Program Overview

CyberPatriot is the Air Force Association’s National Youth Cyber Education Program, created to motivate students toward 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, an Elementary School Cyber Education Initiative, the Cyber Education Literature Series, and CyberGenerations – the Senior Citizens’ Cyber Safety 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. Through a partnership with Cisco, they are also tested on a networking curriculum and are required to build secure, virtual networks.

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. When internships arise, a notification is sent out by email to all competitors and coaches notifying them of the opportunity. Not only is the competition fun and exciting, 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 XIV (2021-2022 school year) is open through Oct. 5, 2021.

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 [www.uscyberpatriot.org](http://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.

Cyber Education Literature Series

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

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.