

Few schools in the Richmond, VA, area have programs in computer and IT security. Read on to find out more about what one top school has to offer for computer and IT security, as well as tuition and degree information.

### !!!School and Ranking Information

The Richmond, VA, area only has a couple of schools that offer 4-year or advanced degrees in computer and IT security. The following school is a top pick for programs in IT security based on rankings, faculty-to-student ratio, and number of programs available.

\*\_\_Winner:\_\_ Virginia Commonwealth University, in Richmond, is home to over 30,000 students yearly, with the majority being undergraduates. The university offers a post-baccalaureate certificate in computer science and a master's degree in computer and information systems security for people interested in pursuing a career in computer and information technology security. The school is nationally ranked, with a low faculty-to-student ratio and plenty of options for undergraduate and graduate students alike.

### !!!School Info Chart

Category	Virginia Commonwealth University
	#156 in National Universities (2015); #84 in Top Public
__Rankings__	Schools (2015)*
__Location__	Richmond, VA
__School Type__	4-year; public
__Tuition & Fees (2014–	
2015)__	Grad: \$9,541 (in-state); \$20,338 (out-of-state) *
__Computer and IT Security	
Degrees Offered__	Master's
__Computer and IT Security	
Degrees Awarded (all levels)	
in 2013__	6**
__Undergraduate	
Graduation Rate (in 150% of	
normal degree time) for	
2007 Entering Class__	57%**
	The School of Business is accredited by AACSB
__Noteworthy__	International***

*"Sources: \*U.S. News and World Report, \*\*NCES College Navigator, \*\*\*Virginia Commonwealth University"*

### !!!Virginia Commonwealth University

\* The School of Business traces its history back to 1917, while the School of Engineering was founded in 1995

\*The certificate program is designed to help students prepare for a graduate program, or help them professionally

\*The School of Business opened a 135,000 square foot, completely modern building in 2007

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) offers 64 baccalaureate degrees, 74 master's degrees and 40 doctoral degrees. Established in 1838, it has two campuses and five satellite locations. VCU has a student-to-faculty ratio of 17:1.

The Department of Computer Sciences in the School of Engineering and the Department of Information Systems in the School of Business at VCU work jointly to offer a post-baccalaureate certificate in computer science and a master's degree in computer and information systems security.

Students in the computer science certificate program must have completed a bachelor's degree with 30 credits in computer science and mathematics. It requires a student to complete 18 credits in computer science at specified levels. Topics covered in the program include computer organization, programming languages, computer science, C++ programming, discrete structures and operating systems.

The focus of Master of Science in Computer and Information Systems Security is on the design, management and implementation of security systems in business and industry. This 30-credit-hour program consists of three components, which are core courses, electives and a practice component that allows students to take a hands-on approach to learning. Courses include network and operating systems security, database and application security, cryptography and the practice of computer and information systems security.