

## Frequently Asked Questions

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**1. Do I need to know a lot about computers?**

Answer: No. Competitors should have basic computer skills. The training materials provided will teach the rest.

**2. How old do I need to be?**

Answer: Participants must be current cadets enrolled in 9th through 12th grade during the 2010-11 school year.

**3. Do I need a computer?**

Answer: Yes. Each team needs 3-5 computers. Typically, team members will use their personal laptops for the competitions and practices. Teams will also need internet access (DSL or faster) for practices and competitions.

**4. What does it cost to compete?**

Answer: Entry is free. There are no specific expenses associated with competitions or practices.

**5. How much time does it take?**

Answer: On average, teams will spend a few hours a week practicing. Competitions take a few hours to complete.

**6. What sort of software will be used?**

Answer: The competition uses software-created images using a VMware based scoring engine. Coaches are provided with licenses to Microsoft Developer AA and a unique "Competitor Relationship Manager" provides the learning platform.

**7. What are the computer system requirements?**

Answer: 1Ghz+ processor; 2Gb RAM; 20Gb Disk Space; Windows 2000 or higher (VMware support Linux or Macintosh 10.4.11 or higher); Web Browser; ZIP client that can open encrypted ZIP files; VMware player.

**8. Who should I contact for more information?**

Answer: More information can be found at [www.capmembers.com/cyber](http://www.capmembers.com/cyber) and coaches can contact Mr. Steven Trupp at [strupp@capnhq.gov](mailto:strupp@capnhq.gov)



CyberPatriot is presented by the Air Force Association



INTEGRITY

SERVICE



EXCELLENCE

RESPECT

# CYBERPATRIOT III

HIGH SCHOOL CYBER DEFENSE COMPETITION

*Network defenders of tomorrow begin here.*



General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, meets with CAP cadets from Burlington Composite Squadron, North Carolina

## The Competition

CyberPatriot is *the* cyber defense competition for high school students, including CAP cadets. It's a program for cadets interested in computer science, especially network security and hacking. All CAP squadrons are invited to participate.

Small teams compete locally and test their network defense skills against hundreds of teams from across the nation. The competition is designed so that even those without extensive computer skill can be successful.

## Start a Team

Every CAP squadron with cadets is encouraged to start a team. All you need is a coach and some friends. Each team can consist of (up to) 5 primary competitors and 5 alternates.

Using your own computers you will be able to download the competition software and training materials. It's that easy.

Your coach can register your team at: [www.capmembers.com/cyber](http://www.capmembers.com/cyber)

## Cost

**It's free!** There is no fee for a Civil Air Patrol sponsored team! Transportation and lodging for teams that are invited to the national competition will be provided (if funds are available).

*"... we will begin a national campaign to promote cyber security awareness and digital literacy from our boardrooms to our classrooms, and to build a digital workforce for the 21st century." - President Barack Obama*

## How CyberPatriot Works

Teams from across the nation defend their network from simulated attacks that are launched from a central server. Teams are responsible for stopping the attacks by responding with the appropriate course of action.



The first three competitions are local. Teams earn points based on how well they defend their network. The teams with the highest points in each of round move forward.

After the third round, the remaining 12 teams are invited to the Air Warfare Symposium for the semi-finals. The top four teams then compete for the title of National Champions.

## Time Line

