024 to April 2024.

COURSE	DATE	DESCRIPTION
Physical Security and Asset Protection	<a href="#">Mar. 25 - Apr. 14, 2024</a> (VILT) <a href="#">Apr. 29 - May 3, 2024</a> (ILT)	This course will provide students the ability to identify and utilize regulatory guidance, methodologies, and concepts for protecting DOD assets.
Getting Started Seminar for New Facility Security Officers	<a href="#">April 16 - 19, 2024</a> (VILT)	This course allows new Facility Security Officers (FSOs) and security personnel to learn and apply fundamental National Industrial Security Program (NISP) requirements in a collaborative environment. It also serves as a refresher on industrial security basics for experienced FSOs.
DOD Security Specialist	 <a href="#">Jan. 8 - Feb. 4, 2024</a> (VILT)  <a href="#">Jan. 9 - 18, 2024</a> (ILT) <a href="#">Feb. 6 - 14, 2024</a> (ILT) <a href="#">Mar. 5 - 13, 2024</a> (ILT)	This course provides students a baseline knowledge to perform common DOD security tasks and practices.
Introduction to Special Access Programs	 <a href="#">March 5 - 8, 2024</a> (ILT)  <a href="#">March 12 - 15, 2024</a> (ILT) <a href="#">April 1 - 9, 2024</a> (VILT)	This course focuses on the DOD Special Access Program (SAP) fundamentals and is designed to prepare students to become SAP security professionals.
Assessing Risk and Applying Security Controls to NISP Systems	 <a href="#">Mar. 18 - 22, 2024</a> (ILT)	This course provides students with guidance on applying policies and standards used throughout the U.S. Government to protect information within computer systems, as delineated by the Risk Management Framework (RMF) process. This course will also provide a comprehensive understanding of contractor requirements under the National Industrial Security Program (NISP).
Orientation to SAP Security Compliance Inspections (ILT)	 <a href="#">Feb. 21 - 22, 2024</a> (ILT)	This course provides students with policy and direction to ensure inspections are standardized, equitable, and consistent across inspection agencies utilizing the DOD Special Access Program (SAP) Security Manuals.





**WHAT THE STUDENTS ARE SAYING**

**ED202 WRITING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN THE SECURITY ENVIRONMENT (ED202.10):**

“I have better writing skills and using all material from the class has made me more confident in my writing.”

“Proper English, and ability to put ideas into words is important in any field. Especially since I am an unpopular person (not personally, but being “that Security guy”), making sure my ideas are presented clear and concisely is important.”

“As explained briefly in Q20, it helps me in my overall work and writing reports or any potential recommendations up my command.”

“I believe I gained confidence in my writing, and I certainly learned how to structure my papers.”

“I feel that my recommendation paper can be submitted to higher and make an impact on the Personnel Security mission area at DCSA. It helped my KSAs by deepening my knowledge of other mission areas of DCSA as I had to learn more about them to write about the topic.”



**SEEKING INPUT FOR NEW JOB AID**

We here at CDSE are creating a printable/ customizable prohibited personal electronic device (PED) job aid that can be utilized for secure areas ( i.e. SAPFs and SCIFs). What are a few of the top PEDs and/or odd items of concern you would like to see included on this job aid? Send your input to [dcsa.cdsetraining@mail.mil](mailto:dcsa.cdsetraining@mail.mil) using the Subject: New PED Job Aid Input.



**CDSE NEWS**

CDSE offers an email subscriber news service to get the latest CDSE news, updates, and information. You may be receiving the Pulse through your subscription, but if you were forwarded this newsletter from another source and would like to subscribe to the Pulse or one of our other topics, visit our [news page](#) and sign up or update your account today.

**Insider Threat  
Bulletins**

**Weekly  
Flash**

**Quarterly  
Product Update**

