

Mt Hood Community College Cybersecurity Department

Certification Fund



About the MHCC Security Program

Oregon's First AAS In Security

In 2011 MHCC launched the state's first AAS degree in Cybersecurity. Unlike other colleges that historically focused on computer science approaches to security, our program was the first *applied* security degree.

DHS & NSA Accredited

The security degrees at MHCC have undergone the rigorous (and voluntary) accreditation of becoming a *Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity*.



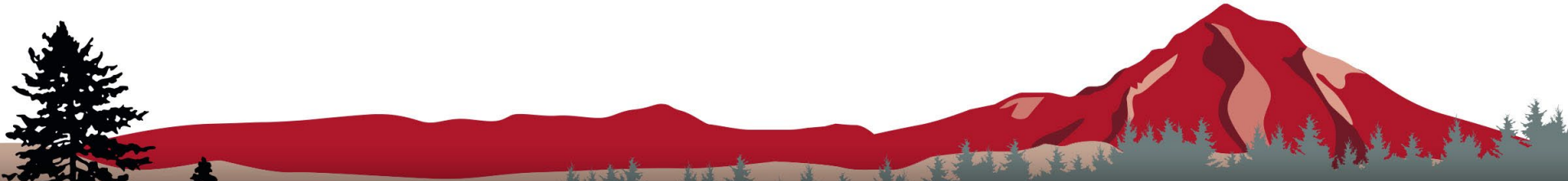
A Focus On Hands-On Education

We teach to the following credentials:

- CompTIA A+
- CompTIA Security+
- CompTIA Pentest+
- Cisco CCNA
- Cisco Cyber Ops
- AWS Cloud Practitioner
- Red Hat Certified Sysadmin

The mission of the MHCC Cybersecurity department is to offer *relevant*, and *applied* education. That's why many of our courses focus on training for industry certifications and modern practices and tools being used by professionals in industry.

We serve over 100 active students, within two AAS degrees and a professional certificate pathway.

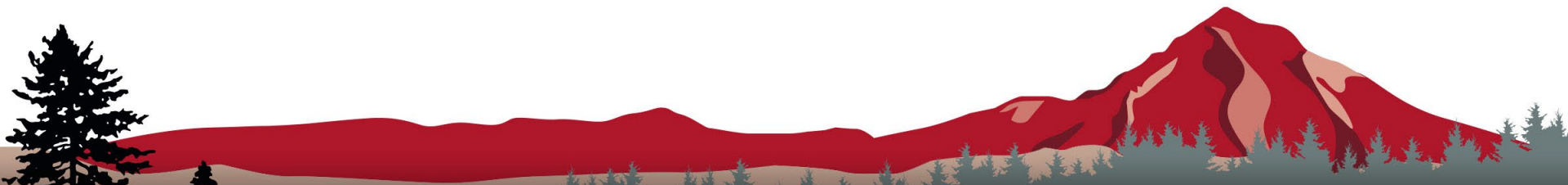


Serving a Diverse Community

The MHCC Cybersecurity program serves an incredibly diverse set of students, both in traditional DEI terms as well as others often less considered.

The average student age at MHCC is over the age of 30

- High population of students who are considered low-income
- Our program attracts a higher-than average number of veteran students
- Most of our low-income students are also traditionally underserved students (Black, Hispanic, Asian, etc.)

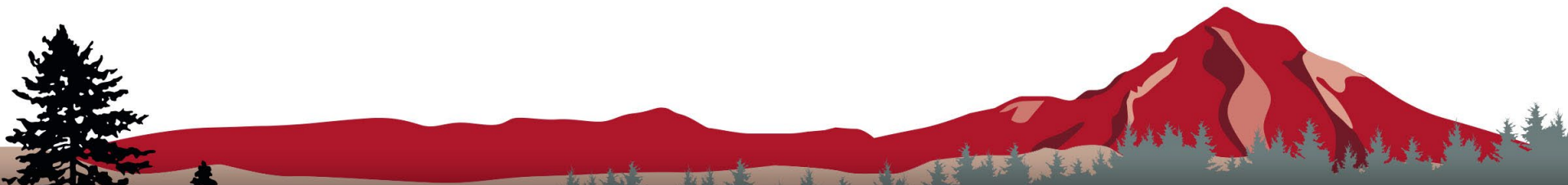


But A Vicious Loop Emerges

Our industry partners tell us that students who obtain industry certifications can have a clear advantage in the job market—however, many of our students cannot afford to take these certification exams.

Students need the certifications to get a job, but they need a job to pay for the certifications.

Over 90% of our students cite the lack of funds for the reason why they do not take these exams.



Solution: Certification Fund

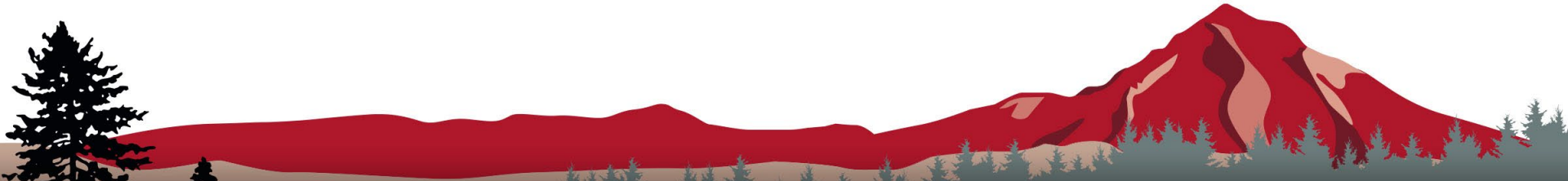


MHCC created a fund and received private donations for student's certification exam vouchers.

This program began operations in 2022.

The fund currently can cover one certification voucher per student per year.

With full funding, ideally, each student would receive four certification vouchers their 2-year program.



Scholarship Annual Funding Goals

Yearly Funding Goal	Outcomes
\$6,250	25% of students are awarded two vouchers* ** <i>(GPA and needs-based)</i>
\$12,500	50% of students are awarded two vouchers* <i>(GPA and needs-Based)</i>
\$25,000	100% of students are awarded two vouchers though duration of their 2-year program*
\$50,000	100% of students are awarded <u>four</u> vouchers through the duration of their 2-year program*

*Some exams are cheaper than others, which may allow a student to take more than two exams, while others might pursue a single more expensive exam

**Initial student uptake in this scholarship may need to ramp up, based on initial student hesitation and creating a culture of certification exam taking.



Sustaining Donors

Fund founders Charlie Kawasaki/Barbara Berge have committed to donate \$10,000 a year, for 5 years.

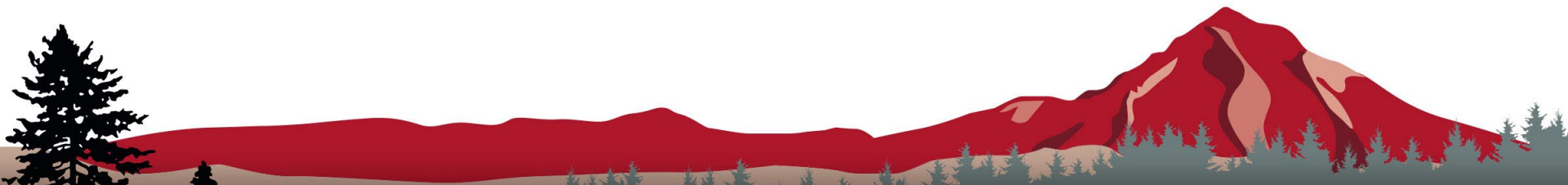
We are looking for donors to match this sustaining 5-year commitment, to provide MHCC students with a stable and funded program for years to come.

Platinum Donors - \$10k/year – 5 Years

- Charlie Kawasaki/Barbara Berge

Gold Donors - \$5k/year – 5 Years

- PKI Solutions
- DeepSurface





26 vouchers in total

(16 CompTIA Pentest+
and 10 CompTIA
Security +)



Currently offering funds to students who are in
CIS284S (Security+)



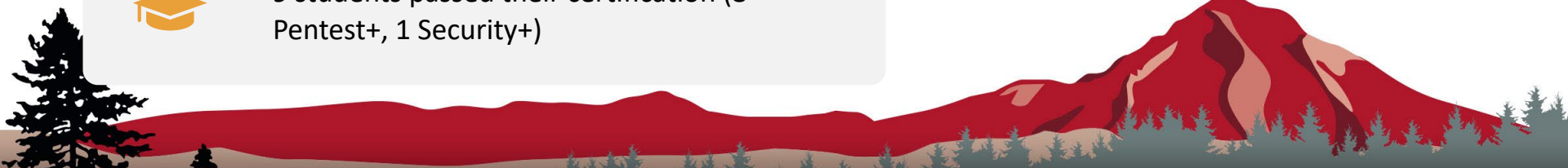
16 Students have
completed the
certification exam

(15 Pentest+, 1
Security+)



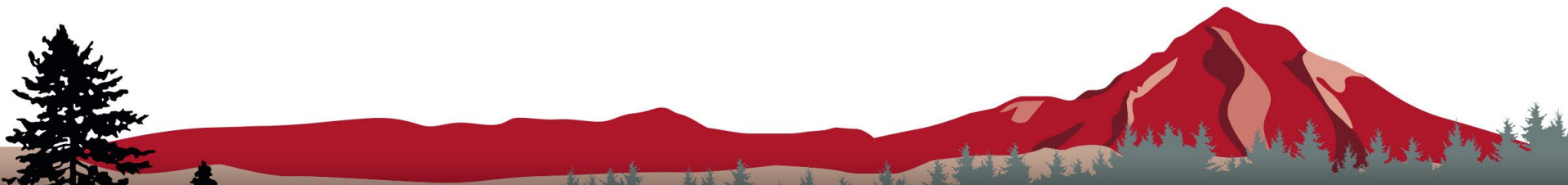
9 students passed their certification (8
Pentest+, 1 Security+)

Voucher Results



HB 2049 Would Sustain and Grow this Program

- Funds from HB 2049 would enable MHCC to fund all needed certification costs, and do so on a sustaining basis
 - The current fund is only at 50% capacity
- Funds from HB 2049 would be used to expand this program statewide (to a total of 5 community colleges)



Thank You!

For questions about the program:

Charlie Kawasaki | ck@softwarediligence.com

Katrinia McNeal | Katrinia.McNeal@mhcc.edu

For questions about donating:

Al Sigala | Al.Sigala@mhcc.edu

