

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



CyberPatriot Elevator Speech

Air Force Association



- AFA is a non-profit organization that has for decades been concerned with national security
- AFA now sees building the national technical workforce and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education as national security issues
- We set out just a few years ago to assess how best we could help address the STEM education problem
- We settled on a high school cyber defense competition as the best way to attract high school students to STEM. CyberPatriot uses the intrigue of cyber and the excitement of a competition as the best way to attract teenagers
- We started in 2009 with a proof of concept involving just eight teams, all from Florida
- We have grown phenomenally (in just four years) to over 1,200 teams in all 50 states, DoD Dependent Schools in Europe and the Pacific, and in Canada
- We have awarded \$158,000 in scholarships in the past three years alone
- We are recruiting coaches—high school teachers, JROTC instructors, CAP senior members, and US Naval Sea Cadet Corps leaders—now for this coming season of competition
- We want to recruit 3,000 teams this year so we can draw even more students to STEM
- Our presenting sponsor is the Northrop Grumman Foundation

Presenting Sponsor



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