THE CYBERSENTINEL

The official newsletter of CyberPatriot – AFA's National Youth Cyber Education Program

FEBRUARY 2025

Participation Certificate →
CP-17 Semifinals Awards & National Finals Advancement →
CP-17 National Finals →
2025 AFA CyberCamps →
CyberPatriot Alumni Spotlight →
Cisco NetAcad Learn-a-Thon →
CyberPatriot in the News →

Participation Certificates

Don't forget! The CyberPatriot 17 Participation Certificate Template is available on the coach's dashboard under Resources.

The template is customizable and can be edited to include each individual competitor's name on the certificate.

Semifinals Awards & National Finals Advancement

All teams that qualified for the Semifinals Round (across all divisions) receive the highly coveted Semifinalist certificate (via email).

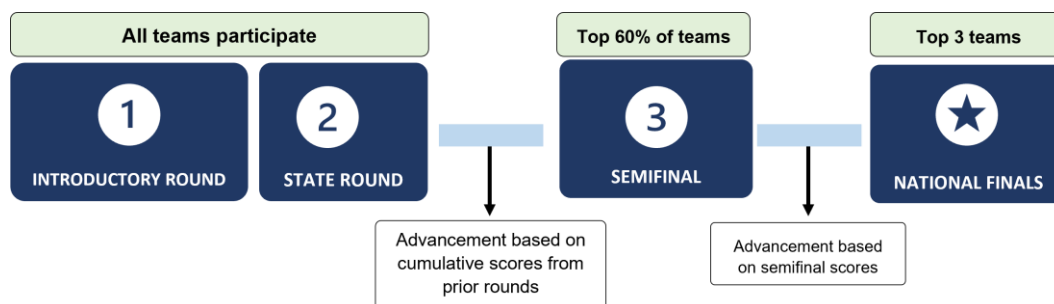Additionally, for each division:

Middle School Division
Semifinal Awards: For the Middle School Division, the top 25 teams based on Semifinal Round scores receive a digital certificate (via email).

National Finals Advancement: The top three highest scoring teams in the Semifinal Round advance to the National Finals Competition.

*NOTE: Advancement to National Finals is limited to one team from the same school, organization, or coach in the Middle School Division.
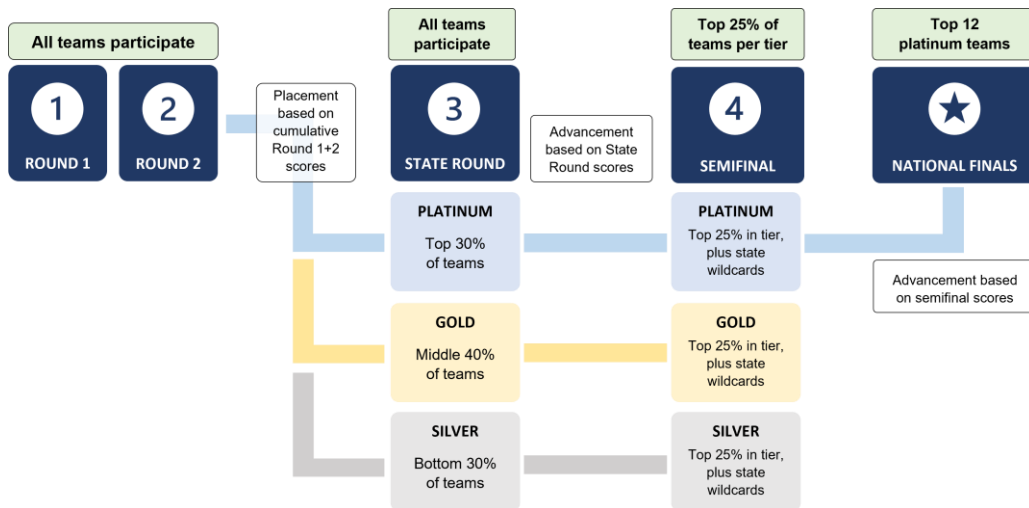
All teams participate

1 INTRODUCTORY ROUND

2 STATE ROUND

Advancement based on cumulative scores from prior rounds

Top 60% of teams

3 SEMIFINAL

Advancement based on semifinal scores

Top 3 teams

★ NATIONAL FINALS

Open Division

Semifinal Awards: The top 20 Open Division teams in each Tier receive a digital certificate (via email).

National Finals Advancement: The 12 highest scoring Open Division teams from the Platinum Tier advance to the National Finals Competition based on their Semifinal Round scores.

*NOTE: Advancement to National Finals is limited to two teams from the same school, organization, or coach in the Open Division. If an otherwise qualifying team does not advance to the National Finals Competition, the next highest qualifying team will advance.
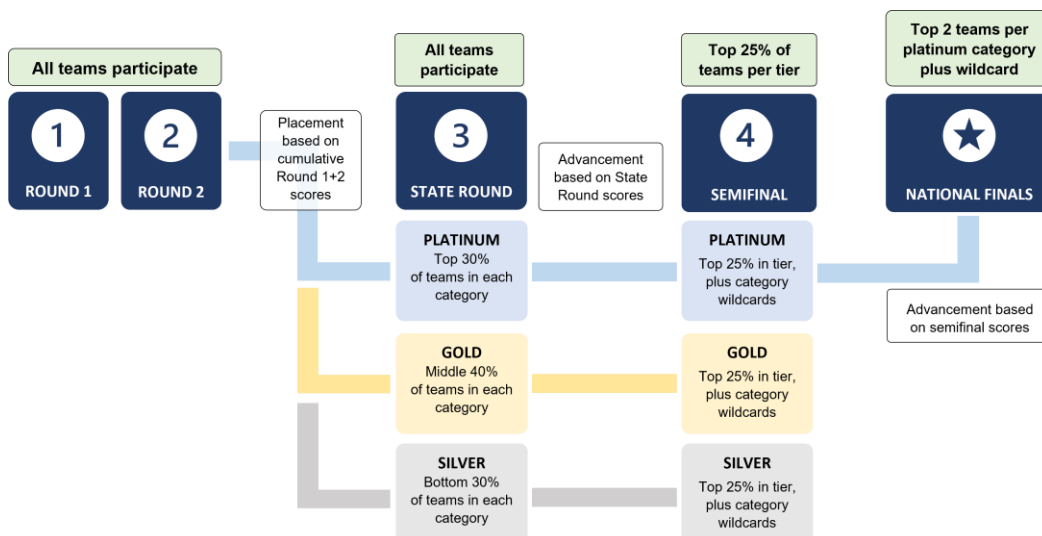

All Service Division

Semifinal Awards: The top 5 teams in each category of the All Service Division at each Tier level receive a digital certificate (via email).

National Finals Advancement: In total, 13 All Service Division teams from the Platinum Tier advance to the National Finals Competition. Based on Semifinal Round scores, the two highest scoring teams from each category advance to the National Finals Competition. Additionally, the team with the highest national score that was not advanced as a "top-two" category team advances as a wildcard.

*NOTE: Advancement to National Finals is limited to one team from the same school, organization, or coach in the All Service Division. If an otherwise qualifying team does not advance to the National Finals Competition, the next highest qualifying team will advance.

CyberPatriot 17 National Finals

Congratulations to the 28 teams that qualified for the CP-17 National Finals Competition!

NATIONAL FINALS 2025
CYBERPATRIOT 17

OPEN DIVISION

Canyon Crest Academy
CCA Conspiracy
San Diego, CA

Cupertino High School
Ubuntututu RaNs0MwaRE
Cupertino, CA

Eastern Technical High School
Pbchocolate
Baltimore, MD

Highlands Ranch High School
Falcon Transfer Protocol
Highlands Ranch, CO

Johnson High School
Team 2
San Antonio, TX

Loyola Blakefield
Axios
Towson, MD

Scouting America Exploring Post 2928
CyberAegis Phoenix
San Diego, CA

Scouting America Exploring Post 2928
CyberAegis Veritas
San Diego, CA

Thomas Jefferson High School
garfieldLasagnaMonday89
Alexandria, VA

Troy High School
Runtime Terror
Fullerton, CA

Westview High School
TitanTurtles
Portland, OR

William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute
FNASA
North York, ON

ALL SERVICE DIVISION

Punahou School | CELT-JROTC-Buff
Honolulu, HI

Midwest City High School
B-21 "Raiders"
Midwest City, OK

Burke Composite Squadron
Cyber Monkeys
Springfield, VA

Theodore Roosevelt High School
San Antonio, TX

West Valley Innovation Center
77 69 6E
Yakima, WA

Scripps Ranch High School
Terabyte Falcons
San Diego, CA

Raritan Valley Composite Squadron
CyberRavens
Hillsborough, NJ

Miami Beach Senior High
Miami Beach, FL

Allen High School
Alpha Eagles
Allen, TX

Band of the West Division
Silicon Knights
San Francisco, CA

Sacramento Division
Hereforthesnacks
Sacramento, CA

Troy High School
coast2coast
Fullerton, CA

Marine Military Academy
Devil Dogs
Harlingen, TX

MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION

Toby Johnson Middle School
Sentinel Rock
Elk Grove, CA

Scouting America Exploring Club 2927
CyberAegis Odyssey
San Diego, CA

Scouting America Exploring Club 2929
CyberAegis Stardust
San Diego, CA

2025 AFA CyberCamp Host Registration

Looking to keep your students engaged in cybersecurity over summer break? Host Registration for 2025 CyberCamps is now open until May 1!

CyberCamps emphasize fun, hands-on learning of cybersecurity principles that are relevant and applicable to everyday life.

The Standard CyberCamp is designed for campers who are new to the world of cybersecurity. The goal at the end of the camp is to have students ready to compete in the CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Competition. The Standard CyberCamp consists of an introduction to cybersecurity, cyber careers, the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, Windows Security Policies, auditing, Linux basics, intro to using a CLI, and command line security.

The Advanced CyberCamp option takes campers to the next level and is designed for students who may have either competed in the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition or have attended an AFA Standard CyberCamp. The Advanced CyberCamp curriculum consists of Windows graphical utilities, command line, Sysinternals Suite, Linux Init Systems, advanced command line, processes and scheduled tasks, security policies, PAM and Cisco NetAcad.

During each AFA CyberCamp, campers are immersed in a mock competition where they work on securing virtual images by finding and fixing vulnerabilities.

Host organizations can choose to host a camp during any of the available weeks. Both standard AND advanced camps are offered each week.

[Click here to learn more about CyberCamps today!](#)

WEEK	DATE
Week 1	June 2 - 6
Week 2	June 9 - 13
Week 3	June 16 - 20
Week 4	June 23 - 27
Week 5	July 7 - 11
Week 6	July 14 - 18
Week 7	July 21 - 25
Week 8	July 28 - August 1
Week 9	August 4 - 8
Week 10	August 11 - 15

CyberPatriot Alumni Spotlight

Veronika Kyles| CyberPatriot VII, VIII, IX, X, XI

What are you up to now?
I am a current senior at the University of Arizona pursuing a bachelor's degree in cyber operations with an emphasis on Cyber Engineering and a double minor in Computer Science and Music. I have been an intern with the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency since May of 2023 through the DHS Intelligence and Cybersecurity Diversity Fellowship Program, and I have been chosen as an ambassador for the program.

How did participating in the CyberPatriot Competition influence your plans for your future?
Participating in CyberPatriot massively influenced my professional goals. I discovered my passion for computer science, engineering, and cybersecurity through the program.

What is the most valuable lesson you learned from CyberPatriot?
CyberPatriot taught me how to think critically, approach complex problems, and work effectively with a team. It exposed me to many topics such as computer science, engineering, computer networking, and private and public sector work, all in addition to cybersecurity. I am incredibly grateful for the exposure I got through my six years in the program and the non-technical skills that I gained in the process.

What is your advice for the next generation of CyberPatriot?
When it comes to cybersecurity, coding, and computer science, practice and applying what you learn to real-world problems are key to your success. What you should take away from these competitions is less about things like programming languages and the names of protocols and malware; the lessons, concepts, and thought processes that you learn from solving these problems are the most important. Once you learn to think critically, you can apply those ideas to any problem or field that you encounter in the future, and that is the most valuable aspect of CyberPatriot.

Random Fact: I am the snare drum section leader for the Pride of Arizona Marching Band, and I have played the drums for 15 years!

Do you want to be featured in an issue of the CyberSentinel?
Complete the survey and your story could be in the spotlight!

Cisco NetAcad Learn-a-Thon
Don't forget about this great opportunity! Click the photo below to learn more about the Cisco Lean-A-Thon Pathway and the opportunity to earn an industry certification FOR FREE!

CyberPatriot in the News

CyberPatriot team wins fourth straight state title
Garrett Middle School took home its fourth consecutive state championship. Garrett High School had two teams competing that each placed in the top 15 in the state rankings.

MCHS MCJROTC Earns Award In Cyber Security Competition
The Michigan City High School (MCHS) Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) finished second in the small-school category during the state round of CyberPatriot. CyberPatriot is a national high school competition in which students act as security managers of an organization's virtual information system. They must defend and then counterattack a cyber-attack.

Thank you to all the CyberPatriot Sponsors who make our program possible:

Cyber Platinum Sponsors

Cyber Diamond Sponsors

Cyber Gold Sponsors

Cyber Silver Sponsors

Want to be featured in the next edition of the CyberSentinel?
Please send email highlights or accolades to info@uscyberpatriot.org.