



Cyber Security for Control Systems

SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Overview

Are you ready to take your knowledge and experience in cyber security to the next level? The Cyber Security for Control Systems program is designed for individuals who have completed related post-secondary studies or gained work-related experience in the field.

Whether you are an IT professional or technician, an industrial control systems (ICS) specialist, or someone focused on cyber-physical systems (CPS) and IT, this program equips you with the skills to safeguard critical control systems in diverse industrial environments.

In this post-diploma certificate, you will:

- explore the unique challenges of securing digital control systems in drilling and wellsites, power plants, power grids, water plants, manufacturing facilities, production lines, telecommunications networks and hospitals.
- learn how to defend systems that have transitioned from analog to digital, making them more susceptible to cyber threats and cybercrime
- gain insights into risk management principles with universal application, essential to every industry, by enhancing control systems' safety, reliability, security and resilience
- learn from experienced instructors with real-world knowledge and practical insights to address the evolving landscape of cyber threats in industrial settings.

Our program is designed to accommodate professionals at different stages of their careers. Our curriculum can meet your needs whether you're looking to upskill or pivot your career to computer security.

Master the challenges of cyber security in the industrial domain.

Traits, skills and aptitudes

You should have education and/or work experience in industrial systems (SCADA, PLCs, Instrumentation, etc.) and/or computer networking or related fields.

You understand the importance of cybersecurity and are intrigued by how critical infrastructure and operations technologies can be compromised and want to protect these assets.

People in the cyber security field tend to be innovative, objective, and directive.

You need:

- analytical skills
- speaking and writing skills
- an inquiring and inventive mind
- an eye for details
- patience and an organized approach to troubleshooting
- decision-making and problem-solving skills
- math and science skills
- teaching skills
- time-management skills
- high ethical standards.

To do well in this field, you should enjoy being innovative, working with others or independently, and doing your work with precision.

Professional designations and certifications

Once you graduate, you'll be prepared with the knowledge to challenge the Security+ and Comp Tia+ exams and earn your certifications.

Credentials

Upon successful completion of this program, you'll receive a SAIT Cyber Security for Control Systems post-diploma certificate.

Practicum, Co-op and Work Integrated Learning

You'll participate in a capstone project to use all the techniques gained throughout the program to expose vulnerabilities in large systems specific to industrial control systems.

Specialized Intakes

International bundle program

International applicants may only apply to this program as part of a [program bundle](#) - two programs delivered consecutively.

You will complete the Cyber Security for Control post-diploma certificate in the first year of study.

In the second year of study, you will complete a [Management and Leadership certificate](#) to prepare you to lead a team through disruptive change to the working environment.

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of both programs in the bundle. A combination of education and experience will be considered.

Upon completing both programs in a bundle, you may qualify for a post-graduate work permit of up to three years. If you only complete one of the programs, you may be eligible for a one-year post-graduate work permit.

[Learn more about international bundle programs >](#)

Admission requirements

Applicants educated in Canada

Applicants must demonstrate [English language proficiency](#) and completion of one of the following courses or equivalents:

- a two-year diploma or undergraduate degree in information technology, instrumentation or related technical discipline.

Three to five years of experience in information technology, instrumentation or a related technical discipline may also be accepted with approval from the program Academic Chair. A combination of education and experience will be considered.

Applicants educated outside of Canada

All applicants who were educated outside of Canada must demonstrate [English language proficiency](#) and provide proof they meet the program admission requirements with an international document assessment. [Find accepted educational documents and assessment options.](#)

SAIT may also accept courses completed at certain [international post-secondary institutions](#).

Costs

2024/25 tuition and fees

The following estimated costs are effective as of July 1, 2024.

Domestic Students

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
1	2	\$14,175	\$1,608	\$15,783

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
Total cost:				\$15,783

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for domestic students is based on the recommended course load per year.

International Students

This program is only available to international applicants as part of a [program bundle](#) with another certificate.

The below costs represent both programs in the bundle.

Cyber Security for Control Systems (year one) + Management and Leadership (year two) bundle

Year	Number of semesters	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total per year
1	2	\$21,624	\$1,608	\$23,232
2	2	\$18,210	\$1,608	\$19,818
Total cost:				\$43,050

The estimated total cost of tuition and fees for international students is based on the recommended course load per year.

Books and Supplies

Books and supplies are approximately \$1,000 - \$1,500 per full-time year.

This is a bring-your-own-device program with a power-user hardware and software requirement. See the specific requirements on our [computers and laptops page](#).

Required textbooks will be discussed in class. You will not need to purchase them ahead of time.