



# Tips for Requesting Corporate Sponsorship

One of the ways that students fund the MICS program is through employer sponsorship. While your company may not advertise financial support for continuing education, it may have resources available to you if you put in a request.

Beyond funding, employers can also support your education by adding flexibility to your schedule and providing new challenges and opportunities to take advantage of your growing skill set. Having a scheduled conversation to discuss your professional development goals is a great way to help foster support, in whatever form it may take.

This tip sheet offers you some information to help you request employer support for the Master of Information and Cybersecurity.

## HOW TO SHAPE YOUR SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

### Schedule an appointment.

Plan a meeting with your supervisor or human resources representative. In this preliminary meeting, you should be prepared to discuss the program and identify reasons why you want to earn this degree.

### Do your research.

See if your company has an educational benefits program or has sponsored individuals in the past. Familiarize yourself with these efforts before meeting with your supervisor.

### Frame your argument.

Consider why you want to pursue your master's degree and make a list of the reasons why earning your degree will make you more valuable to your organization. Be sure your objectives and reasoning are clear and that you are prepared to discuss your plans.

### Demonstrate your value.

Think about key issues your organization currently faces and align your skill development in the program with your employer's needs.

### Drive action.

Let your employer know that the program is designed for working professionals and that MICS admissions counselors are available to answer any questions about the program or application process.



# MICS Program Overview

The Master of Information and Cybersecurity (MICS) program from the UC Berkeley School of Information (I School) is designed for cybersecurity professionals. The interdisciplinary MICS curriculum teaches students how to develop solutions for complex cybersecurity challenges. Students will learn how to manage cyber risks in the service of strategic decision making.

The program is designed by I School faculty and brings the on-campus UC Berkeley student experience to you through state-of-the-art online technology — no matter where you live.



## MICS Curriculum

The MICS program features a multidisciplinary curriculum that draws on insights from social sciences, computer science, statistics, management, and law. You will learn through a hands-on, project-based approach.

The Master of Information and Cybersecurity is designed to be completed in 20 months (five terms), and you will complete 27 units of coursework. Courses are 3 units each and divided into foundation courses, advanced courses, and a capstone. You will also attend an immersion on the UC Berkeley campus or at another location relevant to cybersecurity.

The MICS curriculum focuses on the following key areas:

- Web security
- Mobile security
- Operating system security
- Security in context: behavioral, legal, and ethical issues
- Usable security
- Privacy and security
- Cyber offense and cyber defense
- Economics of cybersecurity
- Cryptography
- Secure coding
- Network security
- Cyber physical systems
- Government and national security

## Learning Application

Part of the value of completing the MICS degree program while continuing your career is that you will be able to apply learning directly to your work, which is beneficial to you and your employer. This powerful benefit allows you to:

- Understand the ethical and legal requirements associated with cybersecurity and data privacy
- Prepare to develop and manage cybersecurity solutions
- Know how to build secure systems and applications.
- Gain hands-on practical cybersecurity experience.