# Cybersecurity Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about GVSU's Master of Science in Cybersecurity degree program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Master of Science in Cybersecurity is designed to help computing professionals expand their knowledge in the cybersecurity area, creating opportunities for advancement in the field. Theoretical concepts are complemented by hands-on application throughout the program. This is a 33-credit hour program and can be completed in 2 years as a full-time student or up to 8 years as a part-time student.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there is a strong demand for cybersecurity professionals with job opportunities projected to grow 28% by 2026. Some of the job opportunities available to cybersecurity graduates include Cybersecurity Engineer, Engineer Systems Administrator, and Vulnerability Analyst. By focusing on the underlying principles behind cybersecurity, our program prepares students to handle future cybersecurity challenges in addition to today's threats.

Grand Valley admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a $30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

In addition, the Master of Science in Cybersecurity program requires that applicants submit a current resume, two letters of professional or academic recommendations, and a personal statement explaining career goals, background experiences, and their interest in the program. More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Cybersecurity program website at www.gvsu.edu/grad/security.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

As I mentioned, the Master of Science in Cybersecurity is a 33-credit hour program. 21 of these credit hours will cover core courses. An additional 3-9 credit hours will be dedicated towards electives, 0-4 credit hours dedicated towards foundation courses, and 3-6 credit hours will count towards a culmination master's thesis or project. For a complete listing of all courses, please visit www.gvsu.edu/grad/security.

The Cybersecurity program is very flexible, and designed to be convenient for working professionals, with courses offered in evenings and online. The School of Computer Information Science has outstanding faculty who integrate their teaching and research, and regularly publish both nationally and internationally. The program also utilizes state-of-the-art facilities including a nationally recognized networking and data communication teaching laboratory, a Linux laboratory, an architecture laboratory, and student research project rooms.

That is just a snapshot of the Master of Science in Cybersecurity degree program at Grand Valley State University. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Andrew Kalafut, at kalafuta@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast