

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 24, 2016

Mr. Rodney Petersen
Director
National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education
National Institute of Science and Technology
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2000
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2000

Dear Mr. Peterson,

I write to bring to your attention the competitive grant application submitted by the Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE), with cosponsors including the Dayton Development Coalition, University of Dayton, University of Cincinnati, Sinclair Community College and the Air Force Institute of Technology. Industry partners include the Kroger Co., Lunarline, Inc., Lunarline, Morphick Cyber Security, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Cincinnati Bell, and LexisNexis.

SOCHE officials believe the growing threat to our nation from cybersecurity attacks requires collaborative efforts between industry, academia, and the federal government, including our military installations and homeland security activities. The Cincinnati-Dayton Corridor includes a high concentration of cyber security focused industry as well as outstanding academic institutions with considerable cyber security research and education expertise. Moreover, the corridor includes Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, home of the Air Force Institute of Technology, which is contributing to the Cincinnati-Dayton Cyber Corridor.

I understand the proposal for funding is under the Regional Alliances and Multistakeholder Partnerships to Stimulate Cybersecurity Education and Workforce Development, Funding Opportunity 2016-NIST-NICE-01. SOCHE's proposal, "The Cincinnati-Dayton Cyber Corridor: A Regional Consortia Approach to Cybersecurity Education and Workforce Readiness," involves multiple strategies that include revising educational curricula to meet industry demands, hosting career awareness visits, sponsoring internships, and supporting and building public awareness. SOCHE believes the initiative will establish sustainable outcomes for the cyber security workforce.

Please give all due consideration to this request. If there are any questions, please contact my grant coordinator, Linda Greenwood, at (419) 259-3895. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rob Portman
United States Senator