

SANS Cyber Defense Initiative®

December 14–19, 2026 | Washington, DC or Live Online (ET)

41 COURSES | CORE NETWARS TOURNAMENT | KEYNOTE & SANS@NIGHT SESSIONS | SOLUTIONS EXPO



Event Highlights

FEATURED KEYNOTE | TUE, DEC 15 | 6:00–7:00 PM | IN-PERSON

Defending the Digital Frontier: The FBI's Evolving Cyber Mission

James Lyne, Chief Executive Officer at SANS Institute
Brett Leatherman, FBI Assistant Director, Cyber Division at FBI

SPECIAL EVENT | THU, DEC 17 & FRI, DEC 18 | 6:30–9:30 PM | IN-PERSON

Core NetWars Tournament



Venue

Grand Hyatt Washington | 1000 H Street NW | Washington D.C. 20001

Ways to Train

In-Person

- Immersive learning, free from distractions
- Networking with fellow practitioners
- Bonus hands-on workshops
- SANS@Night sessions and alumni receptions
- Networking breakfast reception

Live Online (ET)

- Interactive learning from anywhere
- Real-time access to faculty and teacher assistants
- Virtual access to select SANS@Night talks

End-of-Year Promotion **A \$2,000 VALUE!**

SANS | **GIAC**
CERTIFICATIONS

WHAT YOU BUY

TRAIN

Select any CDI 2026 course, and pay by November 15 to get a complimentary package:



INCLUDED FREE WITH ANY CDI 2026 COURSE

PRACTICE

120 days of OnDemand
Extended Access to your
chosen course

CERTIFY

One GIAC certification attempt,
plus two practice tests so you can
validate the skills you just built

WHO QUALIFIES

Which courses?

Any CDI 2026 course that is
available OnDemand and with
an associated GIAC certification

Which modality?

In-person and Live
Online both qualify

Which payment types?

Voucher and non-voucher
payments both qualify

Promo code?

No promo code required! Both products
will be accessible in your SANS portal
7–10 days after CDI concludes.

Courses Available

SEC301

Introduction to Cybersecurity
| GISF

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC401

Security Essentials
| GSEC

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC497

Practical Open-Source
Intelligence (OSINT)
| GOSI

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC503

Network Monitoring and Threat
Detection In-Depth
| GCIA

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC511

Cybersecurity Engineering:
Advanced Threat Detection
and Monitoring | GMON

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC530

Defensible Security Architecture and
Engineering: Implementing Zero Trust
for the Hybrid Enterprise | GDSA

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC587

Advanced Open-Source
Intelligence (OSINT) Gathering
and Analysis | GSOA

CYBER DEFENSE

SEC595

Applied Data Science and
AI/Machine Learning for
Cybersecurity Professionals | GMLE

CYBER DEFENSE

FOR500

Windows Forensic Analysis
| GCFE

DFIR

FOR508

Advanced Incident Response,
Threat Hunting, and Digital
Forensics | GCFA

DFIR

FOR578

Cyber Threat Intelligence
| GCTI

DFIR

FOR610

Reverse-Engineering Malware:
Malware Analysis Tools and
Techniques | GREM

DFIR

ICS410

ICS/SCADA Security Essentials
| GICSP

ICS SECURITY

ICS515

ICS Visibility, Detection,
and Response
| GRID

ICS SECURITY

ICS612

ICS Cybersecurity In-Depth

ICS SECURITY

ICS613

ICS/OT Penetration Testing &
Assessments

ICS SECURITY

SEC504

Hacker Tools, Techniques,
and Incident Handling
| GCIH

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC535

Offensive AI – Attack Tools
and Techniques
| GOAA

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC536

Adversarial AI – Penetration
Testing AI Systems
| GAIPT

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC537

AI for Offensive Security

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC542

Web App Penetration Testing
and Ethical Hacking
| GWAPT

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC560

Enterprise Penetration Testing
| GPEN

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC565

Red Team Operations and
Adversary Emulation
| GRTP

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC598

AI and Security Automation for
Red, Blue, and Purple Teams
| GASAE

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC617

Wireless Penetration Testing
and Ethical Hacking
| GAWN

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC660

Advanced Penetration Testing,
Exploit Writing, and Ethical
Hacking | GXPEN

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC665

Advanced Red Team Operations

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC670

Red Teaming Tools – Developing
Windows Implants, Shellcode,
Command and Control

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

SEC502

Cloud Security Tactical Defense
| GCLD

CLOUD SECURITY

SEC510

Cloud Security Engineering
and Controls
| GPCS

CLOUD SECURITY

SEC522

Application Security: Securing
Web Applications, APIs, and
Microservices | GWEB

CLOUD SECURITY

SEC540

Cloud Native Security and
DevSecOps Automation
| GCSA

CLOUD SECURITY

SEC541

Cloud Security Threat Detection
| GCSA

CLOUD SECURITY

SEC545

GenAI and LLM
Application Security
| GAIPS

CLOUD SECURITY

SEC549

Cloud Security Architecture
| GCAD

CLOUD SECURITY

LDR414

SANS Training Program for
CISSP® Certification
| GISP

CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP

LDR512

Security Leadership Essentials
for Managers
| GSLC

CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP

LDR514

Security Strategic Planning,
Policy, and Leadership
| GSTRT

CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP

LDR519

Cybersecurity Governance, Risk,
and Compliance (GRC)

CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP

LDR551

Building and Leading Security
Operations Centers
| GSOM

CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP

LDR553

Cyber Incident Management
| GCIL

CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP



← Explore CDI 2026

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



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