Arlington
Chamber
OF COMMERCE

November 8, 2021

GO Virginia Region 7
3040 Williams Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031

Dear GO Virginia Region 7,

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce supports the undergraduate Cloud Computing Certificate program that the University of Virginia (UVA) School of Continuing and Professional Studies has developed in partnership with AWS. The Chamber supports enhancing partnerships for cyber, computer science, and technology education at public and private universities across the Commonwealth. The GO Virginia Initiative is an important tool to foster collaborative innovations in technical and professional education and workforce initiatives, and we believe that the Cloud Computing Certificate program will help achieve this outcome with GO Virginia support.

Arlington County is one of the top 10 localities in Virginia for job postings containing the keywords "AWS" or "cloud" (August 2020 to August 2021). We believe UVA's focus on Solutions Architecture and SysOps Administration will fill an unmet need in the cloud computing job market, and will help strengthen Arlington and Northern Virginia's technology workforce. This new cloud computing certificate will also help support the expansion or retention of technology companies in Arlington, who need to ensure an adequate talent pipeline in the region.

The recent UVA|NOVA launch, with offices located in Arlington, combined with the creation of a new cloud computing certificate, underscores UVA's commitment to our region. We believe this program is a true benefit to Arlington and Northern Virginia. We thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Kate Bates

Kate Bates
President & CEO