

Air Force Association's CyberPatriot National High School Cyber Defense Competition



The CyberPatriot Mentor Program

Air Force Association



What is CyberPatriot?

CyberPatriot is the premier national high school cyber defense competition designed to excite, educate, and motivate the next generation of cyber defenders critical to our nation's future security. The competition has a tournament-style tiered structure with a series of web-based competition rounds, culminating in the national championship in Washington, D.C. in March 2014.

What is a mentor?

A mentor is a cyber-knowledgeable individual who helps CyberPatriot coaches and teams prepare for the competition.

What do mentors do?

- Serve as technical advisors and role models to CyberPatriot teams.
- Work with as many—or as few—teams as they choose.
- Work with teams in their area, or serve as “virtual mentors” working with teams entirely online.
- Work with teams as much or as little as they can. The mentor-team relationship is left to mentors and coaches to determine.

What skills do mentors need?

Mentors should enjoy working with high-school age youth and need a working knowledge of computers. A familiarity with operating systems and computer networks is needed, but mentors need not be cyber experts.

How does this differ from a coach?

Coaches are responsible for all aspects of a team's CyberPatriot activities and preparation, and they must be part of the school or organization the team represents (e.g.—a teacher). A mentor is someone who helps a coach with technical aspects of CyberPatriot. Mentors need not be part of the school faculty or staff, and are often willing community members who are technically proficient and enjoy helping youth explore an exciting new technical field.

How can I become a mentor?

It's easy!

- Visit www.uscyberpatriot.org, click “Register Here for CyberPatriot VI” and select “Register as a Technical Mentor.”
- Submit to a voluntary background check
- When your registration is complete, AFA or coaches in your area will contact you.

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