Become a CyberTaipan Mentor

CyberTaipan is an Australian Youth Cyber Defence Competition modelled on the US Air Force Association's CyberPatriot program. The competition is designed to inspire the next generation of digital natives to embrace cybersecurity and pursue careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Teams of high-school aged students are given a set of virtual images that represent different operating systems. They are challenged to find and fix cyber security vulnerabilities, strengthen systems, and maintain critical services. Across two competition rounds, teams compete for a chance to represent their school or community group in the CyberTaipan National Final

What is a Technical Mentor?

Technical mentors are professionals with experience in IT and/or cybersecurity who volunteer their time to support CyberTaipan teams. The type of support mentors can provide ranges from competition preparation through to career advice.

How Technical Mentors support teams

- Develop, with the coach's guidance, a plan to teach cyber defence skills and cyber ethics.
- Provide career advice about their journey into cybersecurity or computer science.
- Support and advise team training events.
- Mentors can support teams 'remotely' or locally.

What skills do Technical Mentors need?

Mentors should possess a working knowledge of computer systems and a passion for connecting with high-school age students. Technical mentors don't have to be cyber experts but must have a foundational understanding of computer systems to best support teams.

How does a Technical Mentor differ from a Coach?

CyberTaipan coaches are responsible for all aspects of a team's activities and preparation. A technical mentor is someone who helps a coach with the technical aspects of CyberTaipan. They support competition teams in any capacity agreed upon by the coach and mentor.

Technical mentors can work with one or multiple teams and may dedicate as much time to supporting teams as their schedule can accommodate .

Why be a Technical Mentor?

CyberTaipan is based on a proven framework for educating and inspiring high school students in the fields of cyber ethics and cybersecurity. As a technical mentor, you can shape the future of Australian digital natives by:

- Highlighting a career in cybersecurity and STEM related fields.
- Offering a real-world perspective to the challenges faced in the competition.
- Building the leadership and teamwork capabilities of students.

How can I become a Technical Mentor?

It's easy!

1. Register your interest on our website digitalcareers.csiro.au/en/CTaipan
2. Submit your valid Child Safety Check
3. You will be assigned to a team/s
4. Start mentoring and inspiring!

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