Career Solutions and Corporate Engagement

Partnering with Students and Employers to Build Connections for Career Success

ist.psu.edu/employers

Office of Career Solutions and Corporate Engagement

As the digital world becomes increasingly connected and new technologies emerge, organizations are hiring more employees in a variety of growing fields, such as cloud computing, mobile and search technologies, cybersecurity, and big data. We are delighted to say that in the College of Information Sciences and Technology (IST), we are ahead of the game in preparing our students to fill these roles.

Our curriculum stresses teamwork and strong communication skills as students tackle real-world problems, giving them the versatility that is valued across every industry.

Our students enhance their technological knowledge with the critical skills needed in today's collaborative work environment, positioning them to hit the ground running as interns or full-time hires.

Our internship requirement builds on in-class work, providing students with relevant hands-on experience before graduation.

Our goal is to guide students in becoming innovative leaders and dependable teammates in organizations like yours. We look forward to working with you to achieve success in these efforts.

Our Mission

We are here to connect you with our students at every step of their academic and professional journeys. Whether you want to recruit at our fall and spring internship and career fairs, post a job opportunity to Nittany Lion Careers, or bring a case study from your organization to our classrooms, we are ready to connect you with some of the most versatile students in technology.

ist.psu.edu/career-solutions

PREPARE
Enhancing Professional Development

- Career Prep Workshops
- Classroom Projects
- Guest Lectures
- Resume Reviews

NAVIGATE
Connecting Students and Employers

- Fall and Spring Career Fairs
- Nittany Lion Careers
- Internship Program
- Professional Networking

SUCCEED
Emphasizing Unlimited Possibilities

- Corporate Brand Recognition
- Faculty Connections
- Full-Time Employment
- Research Collaborations
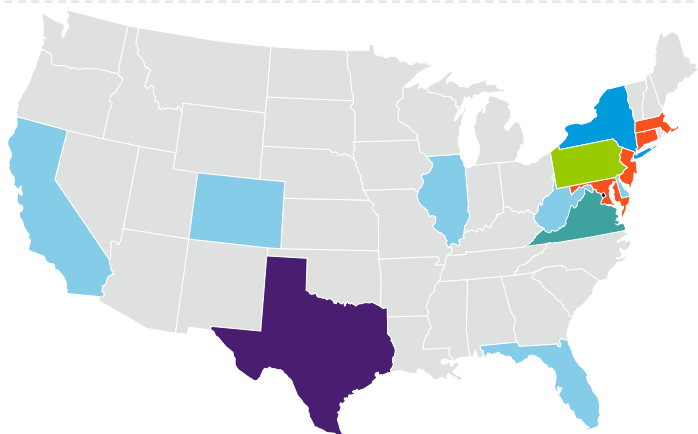
By the Numbers

Undergraduate Enrollment

- Cybersecurity Analytics and Operations (808)
- Data Sciences (335)
- Enterprise Technology Integration (210)
- Human-Centered Design and Development (152)
- Information Sciences and Technology (143)
- Security and Risk Analysis (262)

Declared and Intended Majors
Full-Time and Part-Time Students (1,910)

Top Employment by Industry

- Consulting (38%)
- Government/Defense (18%)
- Banking/Finance (10%)
- Pharma/Health Care/Insurance (6%)
- Software/Technology (6%)
- Building/Manufacturing (5%)
- Research & Development (5%)
- Food/Beverage (4%)
- Transportation (3%)
- Other (5%)

Top Employment Locations

- PA (47%)
- VA (16%)
- NY (8%)
- DC (7%)
- TX (3%)
- CT, MA, MD, NJ (2%)
- CA, CO, FL, IL, WV, International (1%)

Salary	$76,543 Average Full-Time* Starting Salary	$7,453 Average Signing Bonus (53% received a signing bonus)	$22.27/hr Average Intern Salary
Recruitment	>500 Companies Actively Recruiting IST Students	100% Complete at Least One Internship Before Graduation	>60% Complete Multiple Internships Before Graduation

Demographics	27% Female	14% International	16% First-Generation	19% Underrepresented (Race/Ethnicity)

Based on data pulled from the Penn State Data Digest, Penn State First Destination Post-Grad Survey, and the College of IST 2023-24 Internship Report.

*Starting salaries were self-reported by students who opt in to complete the Post-Graduation Survey. Starting salaries vary based on position, company, and location.

Our Majors

Cybersecurity Analytics and Operations

Students first gain a foundational understanding of networking, computing, and database technologies in order to safeguard digital assets and critical infrastructures. Then, using hands-on labs and ethical hacking techniques, students execute attacks, implement appropriate defenses, and evaluate the engineering behind malware.

Student Gain Skills In:

Malware Analysis • Digital Forensics • Incident Response • Threat Analysis and Mitigation • PEN Testing • Secure Coding • Log Analysis • Cryptography and Encryption • Linux and Scripting • Basics of Reverse Engineering

Data Sciences (Applied Data Sciences option)

Students learn skills to extract patterns and knowledge from big data and turn these insights into discoveries, decisions, and smart services using a combination of computational, statistical, and informatics methods. They also develop background knowledge in at least one application domain, such as life sciences, health care, or engineering.

Student Gain Skills In:

Hadoop • Integration of Heterogeneous Data • Machine Learning • Python • SQL and Non-SQL Data Management • Statistical Analysis and Hypothesis Testing Using R • Spark • Visual Analytics

Enterprise Technology Integration

Students learn the skills needed to integrate information technology across different systems to meet organizational goals and improve reliability, accessibility, and efficiency. The major enables students to analyze organizational needs, formulate and implement technology-based solutions, and evaluate outcomes that stretch within and across organizations.

Student Gain Skills In:

Cloud Computing • Database Management and Administration • Financial and Managerial Accounting • Enterprise Analytics • Supply Chains • Information Management

Human-Centered Design and Development

Students learn how people use technology and how to identify, design, build, and evaluate technologies to enhance people's lives. Students will learn the methods for understanding users, techniques, and tools for designing effective technologies and the modern platforms used to create effective technology solutions. The major connects students with potential users and customers to understand their needs and unique contexts and then design, build, and evaluate impactful products and services.

Student Gain Skills In:

Application Development • Software Design • Human-Computer Interaction • Interaction Design • User Experience Design • User and Technology Research Methods

Information Sciences and Technology

Students work to understand and improve how people and organizations create and use technology. They evaluate technology's impact by analyzing problems and developing solutions that enhance the way organizations conduct business and how people live, work, and play.

Student Gain Skills In:

Database Management • Enterprise Integration • Information Systems Analysis and Design • Network Management • Project Management • Systems Integration

Security and Risk Analysis

Students learn to address a wide range of societal issues, from crisis response to national and global security. They gain a thorough understanding of the threat landscape and the security posture of a given enterprise, along with the ability to assess risk, formulate mitigating strategies, and inform the decision-making process.

Student Gain Skills In:

Analytic Methods and Tools • Analyst Notebook • Driver Analysis • Indicators and Warning Analysis • Presentation and Briefing Skills • Statistics • Privacy and Law • Analytic Writing and Visual Analytics

Connect with Students

Career Fairs

Every fall and spring, the College of IST holds an internship and career fair for students, specifically focused on employers looking to hire tech talent.

ist.psu.edu/employer-registration

Internship Program

Before they graduate, every IST student must complete at least one internship. Companies that provide opportunities to these students offer challenging and relevant work experiences in the IT field through mentoring and on-the-job training.

ist.psu.edu/internships

Nittany Lion Careers

Nittany Lion Careers, Penn State's online recruiting system, enables employers to post positions to all Penn State students in one place. Nittany Lion Careers is available to every Penn State student and all alumni, providing your organization with access to candidates from around the world.

nittanylioncareers.psu.edu

Recruiting Days

Host an information table in the main classroom hallway of Westgate Building. This event will increase your organization's brand awareness with IST students while enabling them to connect and network with your recruiters and professionals.

ist.psu.edu/employers/connect

Student Clubs

Partnering can increase your visibility among the student body and offers a chance for you to contribute to learning beyond the classroom. Each club provides different opportunities for involvement.

ist.psu.edu/student-orgs

Student Field Trips

An on-site visit to your organization and virtual engagements, such as an employee panel or VR walk-through of your office, are great ways to show students what they could be doing after graduation. Day trips usually take place at organizations within driving distance of State College, with preference given to our Recruiting Partners.

ist.psu.edu/recruiting-partners

IST Recruiting Partners Program

IST Recruiting Partners are government and industry organizations that invest in the college to support students and develop long-lasting, strategic partnerships.

These organizations are committed to enhancing professional development skills in emerging professionals, have a deep understanding of the college's majors, and often have a considerable Penn State and College of IST alumni presence at their organization. With their investment, Recruiting Partners receive additional recruiting and engagement access to students, strengthen their organization's reputation among students, and help guide the college's future.

If your organization is interested in becoming an IST Recruiting Partner, visit ist.psu.edu/recruiting-partners.

Benefits available to partners
As of July 2024

ACCESS

Dedicated event planning assistance from Career Solutions staff

Invitations to speak at student organization and college group events (by request)

First right of refusal on faculty requests for guest lecturers

Recruiting strategy consultation with Career Solutions staff

Priority scheduling for space in Westgate Building

Priority date selection for virtual events

BRANDING

Corporate logo displayed on the IST website

Events, logos, and company pages listed on IST's student recruiting website

Recognition in Westgate Building's student reception area

Continuous presence on digital screens throughout Westgate Building

Sponsored networking events

Increased email and website visibility

Increased social media presence

Alumni Spotlight Series

EVENTS

Complimentary booth and interview space at IST's annual career fairs

Exclusive Recruiting Partners-only career fair in Westgate Building

Premier placement at the Bryce Jordan Center Career Fair (by request)

Prominently displayed logos on the student landing page and within the event for IST career fairs

Complimentary Recruiting Day/Lobby Day

Participation in professional development video series

Invitation to the Recruiting Partners summer advisory board meeting

Invitation to student networking opportunities, such as student organization events and field trips

Invitation to participate in IST-sponsored engagement opportunities: resume reviews, mock interviews, tech talks, workshops, information sessions, and networking events

Thank You IST Recruiting Partners!

Sponsorship Opportunities

The College of Information Sciences and Technology offers a variety of ways for companies to tap into the college's resources and the Penn State community. Corporate sponsorships not only give your organization unique access to our students and future hiring talent but also provide vital support to our mission of offering a world class education, developing future leaders, and standing at the forefront of technology research.

ist.psu.edu/sponsorships

PennState
College of Information Sciences and Technology

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