

The NSA Cyber Exercise (NCX) will be offered for the NCAE-C designated schools this academic year, and all students enrolled in designated programs will be eligible to attend the NCX Tech Talks.

NCX Tech Talks are offered monthly between September and April and offer focused instruction on the NCX scenario subjects. Instructors are NSA technical directors and experts in their field. The webinars are offered twice each month to ensure maximum participation.

The next NCX Tech Talk on *Policy* will be offered on October 26 and 28 at 7:30pm EST. To receive information on how to join, please register [here](#).

NCX was established to train and reinforce cyber skills of the US Service Academy cadets and midshipmen, Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and Senior Military College (SMC) cadets and students. It is designed to develop and test cybersecurity skills, teamwork, planning, communication, and decision-making. Students gain a deeper understanding of current threat environments and learn new techniques and tools. An NCX fact sheet is attached. You may send questions to CAE-NCX@NSA.gov



CAE NCX Fact Sheet



The **CAE NCX** is a virtual competition and is scheduled **April 11-13, 2022**. There will be four scenarios: **cryptography, forensics, policy, and reverse engineering**. The competition will culminate with a final Cyber Combat exercise. Leading up to the exercise, NSA will host **NCX Tech Talks**, *presented by NSA Technical Directors (TDs)* on the topics of each competition scenario.

NCX TECH TALKS: These webinars will be offered on a platform with very high participant capacity and will not require pre-registration. The webinars are a new NCX feature this year and are designed to offer focused instruction on the NCX scenario topics.

NCX Tech Talks offered Sep-Dec 21 will be at a fundamentals level; the first subject will be **cryptography**.

The same subjects will be offered Jan-Mar 2022 at a more advanced level.

NCX Tech Talks will not be recorded but will be offered twice to ensure wide participation. **Policy will be offered October 26 and 28, 7:30pm EST. URL will be delivered by email after registration is received. Click here for registration.**

ABOUT NCX: The NCX competition is designed to develop and test cybersecurity skills, teamwork, planning, communication and decision-making. Students gain a deeper understanding of current threat environment and learn new techniques and tools. *NCX is geared to experienced undergraduate and graduate students*. This opportunity will build on the CAE National Competition, which is an entry level competition, and the regional cybersecurity exercises implemented in 2021.

ELIGIBILITY: Because the traditional NCX and the CAE NCX will use the same competition scenarios, Service Academy cadets and students/cadets at Senior Military Colleges will not be eligible to participate in the CAE NCX. Teams from all other designated NCAE-C academic institutions are eligible to compete. The virtual competition environment has limited capacity, so teams should register early, but **no later than 15 Oct**. Provide an email with the following information to CAE-NCX@nsa.gov to register your intent to participate:

Designated NCAE-C Program of Study name
Institution name
Faculty Advisor Name, Phone and Email
Competitions the team participated in during the last academic year
Competitions the team plans to compete in this academic year

This academic year will serve as a pilot program to evaluate whether or not the NCX is appropriate for the NCAE-C program, what preparation and academic programs will benefit student readiness, and if any administrative processes are required to support the competition. While competition teams are expected to approach this event as they would any other competition, the objective for the pilot year is to lay the groundwork for full implementation in academic year 2022-2023. Recognition and prizes have yet to be decided, but all participants will receive at least a Certificate of Participation, and a trophy will go to the winning team to display until the 2023 competition.