

# Impact of EC-Council's C|CT Scholarship Program to Development of Global Cyber Talent Pool



## OVERVIEW

EC-Council launched the C|CT Scholarship Program in March 2023 with an allocation of \$3.5 million worth of certification training courses to be given out during the 12 months after the announcement of the program to help the cybersecurity industry plug the critical shortage of skilled cybersecurity professionals. This initiative was aimed at cultivating a new generation of cyber technicians by developing comprehensive hands-on skills of individuals who showed a keen interest in developing a career in cybersecurity.

The scholarship program catered to a broad range of aspiring cybersecurity professionals, including high school students, university students, and working professionals seeking to enter or advance their careers in the cybersecurity profession. With the exception of the exam proctoring and technology fee for the performance-based exam, the scholarship covered the cost of the entire Certified Cybersecurity

Technician program, which retailed at \$999 and included 85 hands-on labs, a full video-based instruction from expert trainers, program courseware and the C|CT certification. This was aimed at equipping the recipients with skills that are essential in ethical hacking, penetration testing, security operations, and forensics. This comprehensive skillset equips recipients with the knowledge and practical experience needed to thrive in various cybersecurity roles, making them highly sought-after professionals in a growing job market.

The program attracted applications from a staggering 170 countries and helped nurture a diverse talent pool of early-career cyber professionals. Due to overwhelming demand globally, the EC-Council extended the application deadline, further demonstrating its commitment to empowering aspiring cybersecurity professionals worldwide.

**170****Global Reach:**

Applications from over 170 countries were received, highlighting the universal demand for cybersecurity technicians' skills. Cybersecurity cuts across nations and is a risk for every country on the planet. The diversity of the applications received in terms of nationalities is very encouraging, as it is a clear sign that the development of cyber capability is a focus area across the world.

**100%****Bridging the Gender Gap:  
100% Approval Rate for Women**

One of the main objectives of the scholarship program was to drive gender equality in cybersecurity. EC-Council is proud to report a 100% success rate of all applications that women made. While there is ongoing work to close the gender equality gap, the program strives to support the creation of a more inclusive environment by encouraging while actively encouraging women to pursue successful careers in cybersecurity.

**72%****Empowering Young Professionals:**

72% of scholarship recipients fall within the 18-34 age group, representing the next generation of cybersecurity professionals. This statistic underscores the program's success in attracting young talent eager to make a positive impact. It demonstrates the C|CT's appeal as a practical and accessible entry point for individuals looking to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to secure employment in this high-demand sector.

**67%****Career Transition Support:**

The program succeeded in assisting professionals who were seeking to transition into cybersecurity from other job roles. 67% of applicants were seeking job roles transitioning into cybersecurity. The C|CT scholarship program supports the development of a well-rounded workforce with a mix of fresh talent and seasoned IT practitioners.

**57%****Active Cybersecurity Job Seeker**

The C|CT Scholarship Program has clearly attracted cybersecurity job seekers, with 57% of the total applicants identifying themselves as such. This is a clear indicator of the program's success in attracting talent to build hands-on cybersecurity skills for the enhancement of a career in cybersecurity. The C|CT Scholarship Program presumably serves as a critical stepping stone that provides them with the training and certification needed to stand out in the highly competitive cybersecurity job market.

**50%****C|CT was their First!**

1 in 2 applicants who were selected for the C|CT scholarship listed C|CT as their first certification to start their career in cybersecurity. The decision to begin their journey with C|CT is a testament to the program's success in aligning with the industry's needs and the aspirations of its participants. It signifies trust in C|CT's comprehensive curriculum, designed to equip learners with the skills and knowledge to not only enter the cybersecurity field but to excel in it.

**OVER VISION FOR  
2024 AND BEYOND.**

The C|CT Scholarship Program has become a significant force in building and bridging the cybersecurity workforce gap globally. With such success, EC-Council understands that it bears a very heavy responsibility to continue the progress made in 2023 into 2024 and

beyond. By nurturing a diverse and skilled talent pool, the scholarship program empowers individuals and strengthens the global cybersecurity workforce. EC-Council's dedication to this initiative ensures a brighter future where

the digital world is secure and protected. In line with its mission to empower people to create a safer digital universe, EC-Council announces the renewal of the annual \$3.5 Million dollar C|CT Scholarship into 2024