

Innovative Cybersecurity Courses

SANS Cyber Defense Initiative®

December 14–19, 2026

Washington, DC or Live Online (ET)

Early Bird
Offer!

SAVE UP TO
\$900

When you register by MAY 28

Use code:

EarlyBirdNA

*Limited discounts
also available

SANS | GIAC
CERTIFICATIONS

Hands-On Cybersecurity Courses Taught by Industry Experts

Attend In-Person in Washington, DC or Live Online (CT)

Unlock the full potential of your cybersecurity career at **SANS Cyber Defense Initiative 2026**. Guided by world-renowned instructors at the forefront of the field, this event provides exclusive access to live industry experts, ensuring you stay ahead of the curve.

Immerse yourself in a learning environment that features industry-leading hands-on labs, simulations, and exercises, all geared towards practical application in your professional endeavors. Seize the opportunity to hone your skills during bonus sessions and activities, backed by SANS's unwavering commitment to excellence and expertise.

SANS Cyber Defense Initiative 2026 Features

- **Practical cybersecurity training:** Delivered by real-world practitioners providing actionable insights
- **Real-time support:** Receive immediate assistance from certified teacher assistants throughout your course.
- **Immersive labs in a virtual environment:** Hands-on practice to sharpen your skills in a secure setting
- **Thought leadership talks and workshops:** All centered around training topics
- **Comprehensive courseware:** Course materials provided in electronic and printed formats
- **GIAC certification:** Most courses align with the highest standard in cybersecurity certification
- **CPE credits:** Earn continuing professional education (CPE) credits towards a certification
- **Extended learning access:** Enjoy four months of access to recorded course lectures post-event
- **Central hotel location:** Courses will be held at Grand Hyatt Washington

Ways to Train

In-Person

In-Person training offers students the chance to study in a focused environment without distraction but perhaps most importantly, they offer a direct access to SANS's world-leading instructors.

Live Online

SANS Live Online training offers live, interactive streaming sessions delivered directly from your instructor. It features many of the activities that SANS students love at training events, such as bonus topical presentations, cyber range challenges, networking via chat channels, and live access to top SANS instructors. Live Online is a flexible and fun way to learn.



December 17 & 18 | 6:30–9:30 PM

Attendance Options: In-Person

Participation is free with any 4–6 day course purchase!



www.sans.org/cyber-defense-initiative-2026










301-654-SANS (7267)

support@sans.org

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Explore the Event

Confirmed Courses









FOR500: Windows Forensic Analysis™	GCFE	GIAC Certified Forensic Examiner giac.org/gcfe	
FOR508: Advanced Incident Response, Threat Hunting, and Digital Forensics™	GCFA	GIAC Certified Forensic Analyst giac.org/gcfa	
FOR578: Cyber Threat Intelligence™	GCTI	GIAC Cyber Threat Intelligence giac.org/gcti	
FOR610: Reverse-Engineering Malware: Malware Analysis Tools and Techniques™	GREM	GIAC Reverse Engineering Malware giac.org/grem	
ICS410: ICS/SCADA Security Essentials™	GICSP	Global Industrial Cyber Security Professional giac.org/gicsp	
ICS515: ICS Visibility, Detection, and Response™	GRID	GIAC Response and Industrial Defense giac.org/grid	
ICS612: ICS Cybersecurity In-Depth™			
ICS613: ICS/OT Penetration Testing & Assessments™ NEW			
LDR414: SANS Training Program for CISSP® Certification™	GISP	GIAC Information Security Professional giac.org/gisp	
LDR512: Security Leadership Essentials for Managers™	GSLC	GIAC Security Leadership giac.org/gslc	
LDR514: Security Strategic Planning, Policy, and Leadership™	GSTRT	GIAC Strategic Planning, Policy, and Leadership giac.org/gstrt	

“The instruction at SANS is top-notch. I have been to several SANS training courses and they never disappoint. The instructors bring real-life experiences and show the students how the material can be applied.”

—Thomas Seck, Johns Hopkins APL



Confirmed Courses

LDR519: Cybersecurity Risk Management and Compliance™			
LDR551: Building and Leading Security Operations Centers™	GSOM	GIAC Security Operations Manager giac.org/gsom	
LDR553: Cyber Incident Management™	GCIL	GIAC Cyber Incident Leader giac.org/gcil	
SEC301: Introduction to Cyber Security™ UPDATED	GISF	GIAC Information Security Fundamentals giac.org/gisf	
SEC401: Security Essentials – Network, Endpoint, and Cloud™	GSEC	GIAC Security Essentials giac.org/gsec	
SEC497: Practical Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT)™	GOSI	GIAC Open Source Intelligence giac.org/gosi	
SEC502: Cloud Security Tactical Defense™	GCLD	GIAC Cloud Security Essentials giac.org/gcld	
SEC503: Network Monitoring and Threat Detection In-Depth™	GCIA	GIAC Certified Intrusion Analyst giac.org/gcia	
SEC504: Hacker Tools, Techniques, and Incident Handling™ UPDATED	GCIH	GIAC Certified Incident Handler giac.org/gcih	
SEC511: Cybersecurity Engineering: Advanced Threat Detection and Monitoring™	GMON	GIAC Continuous Monitoring Certification giac.org/gmon	
SEC530: Defensible Security Architecture and Engineering: Implementing Zero Trust for the Hybrid Enterprise™	GDSA	GIAC Defensible Security Architecture giac.org/gdsa	

“The real value of this training lies at the intersection of quality content and delivery by a subject-matter expert actively working in the field, making it incredibly relevant and immediately applicable to my job.”

—P. Watson, Microsoft Corp



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SEC540: Cloud Native Security and DevSecOps Automation™	GCSA	GIAC Cloud Security Automation giac.org/gcsa	
SEC541: Cloud Security Threat Detection™	GCTD	GIAC Cloud Threat Detection giac.org/gctd	
SEC542: Web App Penetration Testing and Ethical Hacking™	GWAPT	GIAC Web Application Penetration Tester giac.org/gwapt	
SEC549: Cloud Security Architecture™	GCAD	GIAC Cloud Security Architecture and Design giac.org/gcad	
SEC560: Enterprise Penetration Testing™	GPEN	GIAC Penetration Tester giac.org/gpen	
SEC587: Advanced Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Gathering and Analysis™	GSOA	GIAC Strategic OSINT Analyst giac.org/gsoa	
SEC595: Applied Data Science and AI/Machine Learning for Cybersecurity Professionals™	GMLE	GIAC Machine Learning Engineer giac.org/gmle	
SEC598: Security Automation for Offense, Defense, and Cloud™ UPDATED	GASAE	GIAC AI Security Automation Engineer giac.org/gasae	
SEC617: Wireless Penetration Testing and Ethical Hacking™	GAWN	GIAC Assessing and Auditing Wireless Networks giac.org/gawn	
SEC660: Advanced Penetration Testing, Exploit Writing, and Ethical Hacking™	GXPN	GIAC Exploit Researcher and Advanced Pen Tester giac.org/gxpn	

“SANS creates a one-of-a-kind learning experience providing world-class training and fascinating opportunities to network and gain new perspectives from your peers!”

—Justin E., U.S. Federal Agency



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