



THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

FEBRUARY 2026

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CP-18 Participant Kits

Participant kits have been shipped to necessary teams. Coaches were emailed tracking information for their shipments when available. Coaches will receive one box with gear for themselves and their competitors ONLY.



Have questions regarding your participant kit? Contact CyberPatriot at info@uscyberpatriot.org.

Participation Certificate



The CP-18 participation certificate template is available for download from the coach dashboard.

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

CP-18 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:

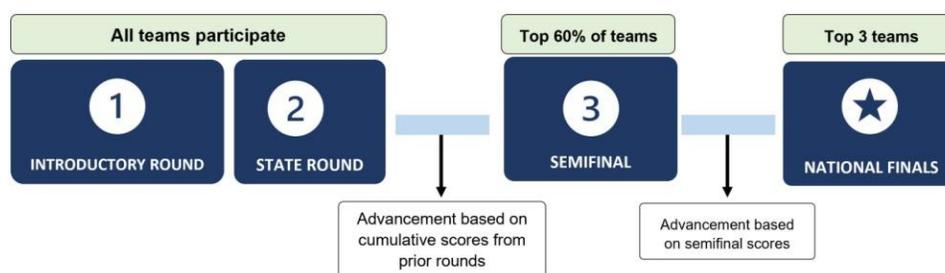


Middle School Division

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.

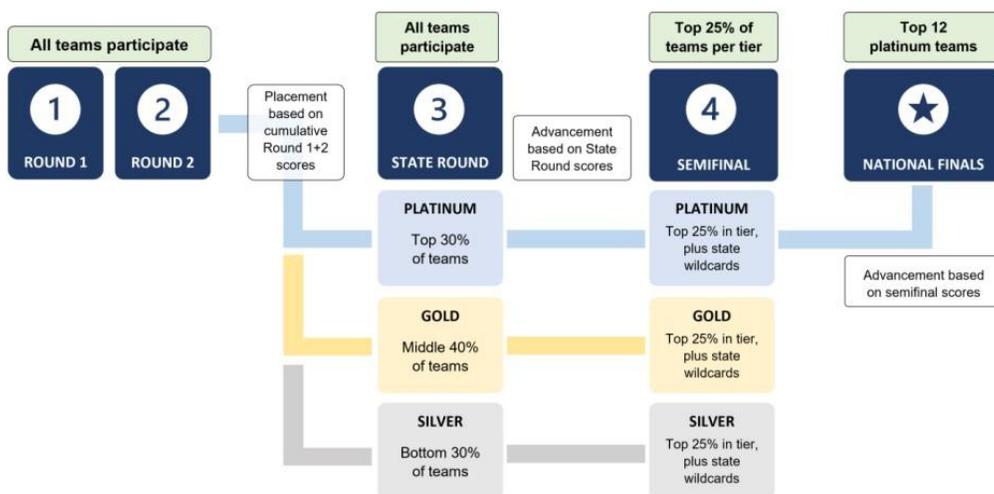


Open Division

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.

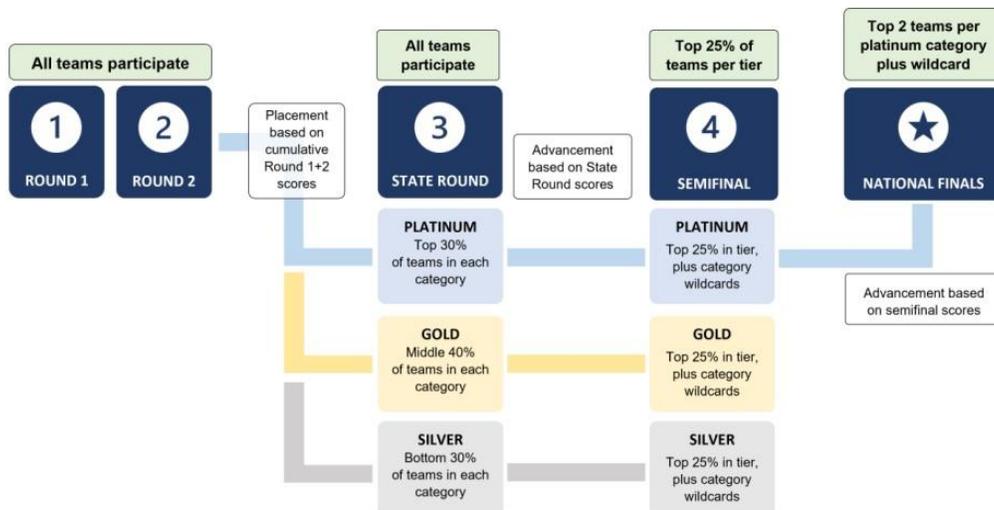


All Service Division

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, no more than 13 All Service Division teams from the Platinum Tier advance to the National Finals Competition, depending on the number of service categories approved by the National Commissioner. 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. Due to the limited number of teams in the USNSCC category advancement to the National Finals is not guaranteed.



CyberPatriot 18 National Finalists

Congratulations to the 26 teams that qualified for the CP-18 National Finals Competition!



OPEN DIVISION

Canyon Crest Academy <i>CCA Team 1</i> San Diego, CA	Eastern Technical High School <i>Pbchocolate</i> Baltimore, MD	Fairview High School <i>Team 1</i> Boulder, CO	Faith Lutheran Middle/ High School Las Vegas, NV
Franklin High School <i>Cassiopeia</i> Elk Grove, CA	Franklin High School <i>Half Dome</i> Elk Grove, CA	Johnson High School <i>Team 2</i> San Antonio, TX	Loyola Blakefield <i>Axios</i> Towson, MD
North Hollywood High School <i>Pyre</i> North Hollywood, CA	Scouting America Exploring Post 2928 <i>CyberAegis Perseus</i> San Diego, CA	Scouting America Exploring Post 2928 <i>CyberAegis Corvus</i> San Diego, CA	Sunshine Elite Education <i>TitanTurtles</i> Beaverton, OR

ALL SERVICE DIVISION

Punahou School <i>CELT Alpha</i> Honolulu, HI	Theodore Roosevelt High School <i>Talk to me GoOSe</i> San Antonio, TX	Knob Noster High School <i>Komputer Kernels</i> Knob Noster, MO	Scripps Ranch High School <i>Terabyte Falcons</i> San Diego, CA
Burke Composite Squadron <i>Cyber Monkeys</i> Springfield, VA	Fullerton Composite Squadron 56 Fullerton, CA	Allen High School <i>Delta Eagles</i> Allen, TX	Mountain View High School <i>Scarlet</i> Stafford, VA
Nova High School <i>CyberTitans Oceanus</i> Davie, FL	Troy High School <i>Runtime Terror</i> Fullerton, CA	USNSCC Sacramento Division <i>Spartans</i> Sacramento, CA	WILDCARD

MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION

Cedarlane Academy <i>Team 1</i> Hacienda Heights, CA	Plymouth Scholars Charter Academy <i>Cyber Crashouts</i> Canton, MI	Scouting America Exploring Club 2927 <i>CyberAegis Hydra</i> San Diego, CA
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2026 AFA CyberCamp Host Registration is OPEN



Are you looking to keep your students engaged in cybersecurity over summer break? Do your students need some training or review before the next competition season? Host Registration for 2026 CyberCamps is now open until May 1. This year is particularly exciting, as we are launching our new Windows 11 curriculum!

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 Defense Competition. The Standard CyberCamp consists of an introduction to cybersecurity, cyber careers, the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, Windows 11 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 11 graphical utilities, command line, Sysinternals Suite, Linux Init Systems, advanced command line, processes and scheduled tasks, security policies, PAM and Cisco NetAcad. This is a robust curriculum offering the ability for each camp to personalize the experience for the campers.

During each AFA CyberCamp, campers are immersed in a mock competition where they work on securing virtual images by finding and fixing vulnerabilities. This is a great way to both apply real-world learning and experience our competition.

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

WEEK	DATE
Week 1	June 1-5
Week 2	June 8-12
Week 3	June 15-19
Week 4	June 22-26
Week 5	July 6-10
Week 6	July 13-17
Week 7	July 20-24
Week 8	July 27-31
Week 9	August 3-7
Week 10	August 10-14

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CYBERCAMPS TODAY!](#)

CyberPatriot on ShopAFA

CyberPatriot 18 challenge coins are available on ShopAFA. You'll notice we also expanded the CyberPatriot collection to include water bottles! Visit [ShopAFA](#) today and see what items are available!



CyberPatriot 18 Challenge Coin
\$10.50



CyberPatriot T-Shirt
\$35.00



CyberPatriot Logo Hat
\$33.00



CyberPatriot Polo
\$45.00



CyberPatriot Lapel Pin
\$7.00



CyberPatriot Insulated 32 oz Bottle
\$36.00



CyberPatriot Insulated 20 oz Bottle
\$29.00

CyberPatriot in the News

CyberHusky high school students take high honors at the CyberPatriot Competition

CyberHusky high school students performed well at the 2025 CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. Yu Cai leads the program and says he was truly impressed by the team performance during this year's national competition, with two teams placing among the top 10 in Michigan's Platinum Tier. The third team of students earned 12th place in the Michigan Gold Tier.

Lone Eagle Composite Sq(CAP), Cyber Warriors team excel in CyberPatriot 18



Recently, the Lone Eagle Composite Squadron's Cyber Warriors team, were recognized for their outstanding CyberPatriot 18 achievement. This marks the Squadron's first extensive participation and remarkable success.

Two Huntsville City Schools cybersecurity teams named state champions



Last month, the state round of CyberPatriot 18 was held across the country, and two teams from Huntsville are advancing to the semifinals later this month.

Northeast Texas Chapter Expands Outreach with Air Force Reserve

AFA's Northeast Texas Chapter 416 advanced its Advocates to Inspire Military Service (AIMS) initiative by hosting Maj. Allie "Dallas" Zillweger, Commander of the 352nd Recruiting Squadron located at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, in Rockwall, Texas.

Chapter Secretary Chad Chaffee, a former Air Force and Reserve pilot, and Treasurer Vance Clarke, met with Zillweger to share AIMS strategies and highlight the chapter's community engagement. Following their discussion, Zillweger joined the chapter at Rockwall's Gene Burton College and Career Academy (GBCCA) for a CyberPatriot competition event.



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.*