



CAE Community of Practice

Cyber Defense - CAEs Community Outreach Competition

Criteria, Rules, and Submission Instructions for the CAE-CD Community Outreach Competition 2024

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1 Introduction and Overview

The CAE-CD Community Outreach Competition Committee was established by the CAE-CoP-CD Steering Committee to encourage and promote cybersecurity awareness and online safety practices by taking advantage of the October Cybersecurity Awareness month and all throughout the year. As a CAE-CD, all institutions are conducting outreach and community activities, while most are enhancing such activities during the month of October to provide further support for the Cybersecurity Awareness month, others are continuously providing outreach activities to their community throughout the year. The CAE Program of Study (PoS) Validation and CAE Designation requirements are calling for outreach activities by all CAE-CDs to engage faculty members and students in extracurricular activities such as “experiential learning activities, local/regional/national cyber exercises and competitions, outreach to community colleges and high schools, computer check-up days...”¹, and “outreach activities allow the cybersecurity program to engage with the government and industry to provide pathways for graduates while maintaining an appropriate curriculum to place graduates into those jobs”². This initiative was formed to showcase the CAEs who are doing above and beyond of their call for duty by recognizing the outstanding outreach work performed. Thus, the CAE-CD Community Outreach Competition will challenge CAEs to submit their activities to the CAE-CD Outreach Competition Committee based on the criteria noted below and will be evaluated for recognition of their outstanding outreach work.

2 Evaluation Criteria

The outreach efforts will be evaluated along the following three dimensions.

2.1 Impact Measures

Factors that are considered here include: (1) the number of groups and organizations that are being impacted, (2) the total number of attendees, (3) the durations and frequencies of the events, and (4) effectiveness of outreach materials.

2.2 Diversity Measures

Factors that are considered here include: (1) the number of different kinds of groups, (2) the inclusion of minority and underrepresented groups in the cybersecurity profession, and (3) the spectrum of the age groups.

2.3 Effort Measures

Factors that are considered here include: (1) evidence of CAEs to promote and engage in the outreach events, (2) total number of outreach events provided in the CAEs, and (3) Level of CAE resources and dedicated effort to coordinate, plan, execute, and follow through with the activities.

¹ Designation Requirements and Application Process For CAE-Cyber Defense (CAE-CD), https://dl.dod.cyber.mil/wp-content/uploads/cae/pdf/unclass-cae-cd_designation_requirements.pdf, p. 6.

² Designation Requirements and Application Process For CAE-Cyber Defense (CAE-CD), https://dl.dod.cyber.mil/wp-content/uploads/cae/pdf/unclass-cae-cd_designation_requirements.pdf, p. 20.

In particular, in-person and dedicated cybersecurity outreach events are strongly encouraged; the extra efforts for organizing such events and additional benefits of direct interactions would be recognized.

3 Submission Guidelines

The goal is to maximize the impacts of the outreach activities without adding too much additional work to the CAEs. At the same time, we like to ensure trustworthiness, transparency, and fairness of the outcomes. We ask the CAEs to submit their list of Outreach Activities in 2024 (from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024) carried out by their faculty, staff, and students to the centralized data repository based on the given template available at the following URL: <https://tinyurl.com/CAE-Outreach2024-Template>. In addition to the list of activities, CAEs are highly recommended to submit documents detailing and highlighting the activities.

A submission link has been shared with the Points of Contact of all the CAE Institutions; for security reasons, the link will not be posted on any web site and please do not post the link on any public web site. Please email the Committee co-chairs (Dr. Xiuwen Liu (liux@cs.fsu.edu) and Dr. Wei Li (lwei@nova.edu)) if you have any questions or need to update a submission.

CAEs will need to submit all their outreach activities for 2024 (January 2024 to December 2024) no later than **February 15, 2025**.

4 Rules

4.1 Submission

The submission can only be done via the CAE Point of Contact (POC) person, or the representative authorized by the POC. Each CAE must submit a spreadsheet using the published template. The spreadsheet should only include events targeted people outside the institution; **inside events for the institution's own students and employees, and academic-centered activities (such as attending conferences and collaborations with CAEs) do not qualify**. Only the latest submission from each institution will be evaluated by the Outreach Competition Award Committee. When corrections are needed, please request a resubmission by contacting the Committee co-chairs.

4.2 Community Outreach Competition Committee

The Community Outreach Competition Committee consists of representatives from the CAE institutions and the CAE-CD Community Outreach Competition Committee co-chairs.

4.3 Evaluations

The Community Outreach Competition Committee will use a combination of quantitative and qualitative measures to rank teams.

4.4 Number of Awards

Up to ten (10) awards will be given during the upcoming annual CAE in Cybersecurity Symposium.

4.5 Dispute Resolution

In case of any disputes, they will be evaluated by the CAE-CD Outreach Competition Committee co-chairs. The co-chairs' decisions are final.

5 Contact Information

For further questions, please contact Dr. Wei Li via lwei@nova.edu or Dr. Xiuwen Liu via liux@cs.fsu.edu.