Program Overview

CyberPatriot is the Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Education Program, created to motivate students towards careers in cybersecurity and other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The program features the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition for high school and middle school students, AFA CyberCamps, and an Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative.

The National Youth Cyber Defense Competition

The national youth cyber defense competition is an online, tournament structured event in which teams of 2-6 students are scored on how well they identify and secure known vulnerabilities on a virtual network. Students compete in three divisions:

- **Open Division**: Open to all high schools, scouting units, boys and girls clubs, home school programs, and other approved youth organizations.
- **All Service High School Division**: JROTC programs /Civil Air Patrol/Naval Sea Cadet Corps
- **Middle School Division:** Open to teams of middle school students.

After a series of online qualification rounds, the top teams advance to the National Finals Competition, an in-person event held in Baltimore, Md., each spring. Winners are awarded scholarships, and all registered competitors are eligible to apply for internship opportunities. The competition is not only fun and exciting, it also creates a career path for today's students, fostering continued education from high school through college and into the beginning of their careers.

AFA CyberCamps

Held during the summer months, 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).

For more information on AFA CyberCamps, visit the "Special Initiatives" section of www.uscyberpatriot.org.

Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative

Using game-like computer training software, the Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative 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

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