



January 23, 2018

311 Park Place Blvd., Suite 610, Clearwater, FL 33759
United States of America
p: +1.727.493.3587 | f: +1.727.489.2803

Pilots and Program Development—Merit Badge Proposal

Attn: Janice Downey
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, S272
Irving, TX 75038

Dear Janice,

After months of work by a top caliber team of cybersecurity experts, Eagle Scouts and even your own BSA National Staff, we are pleased to formally provide for your review the outline of a new Cybersecurity merit badge.

(ISC)² members and the Center for Cyber Safety and Education are excited to partner with the Boy Scouts of America to create the first Cybersecurity merit badge. Our two nonprofit organizations are dedicated to inspiring a safe and secure cyber world for everyone, and we believe this new merit badge will go a long way toward achieving this vision.

Our research has found there is a dangerous shortage of cybersecurity professionals. In fact, we project that in the next five years we will be facing a 1.8 million shortfall of trained professionals to combat this growing threat. A Cybersecurity merit badge will help reduce that gap by getting more young men (and soon women) to explore and consider a career in a field that has nearly 100% employment.

We stand prepared to support this program in a variety of ways, including:

- 1) Access to our membership of more than 130,000 certified cybersecurity professionals as a pool of potential merit badge counselors.
- 2) Subject matter experts to help build the program, and keep it fresh and relevant for years to come.
- 3) Continuing support and promotion through our members and local chapters around the country.

This is an exciting step for the BSA, and we are honored to have the opportunity to be a part of this historic program.

We look forward to your feedback and guidance.

Sincerely,



David Shearer
CEO
(ISC)²



Patrick Craven
Director / Eagle Scout
Center for Cyber Safety and Education