CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The National Defense University (NDU) College of Information and Cyberspace (CIC) Chief Information Officer (CIO) Leadership Development Program (LDP) is the College's flagship resident program for rising senior-level managers and leaders responsible for promoting and attaining national and international security goals through the strategic use of information and information technology as identified in the CIO competencies. This prestigious program is administered in an intensive and highly interactive fourteen-week forum. The student-centered educational experience emphasizes developing leadership skills and abilities while learning CIO content through completion of five courses. Students who complete the 14-week intensive program will receive a CIO graduate certificate.

Applications for CIO-LDP will open 15 June 2025 until 01 November 2025.

Successful CIO LDP graduates will be able to:

☐ Leverage CIO policy and organization competencies to lead within and across federal organizational boundaries by linking critical decisions regarding resources, people, processes, and technologies to mission performance;

☐ Balance continuity and change in the development implementation, and evaluation of government information resources and management strategies and policies while meeting legislative and executive mandates;

☐ Demonstrate abilities to construct and implement mission-aligned information and communication technology strategies [including gathering, analyzing, and reporting data; making decisions; implementing decisions; and evaluating organizational performance] in an ethical manner;

☐ Communicate at the strategic level demonstrating command of the topic, logical organization, compelling argument, and excellence in English grammar and syntax.

CIO Leadership Development Program Summary:
- Tuition-free for DoD personnel
- 14 weeks, full-time, in-residence

Minimum Admissions Eligibility Criteria:
- Bachelor's degree (3.0 GPA minimum)
- Federal civil service pay grade GS-13 or equivalent and above
- Miliary Officer: O-4 and above

Academic Year 2025 – 2026 Cohort:
- 21 January 2026 – 24 April 2026

For more information:
- Website: cic.ndu.edu
- Phone number: 202-685-6300
- Email: cicoss@ndu.edu

Attend our Monthly Virtual Open House for prospective students on the 4th Thursday of every month @ 1pm – 2pmEST

https://us.bbcollab.com/guest/e523df6564984f038e05ae7813a96567 or +1-571-392-7650 PIN: 848 345 3020

Program Requirements		
Course Number	**Course Title**	**Credit Hours**
CIC-6211	Cybersecurity Fundamentals	3
CIC-6303	CIO 2.0 Roles and Responsibilities	3
CIC-6328	Strategic Performance and Budget Management	3
CIC 6415	Strategic Information Technology Acquisition	3
CIC-6443	Emerging and Disruptive Technologies	3

Course Descriptions:

CSF (6211) – Cybersecurity Fundamentals

This course provides an overview of the fundamentals of cybersecurity from the perspective of a DoD or federal agency senior leader. The course provides a foundation for analyzing the cyber and information security of information systems and critical infrastructure. Law, national strategy, public policy, and risk management methodologies are examined for assuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability information systems and asset.

CIO (6303) – CIO 2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Students in the CIO 2.0 course examine the essential analytic, relational, technological, and leadership competencies that government CIOs and their staffs need to respond to and shape the 21st Century environment. Students assess the high information and IT demands of customers; examine the potential and perils of ubiquitous technology and information saturation; and weigh the tradeoffs of resource constraints, legal and policy mandates, and security in an open environment.

SPB (6328) – Strategic Performance and Budget Management

This course is an executive-level view of strategic planning, performance management, and performance budgeting in public-sector organizations. Using the Government Performance and Results Act and Kaplan & Norton's Balanced Scorecard as frameworks, students examine the linkage of mission to strategic planning, performance management, measurement, operational strategies, initiatives, and budgets to support senior- level decision making. Emphasis is on transparency, outcomes, and linkage between organizational performance and the organization's budget. With this critical understanding, students develop leadership strategies that shape fiscal budgets to achieve agency strategic outcomes.

ITA (6415) – Strategic Information Technology Acquisition

This course is an executive-level view of strategic planning, performance management, and performance budgeting in public-sector organizations. Using the Government Performance and Results Act and Kaplan & Norton's Balanced Scorecard as frameworks, students examine the linkage of mission to strategic planning, performance management, measurement, operational strategies, initiatives, and budgets to support senior-level decision making. Emphasis is on transparency, outcomes, and linkage between organizational performance and the organization's budget. With this critical understanding, students develop leadership strategies that shape fiscal budgets to achieve agency strategic outcomes.

EDT (6443) – Emerging and Disruptive Technologies

This course examines the core concepts of information technology and its rapidly expanding role in solving problems, influencing decision making and implementing organizational change. Students will be introduced to an array of emerging technologies at various levels of maturity. Students analyze how emerging technologies using qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods. Student assess emerging technologies using forecasting methodologies such as monitoring and experts' opinion, examining future trends, and assessing international perspectives.