SANS | GIAC CERTIFICATIONS

Heightening Cybersecurity in Higher Education

Defending Education from Cyber Attacks

Colleges & Universities

Every week a cybersecurity breach of a college or university gets in the headlines. Unauthorized third-party access, malware, and data leaks can threaten operations and safety. Higher Education institutions need to be prepared for an increase in attacks. Secure your systems, staff, and students with best in class cybersecurity training.

Higher Education must be ready for what's next

Threat actors are targeting colleges large and small

Threats against higher education are increasing.

We've seen breaches at the largest universities and local community colleges. Small liberal arts schools and private colleges face cyber threats on and off campus.

Why are attackers going after higher education? Because they can.

Tax IDs, social security numbers, financial accounts, personal identifiers, health records, and other sensitive, yet valuable information is available for the taking.

And, threat actors know that colleges and universities often have large attack surfaces, decentralized systems, and legacy technology mixed with newer platforms.

They also have vulnerabilities with the many students, staff, and third-party vendors that can access their systems.

How can higher education take on professional threat actors?

By working with the experts that train the world's leading institutions.

Shaping the Academic Cyberscape

Cybersecurity risk for today's digital campus

Higher Education is now equally an on and off-line. In 2022, 53.3% of postsecondary students in the United States were enrolled in some form of distance learning[1]

Vulnerability increases as academia expands the digital campus experience. Third-party software can bring in malware and breaches in shared technology systems can stop learning abruptly. Privacy will be a more divisive issue for staff and students as more and more data is collected, analyzed, and actioned.

Investment in cybersecurity must match those in academics and facilities. The risk is too high to rely on legacy InfoSec practices. This includes attracting the right InfoSec talent as well as continually giving them training to stay on the cutting edge.

Data breaches cost higher education and training organizations $3.7M on average in 2023.[2]

1. NCES (2024). Trend Generator: Student Enrollment Postsecondary Distance Learning. National Center for Education Statistics. Ed.gov.
2. Ahlawat, V. et. al. (2023, October 10). Top 10 #1: Cybersecurity as a Core Competency. EDUCAUSE Review.
3. Seltzer, R. (2023, January 6). Here are the top risks college leaders are worried about this year. Higher Ed Dive.

Every academic institution deserves to be cybersecure

The SANS difference is the strength of our community and unparalleled quality of our training. We want you to engage with your peers, industry experts, and help us create a safer world online and off.

Colleges and universities are invited to join in SANS activities from emergency webcasts to practitioner surveys. We invite you to join our signature summits, conferences, networking events, and forums to share the latest insights across sectors.

Join our community while protecting yours.

Nearly two-thirds of campus leaders rank data security as one of their top concerns.[3]

Cybersecurity Skills Delivered On Demand

Today's Techniques

Training is led by experienced practitioners who are on the front lines. Courses are updated frequently to ensure that you are receiving the latest information.

Entry to Expert

SANS program levels up every part of your organization: security awareness for your workforce, role-based training for IT, and in-depth courses from entry-level to expert.

Mix & Match

Mix and match training, certifications and ranges. Take courses engage in interactive security awareness training, and test your skills with NetWars Continuous.

The SANS Institute

The SANS Institute is the world's most trusted source of training, certifications, and research in the cybersecurity industry.

Launched in 1989 as a cooperative for information security thought leadership, it is SANS' ongoing mission to empower cyber security professionals with the practical skills and knowledge they need to make our world a safer place.

SANS offers a comprehensive training program with 85+ courses, 50+ GIAC certifications, interactive security awareness training and ranges. SANS is leading the global initiative to strengthen today and tomorrow's cybersecurity workforce.

Exclusive Program for Higher Education

Contact us for more information on programs for higher education. Eligible entities get 50% off on training purchased during two program buying windows - June 1- July 31 and December 1 - January 31.

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