November 3-4, 2023
Q Center, Illinois

About the CyberForce Competition®

The Department of Energy (DOE) CyberForce Competition® is a cyber workforce development competition that aims to challenge competitors with real world scenarios faced by defenders of the nation's energy critical infrastructure. The competition is designed to simulate information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) system infrastructure for participants while they defend them from real world attackers played by volunteers all while managing regular day to day tasks, enhancing soft skills needs, and bolstering critical skills needed for our Energy Sector.

CyberForce Competition History

The competition began in 2016 at Argonne National Laboratory with only eight teams and now has grown to several national laboratories supporting and over 150 teams.

Other key facts include:
- Over 200 unique universities
- Participation from 44 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- 2000+ participants and volunteers
- Large alumni network
- Different energy focused scenario every year

Testimonies

"Thank you for a really great competition. This inspires me to learn more in the cybersecurity of energy industry ICS in order to get a job in this field."

"I really enjoyed the fact there was a walkthrough after each attack chain. This really helped me and my team learn and become better at responding to the subsequent attack chains."

"It is one of the best events that I have ever attended."

"I have learned how to work in teams to protect a system, how to use new tools/technology to solve 'anomalies.' and how to identify signs of compromise on a system."

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Contact Us

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CyberForce Competition Benefits

Students will be challenged to apply classroom knowledge in a real-life practical environment resulting in red team intrusions, real time defense measures, communicate with senior leadership through oral and written communications, and much more. The competition emphasizes the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to be successful in future careers. It promotes teamwork and, most importantly, provides confidence for success.

Benefits of participation:
- Participate in the CyberForce virtual career fair with key partners.
- Enhance your university/college educational program.
- Mentorship from industry and national laboratory staff.
- Receive proficiency report mapped to the NIST NICE Framework.
- Targeted training on cybersecurity skill sets that employers are seeking.
- Introduction to firsthand examples of new technologies.