FAQ

What is CyberStart Game?
With your CyberStart Game license, you’ll be able to explore and have a go at over 200 online cyber security challenges across four bases. Learn how to crack codes, find security flaws and dissect criminals’ digital trails whilst playing as a cyber agent in the Cyber Protection Agency. You will learn the essential concepts and ideas cyber agents apply when dealing with the aftermath of real cyber attacks. Students with no previous experience or interest have gone on to master techniques such as SQL injection. The gamified learning has taught students how to write their own programs and learn what it means to be an ethical hacker working in the industry. CyberStart Game is full of challenges that test the persistence and research needed when facing authentic cyber security tasks. The game builds up students’ technical skills and creative-thinking.

Will I have support?
Students are equipped with a field manual to guide them through levels and also function as a useful reference. Students can also email CyberStart Support or chat in the WiCyS community forum with subject matter experts!

Want to try out a sample of CyberStart Game?
Check out CyberStart Go, our sampler set of puzzles – you'll have 60 minutes to play through as many of the challenges as you can!

Who is eligible to participate in the program?
To participate in the program, you must:
- Be a WiCyS Member interested in starting in the cybersecurity workforce within the next year to 1.5 years
- WiCyS Membership is required
- If you don’t currently have a WiCyS membership, Google will provide one to you through the application process

**What equipment will students need?**
To play CyberStart Game, a student will need:
- A laptop or desktop computer capable of running VMware or Virtual Box, which will allow students to run the Virtual Machine in Game. Early levels of Game do not require the virtual machine but you will need this to play beyond Level 5 and try the forensics challenges.
- A reliable Internet connection.
- Unrestricted access to browser developer tools/settings, for example: View Source or Inspect Element or scripting abilities.

**What domains need to be whitelisted?**
All subdomains on joincyberstart.com and cyberprotection.agency should be whitelisted. Additionally, the following challenge-specific domains will need to be whitelisted:
- www.bondogge.com
- www.bulldoghax.com
- www.chiquitooenterprise.com
- www.jiaozi-restaurants.com
- www.slowlaneshipping.com
- www.wespeaktogether.com

Additionally, you will need to allow Google’s recaptcha API to run. Information on recaptcha and firewalls can be found here. It is not possible to bypass or "turn off" the recaptcha as it is a protective security mechanism for CyberStart.

**My email client doesn’t allow your emails to come through, is there an alternate way to create an account without an email?**
All students must have a unique email tied to their account in CyberStart, and they must be able to receive emails from our applications. This allows us to verify our users, and allows users to recover lost passwords safely.

If your school email won’t allow our emails to go through, we suggest students use a personal email addresses or create single-purpose accounts for use with CyberStart through a free email service such as Gmail.

*How do I get the verification email re-sent if needed?*
You can re-request a verification email using the forgot password form. If you haven't yet finished registration and you use this form, it will re-send the verification email so you can complete your registration.