How It Works

Competition basics and details around the challenges.

How the CyberTitan Competition Works

All rounds of competition, with the exception of the National Finals, take place online. Teams may compete from any location; many participate at their school, organization, or public library. Competitions take place on specified weekends throughout the school year. Teams must complete all their work during one (1) six consecutive-hour period on the Friday, Saturday, or Sunday of these competition windows. They may only have one instance of an image open at a time.

All CyberTitan teams interested in competing will have to register and participate in CyberPatriot to be able to compete in the CyberTitan National Finals. The top 10 Canadian CyberTitan teams participating in CyberPatriot will advance to the finals. Each competition season, registered CyberTitan teams will have the opportunity to qualify for the national finals and compete in Canada's Capital, Ottawa. Only Canadian teams will be able to compete in CyberTitan.

Competition Basics

To qualify for CyberTitan National Finals, CyberTitan teams compete in CyberPatriot from November – March.

CyberTitan teams compete in two divisions:

Open Division: High school students from schools, scouting units, Boys and Girls Clubs, home school programs, STEM programs, etc.

Middle School Division: Middle school students from schools, scouting units, boys and girls clubs, STEM programs, etc.

Third division for US Only - All Service Division: High school students in JROTC Programs / Civil Air Patrol Usingits / Naval Sea Cadet Corps units.

The early rounds of the competition are done online during weekends from the teams' home locations (schools, homes, libraries, etc.).

Prior to the rounds, teams download "virtual image" representations of operating systems with known flaws, or cybersecurity "vulnerabilities." Teams must find the flaws while keeping computer functions ("services," such as email) working. Team progress is recorded by a central scoring system.

The competition challenges teams of high school and middle school students to find and fix cybersecurity vulnerabilities in virtual operating systems. Using a proprietary competition system, teams are scored on how secure they make the system.

Challenges
Each team has two challenges during their six-hour competition period:

Network Security Challenge
Finding and fixing security vulnerabilities in Windows and Linux operating systems.

Cisco Networking Challenge
An online quiz and a virtual networking exercise based on specific training materials.

Top teams advance through the online round of competition, and the best of the best advance to the in-person National Finals Competition.

For the **Open and All Service Divisions**, scores from two online qualification rounds are added together to determine team placement into one of three tiers for the State Rounds: Platinum, Gold, and Silver. These tiers have cybersecurity challenges of different degrees of complexity. After the online State Round, the top teams advance to the Regional Rounds for the Open Division. The top six teams in each All Service Division category and several wild Cards advance to the Category Round.

Please note that the national finals in Canada are different from the CyberPatriot national finals.