



CYBERPATRIOT

THE NATIONAL YOUTH CYBER EDUCATION PROGRAM



A STEM program of the Air & Space Forces Association

CyberPatriot is AFA's National Youth Cyber Education Program, created to motivate students toward careers in cybersecurity and other STEM disciplines. The program has a variety of offerings for K-12 students, as well as a cyber safety initiative for senior citizens and a community service opportunity for student and adult volunteers. To learn more about any of the programs offered by CyberPatriot, visit www.uscyberpatriot.org.

The National Youth Cyber Defense Competition | Grades 6-12



The National Youth Cyber Defense Competition is an online-based program that puts teams of high school and middle school students in the position of newly hired IT professionals tasked with managing the network of a small company. Through a series of online competition rounds, teams are given a set of virtual operating systems and are tasked with finding and fixing cybersecurity vulnerabilities while maintaining critical services. The top teams in the nation earn all-expenses-paid trips to Maryland for the National Finals Competition where they can earn national recognition and scholarship money.

Teams compete in one of three divisions:

- **Open Division / \$225 per team:** High schools, scouting units, boys' and girls' clubs, home school programs, and other youth organizations upon approval from CyberPatriot Program Office
- **All Service Division / \$0 per team:** High school JROTC / Civil Air Patrol / Naval Sea Cadet Corps
- **Middle School Division / \$175 per team:** Open to teams of middle school students (typically grades 6-8)

Not only is the competition fun and exciting, but it also creates a career path for today's students, fostering continued education from middle school through college and into the beginning of their careers.

Registration for CyberPatriot XVI (2023-2024 competition) is open through October 3, 2023.

AFA CyberCamps | Grades 6-12



Held during the summer months (June – August), AFA CyberCamps emphasize fun, hands-on learning of cybersecurity principles that are relevant and applicable to everyday life. Through this 20-hour, 5-day camp, students will learn the importance of cyber safety and how to protect their personal devices and information from outside threats. Camps are designed for high school or middle school students (at the discretion of the hosting organization). Any organization is welcome to host a camp at their location (or virtually) as a not-for-profit activity.

Camps are offered at a standard or advanced level, covering topics such as cyber ethics, Windows security, Linux security, and Cisco Networking (advanced camps only). All purchased camp curriculum includes access to required software, digital instructor guides, student workbooks, PowerPoint modules, and demo and competition images (virtual machines). Tech support from CyberPatriot staff is also available during normal business hours.

Registration to host an AFA CyberCamp is open from February 1 – May 1



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The following programs are available year-round.



Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative (ESCEI) | Grades K-5

Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative Using game-like computer training software, ESCEI is designed to:

- Excite students about education in cybersecurity and other STEM disciplines.
- Help students understand the widespread importance of cybersecurity in their everyday lives and equip them with skills to better protect themselves on the Internet
- Encourage students to apply cyber ethics principles in their online interactions
- FREE downloads available online



Cyber Education Literature Series | Grades K-5

The Cyber Education Literature Series introduces cybersecurity principles to our youngest audience in storybook format. The series features two books – Sarah the Cyber Hero and Ben the Cyber Defender – both of which follow the stories of two young children who save their friends, families, and communities from cyber danger. Copies are available for purchase through BookBaby.com, Amazon, and Barnes & Noble.



CyberGenerations | Senior Citizens

CyberGenerations – the Senior Citizens' Cyber Safety Initiative – is designed to encourage and equip more seniors to practice cyber safety. The program covers topics such as password hygiene, malware and ransomware, marketing and fraud scams, and social media awareness. The program also provides resources for individuals who may have been a victim of a cybercrime.

CyberGenerations can be completed as a workshop for a group of interested participants, or it can be done individually with the help of a self-paced guide. All resources are free and available for download on the CyberPatriot website.



Tech Caregivers | Volunteers ages 14+

Tech Caregivers The Tech Caregiver Program is a companion to CyberGenerations. As a Tech Caregiver, you will complete a training course, take an exam, and after a passing grade you will receive your certification to assist senior citizens to safely operate online by teaching basic security measures in a way that is easy to understand. The course is free and can be completed around any schedule.

