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Board approves new and expanded programs at Western Dakota Tech

The South Dakota Board of Education has approved program expansions and a new program at Western Dakota Technical Institute in Rapid City in the areas of cybersecurity, medical laboratory technician and dental assisting.

At its meeting earlier today, the board approved an associate of applied science degree in cybersecurity. This program will prepare individuals to assess the security needs of computer and network systems, recommend safeguard solutions and manage the implementation and maintenance of security devices, systems and procedures.

In addition, the board approved a medical laboratory technician associate of applied science degree program. Western Dakota Technical Institute currently offers a one-year diploma program in phlebotomy. The phlebotomy program curriculum will be the first year of the medical laboratory technician program. Students who complete both will leave WDT with both a diploma and an AAS degree.

The board also approved a dental assistant diploma program. Graduates of this program will be able to provide patient care, take dental x-rays and prepare patients and equipment for dental procedures.