



# County Treasures Association Conference

## OHIO CYBER PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES



<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>  
<https://cyber.ohio.gov/>



# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

Mark Bell is the Cyber Security Outreach Coordinator for the Adjutant General's Department of Ohio.

Mark coordinates a wide range of cyber partners throughout Ohio, organized into the Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3,) to improve the cyber security posture of the state through education and workforce development, the creation of the Ohio Cyber Range, the development of cyber response teams for Ohio, cyber exercises, and the sharing of best cyber practices and policies throughout the state. Mark is also the Chairman of the Ohio Cyber Range Institute's (OCRI) Executive Committee which provides strategic oversight for the Ohio Cyber Range.

Prior to working for the Ohio National Guard, Mark worked for 26 years as a congressional staffer for former congressmen John R. Kasich and Patrick J. Tiberi, serving in a variety of roles from case worker to Chief of Staff.

Mark is also a retired Military Police Command Sergeant Major. During his almost 29 years in the United States Army Reserve, Mark performed many different Military Police functions in both a reserve and deployed capacity and served in a variety of leadership positions at the Company, Battalion, Brigade and Division level. He also served as an adjunct professor of military science at Capital University. His last assignment was serving as the Division Command Sergeant Major of the newly created 87<sup>th</sup> Training Division located in Birmingham, Alabama.



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## Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

Ohio must posture itself with an enterprise-wide approach that allows for a statewide cyber governance structure. More importantly, Ohio must develop and implement the appropriate authority to provide the capability to respond to and prevent cyber-attacks.

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## The Threat

- Cyber crime is projected to cost the global economy \$10.5 trillion by 2025, more than 10 times the cost since 2015.  
Average per attack is 9.48 million.
- There were over 4,100 recorded data breaches and those breaches exposed 22 billion records in 2023
- The cyber-insurance industry is already estimated to be worth well over \$10.33 billion growing to 27.8 billion by 2026.
- Multiple firms project that by 2025, 19 billion devices will be connected to the “Internet of things,” a huge growth in the number of devices that connect ever more of daily life to the Web.
- Prevention is cheaper than remediation.

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Threat Actors

- Nation State actors
- Criminal enterprises
- Intellectual property theft/industrial espionage
- “Hacktivists”/terrorists
- Personal/political attacks/insiders
- Malicious Acts/Vandalism
- Rogue Malware

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Types of Attacks

- Phishing – emails over 90% of attacks, Vishing, Smishing, Spear Fishing, whaling  
<https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/phishing-infographic-508c.pdf>  
Block (SPF DKIM DMARC), Educate, Report, Protect (segment, least privilege, updates)
- Ransomware – Every 14 seconds – New threat - Blackmail
- DOS/DDOS Attacks - (distributed denial-of-service) attempts to disrupt normal web traffic and take a site offline by overwhelming a system, server or network with more access requests than it can handle.
- “Man in the middle” – Public wi-fi or weak link on your own network
- Social Engineering
- Insider attacks/physical security/vendor 3<sup>rd</sup> party corruption
- Password attacks/hacks/brute force
- “Typo squatting” fake login pages, click jacking
- Viruses/other Malware

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Common Vectors of Attack

- Emails and email attachments
- Unpatched vulnerabilities – OS, Apps
- Compromised/weak credentials (username/password)
- Infected downloads (Trojan horse)
- Compromised thumb drives/CDs/DVDs/SD cards
- Malicious links/advertising/QR codes, Domain Shadowing
- Drive by downloads (infected web sites)
- Man in the middle, Open Wi-Fi or weak link on your own network
- Windows Macros
- Deception/social engineering
- Unsecured vendors/support programs

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# TIME IT TAKES A HACKER TO BRUTE FORCE YOUR PASSWORD IN 2025

Number of Characters	Numbers Only	Lowercase Letters	Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters, Symbols
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
7	Instantly	Instantly	2 secs	7 secs	31 secs
8	Instantly	Instantly	2 mins	7 mins	39 mins
9	Instantly	10 secs	1 hour	7 hours	2 days
10	Instantly	4 mins	3 days	3 weeks	5 months
11	Instantly	2 hours	5 months	3 years	34 years
12	2 secs	2 days	24 years	200 years	3k years
13	19 secs	2 months	1k years	12k years	202k years
14	3 mins	4 years	64k years	750k years	16m years
15	32 mins	100 years	3m years	46m years	1bn years
16	5 hours	3k years	173m years	3bn years	92bn years
17	2 days	69k years	9bn years	179bn years	7tn years
18	3 weeks	2m years	467bn years	11tn years	438tn years





# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Password Strategies

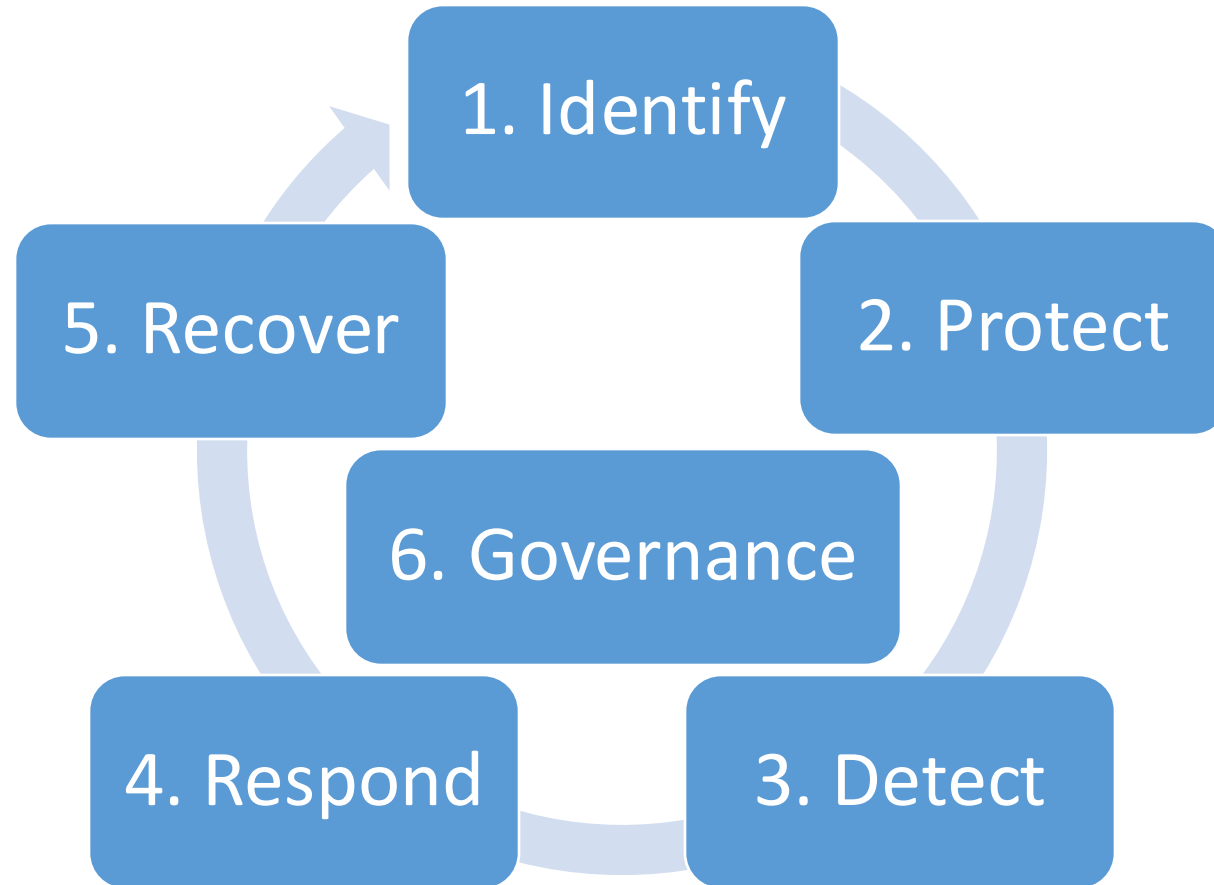
- Never reuse or duplicate passwords
- use long complex passwords – 15 minimum with numbers, upper- and lower-case letters, and symbols - longer is better (74 characters per slot)
- Avoid words in the dictionary, part of your name, where you work, your school, the current year, DOB, anniversaries, pets' names, etc.
- Use embeds
- Use the first letters of phrases i.e. The Beatles The Long and Winding Road – \$TlAwRtLtYdWnDiStRb76 21 characters, all 4 options, no dictionary words - (trillions of years to brute force attack!)
- Use a password manager (does have some risks)
- Add multi factor authentication (something you know with something you have) i.e. password plus cell phone and pin number
- Set maximum number of tries, then lock out or freeze account
- Change password any time something bad happens

<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>



# NIST Framework

<https://www.nist.gov/cyberframework>



<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>



# Inventory Your Data

- What Data do you have?
- Where is it?
- Who can access it?
- How is it protected?

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# Inventory Your Data

## Classifications:

- Public: Data that can be freely shared with the public. Example: Agency press releases.
- Internal: Data intended for internal use only. Example: Staff meeting notes.
- Confidential: Data that requires protection due to its sensitive nature. Example: Employee payroll information.
- Restricted: Data that demands the highest level of security. Example: Criminal investigation records.





# Inventory Your Data

1. Identify Data and Storage Locations: Begin by cataloging all data within the organization. This includes examining backups, old servers, cloud storage, and databases. Check for rogue downloads on individual devices and unauthorized data storage, as these can pose significant security risks.
2. Encryption and Access Controls: Understand how data is encrypted both at rest and in motion. Review the segmentation and access controls for critical data to ensure they are robust and effective. This step is vital in preventing unauthorized access and ensuring data integrity.
3. Encryption Practices: Ensure that no critical data is stored in plain text. Use strong encryption methods and maintain the security of encryption keys. Regularly review and update your encryption practices to stay ahead of potential threats.
4. Data Retention Policies: Assess your data retention policies. Delete any data that is no longer needed or archive it offline. This practice aligns with the principle that **the easiest way to protect data is not to have it**. Only retain data that is required by law, regulation, or necessary for operations. Once you have identified the essential data, focus on securing it.



# Inventory Your Data

## Identifying Potential Vulnerabilities

Recognizing and addressing potential vulnerabilities is essential for maintaining data security.

1. Vulnerable Points: Identify vulnerable points based on the type and classification of data. For example, sensitive data stored on devices without encryption is a significant risk.
2. Outdated Devices and Software: Understand the risks associated with outdated devices and software, especially where classified data is stored or accessed. Regular updates and patches are necessary to mitigate these risks



# Inventory Your Data

## Prioritizing Assets and Data for Protection

Not all data and assets are equally critical. Prioritizing them helps in focusing security efforts where they are most needed.

1. Assess Impact: Assess which assets and types of data would have the most significant impact if compromised. This helps in identifying high-priority data that requires immediate and robust protection measures.
2. Implement Protections: Identify protections to apply immediately, especially for high priority data. This includes encrypting restricted data and limiting access to sensitive information.



# Inventory Your Data

## Data Encryption and Backup Strategies

### Encrypt data at rest and in transit

Data encryption is a fundamental practice for protecting sensitive information. LGEs should ensure that all sensitive data is encrypted both at rest and in transit. This means that data stored on devices and transmitted over networks is protected from unauthorized access.

### Backup your data

Regular data backups are essential for data recovery in case of a cyber incident. LGEs should implement a backup strategy that includes regular backups to secure off-site storage locations.

Current better practice is known as the 3-2-1 rule.

- 3 copies of data, 1 golden backup with 2 redundant copies
- 2 different media types such as a local backup server and cloud storage.
- 1 copy off-site for resilience in the event of a catastrophic event (fire, flood, industrial accident).

These backups should be tested periodically to ensure they can be restored successfully

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# Protection Steps

- Create strong passwords for your accounts.
  - Create unique passwords for each account.
  - Consider using a password manager to simplify password management.
  - Enable account lockout after 5 failed logon attempts
  - Enable Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) on every possible account and device.
    - o Mandate MFA for administrator access
  - Provide home network cybersecurity better practices to your remote/hybrid workforce.
  - Separate administrator accounts from routine daily work accounts.
  - Change passwords or disable default accounts on network devices and in software applications
  - Revoke credentials for departing staff. Disable all accounts when an employee leaves.
- Collect all key cards, security tokens, door keys.
- Improve physical security. Restrict access to areas where sensitive data is stored.
  - Apply software updates as soon as possible.
  - Plan migration from Windows 10. Windows 10 end of support date is 10/14/2025.
  - Encrypt data at rest and in transit.
  - Establish routine backup policy
    - o Test backups to verify processes
  - Explore migration to \*.gov domain



# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Simple Solutions

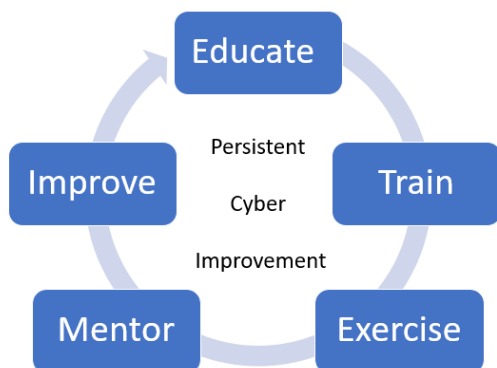
- Update OS and Programs, Delete old or unused programs (Windows 10, **Ventura**)
- Change default usernames and passwords on hardware/systems (Mirai malware)
- Use strong passwords and Use Multi Factor Authentication (MFA)
- Use/turn on firewall and antivirus programs
- Inventory your network, block unknown devices
- Isolate internet of things/wireless devices from computers (segmentation)
- Have a separate guest network accounts for visitors/IOT/kid's accounts/old tech
- Don't click links in emails or on web pages – look it up, type it in
- Treat outside/unknown thumb drives/CDs/DVDs as highly risky
- Treat outside attachments as risky
- Don't go to sketchy web sites
- Beware of free stuff
- Don't trust something just because you think you know someone
- Backup your data everyday – Use encryption on sensitive data, airgap backup (3-2-1)
- Don't forget physical security, screen locks etc. – “windows L” - don't lend your phone
- Be careful on social media, don't give up your PII - GPS in pictures



# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Steps to get better

- Train - users, managers, IT staffs, executives
- Complete Cyber inventory – hardware, software, data, policies
- Audit/implement best practices – NIST standards (OhCR)
- Develop Cyber Response/Recovery Plan
- Develop Continuity of Operations Plan
- Develop and Conduct Tabletop Exercise (CISA)
- Practice all in a red on blue Cyber Range Exercise
- AARs and improve, Audits/Pen tests - not a “one and done” project – “Persistent Cyber Improvement” (PCI) is the key



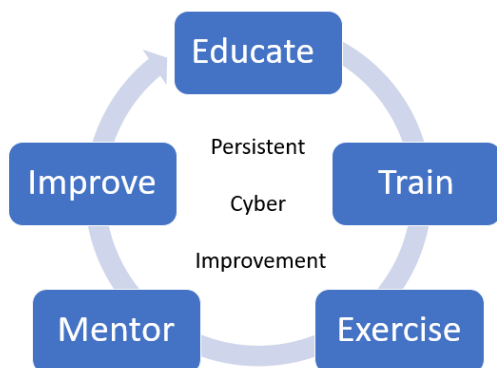
<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>



# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Resilience is the Key

- Will never be 100% safe from cyber attack
- Protect as best you can - minimize threat
- Segment network and limit horizontal movement
- Least privilege - limit access to servers and data
- Monitor network in real time/review logs
- Back up data daily / in real time 3/2/1
- Encrypt sensitive data
- Be ready, you will get malware!
- Have a Response and Recovery Plan
- Have a Continuity of Effort Plan
- Practice Plan – TTX
- Goal - Have malware be rare, with limited spread, and fast, full recovery



<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>





# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

**Our Mission:** To provide an environment for collaboration between key stakeholders, including education, business and local government to strengthen cyber security for all in the State of Ohio and to develop a stronger cyber security infrastructure.

**Our Goals/Committees:** OC3 has established three subcommittees to help it achieve its primary goals: Education/Workforce Development, Cyber Range, Cyber Protection and Preparedness. The committees are composed of Ohioans with a wide range of cyber and educational expertise dedicated to making Ohio a leader in how to integrate public-private partnerships into solving the cyber security problem.

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Education/Workforce Development Subcommittee:

Grow the workforce and improve the training and education of users and students in cyber security by:

- a. Encouraging individuals of all ages to consider cyber security as a career, help individuals to further develop their cyber security skills at the K-12 and higher education level or as adult learning.
- b. Identifying critically needed skills and developing training and educational paths to meet the growing need for skilled workers in the cyber security field. Giving students the hands-on experience needed to be ready to work on day one.
- c. Training users/students at all levels in good, age appropriate, cyber hygiene and best cyber security practices.
- d. Provide educators the skills and tools needed to support this growing workforce.

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## Ohio Cyber Range/OCRI:

Provide a secure cyber security test and training environment, known as a cyber range, to:

- a. Support the education of students at the K-12 and University level.
- b. Conduct cyber security exercises and competitions to hone cross organizational incident response capabilities and develop future cyber security professionals.
- c. Research and test industry-standard best practices, evaluate and test innovative technologies and processes.
- d. Enable a training environment for the current and future cyber security workforce, including National Guard personnel, state and local government personnel, faculty and students in the education community, and private sector entities.
- e. Provide a Cyber Portfolio for learners, and support internships.
- f. Will be able to connect from any location with OARnet access.

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# Ecosystem



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POWERED BY  
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## Regional Programming Centers

Bowling Green State University  
Cedarville University  
Cin-Day Cyber at SOCHE  
Cleveland State/Case Western IoT Collaborative  
Cuyahoga Community College  
Kent State University  
Lorain County Community College  
Miami University  
Ohio State University  
Ohio University  
Owens Community College  
PAST Foundation  
Rio Grande Community College  
Shawnee State University  
Stark State College  
Tiffin University & Findlay Partners  
University of Akron  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Dayton

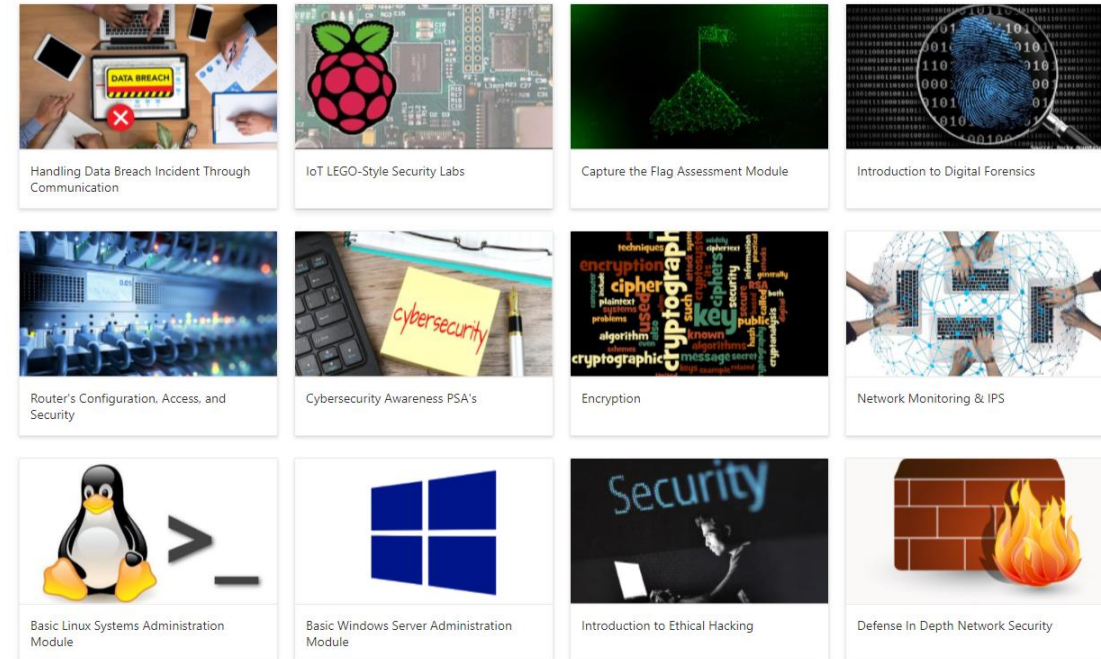




# OCRI Education Module Library

- A collection of learning materials
  - Instructional materials
  - Assessment materials
  - Hands-on component
- Geared towards K-12, Higher Ed, and/or Workforce Development
- Developed to be shared
  - Choose parts to develop your own courses
  - Build upon what others have created
  - Contribute and collaborate

OCRI Education Resources



<https://www.ohiocyberangeinstitute.org/>

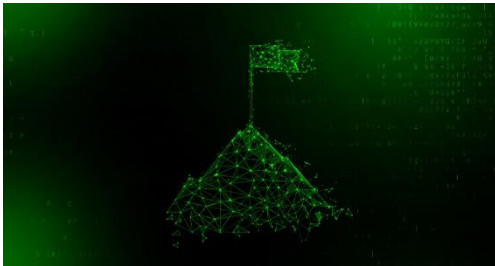


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# OpFor v Blue Pilot Exercise:

Capture the Flag (CTF)

Red Team vs. Blue Team



Security  
Analysts

Blue team



Penetration  
Testing /  
Vulnerability

Red team



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# OC3 Cyber Protection Subcommittee



## Deliverables

- Ohio Cybersecurity Strategic Plan
- K-12 Cyber Challenge – **IN PROGRESS**
- OC3 Website Development
- Cyber TTX Exercises – **IN PROGRESS**
- Cyber Toolkit / User's Guidebook of Best Practices – **IN PROGRESS**
- Mock Cyber Incident
- Cyber Risk Assessment
- Best practices/public awareness
- Ransomware Awareness Campaign

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# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

## **Governance and Public Awareness Subcommittee:**

Identify and share best practices, policies and technologies for all Ohioans by:

- a. Providing a collaborative research and development environment for the development and testing of innovative technologies and processes.
- b. Ensuring cyber threats are part of emergency planning at all levels both public and private.
- c. Using public awareness tools to educate and inform key decision makers of good cyber security practices and the latest information.
- d. Educating the general public on the importance of cyber security for the “Internet of Things.”
- e. Sharing threat intelligence between both public and private sector entities, facilitated through the Ohio Homeland Security State Fusion Center.

**<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>**





# The Ohio Cyber Reserve

Bringing Cyber Talent to the Fight

<https://ohcr.ohio.gov/>







# The Ohio Cyber Reserve



## The Need for a Cyber Reserve

1. Ohio's cyber experts are understaffed and over missioned
  - DAS
  - ONG
2. Small governmental entities do not have the resources or expertise to deal with cyber threats
  - Entities need help with assessments and best practices, as well as assistance when a cyber event occurs
    - Townships, villages, small cities, and smaller counties, eligible nonprofits
    - First responders, city services and utilities, Boards of Elections, public data
3. Critical infrastructure needs more protection, especially smaller utilities and emergency services
4. K-12 educators are typically not cyber security experts
  - They need help setting up cyber programs and cyber clubs within Ohio's high schools and junior high schools
  - Students need mentors who can inspire them and show them the pathways to a cyber career
5. Ohio needed a way to tap into the wealth of cyber talent that exists throughout the state and connect that talent to the needs of Ohio, but in a way that is sustainable from a budget perspective



# The Ohio Cyber Reserve



## The Ohio Plan

1. Created a volunteer firefighter style Cyber Reserve made up of trained civilians nested under the Adjutant General's Department
2. Legislatively modeled after the Ohio Military Reserve ORC Chapter 5920
3. The Adjutant General's Department has developed appropriate policies to support and regulate the teams
  - Members are volunteer civilians subject to state call up in a cyber emergency to support the Ohio National Guard's cyber response efforts
  - While in training status, volunteers are not be paid, but when activated will be paid as state civilian employees
  - Volunteers are vetted with appropriate background checks, training requirements
  - Volunteers are organized into regionally based teams
  - The teams are provided training, equipment and IDs and work out of ONG armories
  - When fully trained and certified will be available for call up to assist in cyber response
  - Volunteers who are not fully trained, but who have been vetted can be used to support student mentoring efforts under the Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)



# The Ohio Cyber Reserve



## OhCR Mission Set

1. **Assist** - While in a volunteer status, the Cyber Response Teams will provide outreach, training, education, and security assessments to eligible governmental entities and critical infrastructure to reduce cyber vulnerability and increase resiliency.
2. **Educate** - While in a volunteer status, the Cyber Response Teams will assist K-12 educational efforts supporting cyber clubs and mentoring students in support of the Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee's (OC3) Education and Workforce Development efforts.
3. **Respond** - When called to paid state active-duty status, the Cyber Response Teams, under the direction of the Adjutant General's Department will be available to respond to cyber incidents at eligible governmental entities and critical infrastructure.

<https://ohcr.ohio.gov/>



# The Ohio Cyber Reserve



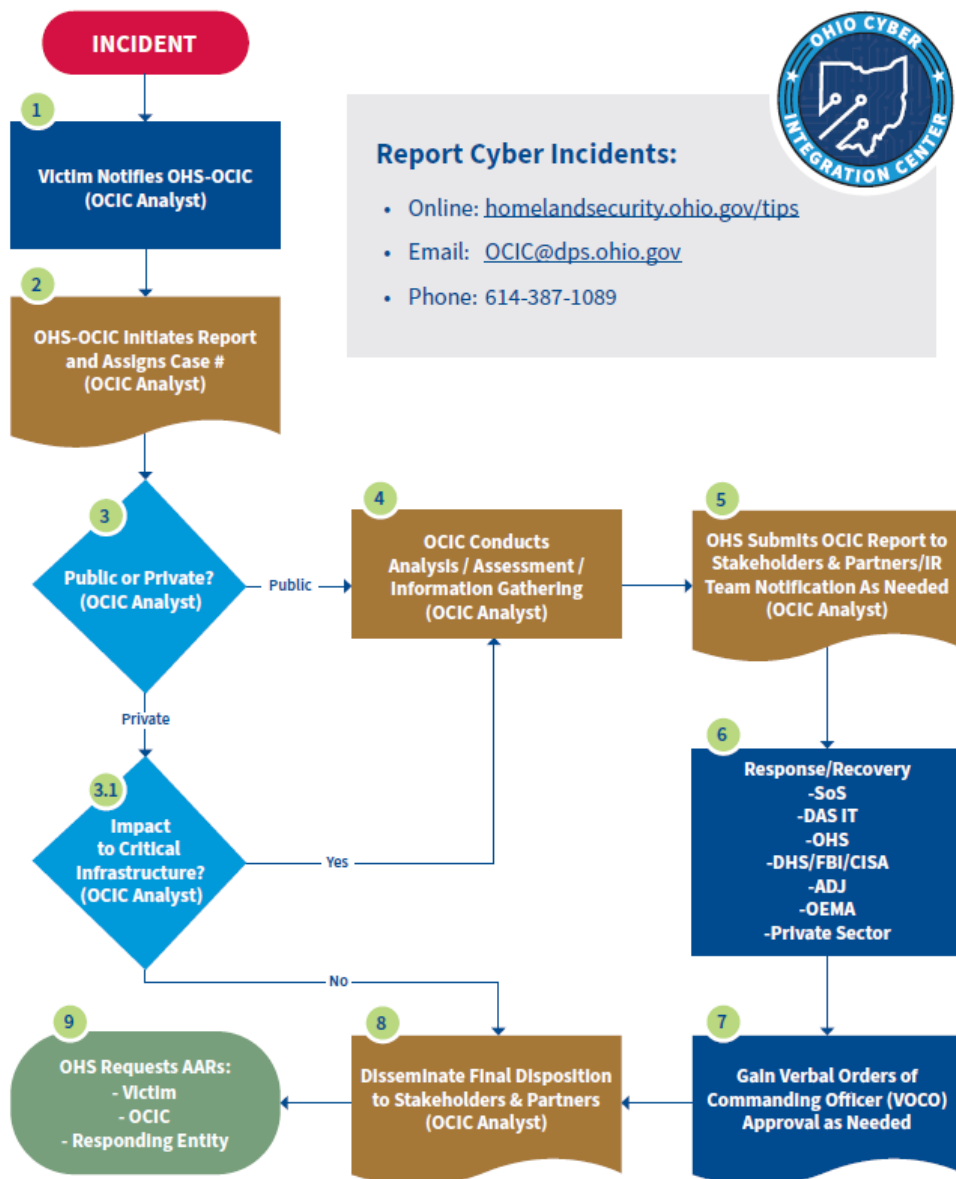
**Want to be a member?**

To join the OhCR or request assistance, go to <https://ohcr.ohio.gov/> or email: [OhioCyberReserve@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:OhioCyberReserve@ucmail.uc.edu)

For more information contact:

Craig Baker  
Program Administrator,  
Ohio Cyber Reserve (OhCR)  
2825 W Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus Ohio 43232-2789  
O: 614-336-7992  
[Craig.w.baker2.nfg@army.mil](mailto:Craig.w.baker2.nfg@army.mil)

## STATE CYBER INCIDENT RESPONSE



## STATE CYBER INCIDENT RESPONSE

- Step 1. Victim notifies OHS-OCIC**
- OCIC Analyst gathers information from incident victim
  - If CISA/EMA makes victim first contact, they shall inform OCIC Analyst, who will contact victim for updates
  - OCIC Analyst maintains communication with victim, updates as needed
- Step 2. OHS-OCIC Initiates report & assigns case#**
- OCIC Analyst assigns case#
  - OCIC Analyst sends Preliminary Email to Stakeholders
  - Incident Hour (I Hour) is time Zero (ADJ JOC starts tracking)
- Step 3. Public or Private? – Decision point**
- Step 3.1 Impact to Critical Infrastructure – Decision point**
- Step 4. OCIC conducts analysis/assessment/ information gathering**
- OCIC analyst develops plan based on current information
  - IR Team notification process started as needed
- Step 5. OHS Submits OCIC report to Stakeholders & Partners**
- OCIC Analyst sends final Course of Action (COA) email
  - If no message received by JOC at I+2, JOC requests updates on process from OCIC
- Step 6. Response/Recovery**
- Individual agencies plan/act as required by COA Email
- Step 7. Gain Verbal Orders of the Commanding Officer (VOCO) Approval as needed**
- Governor's Office is contacted and updated
  - ADJ receives VOCO as needed & initiates action
  - All other agencies respond per protocols
- Step 8. Disseminate Final Disposition to Stakeholders & Partners**
- All responding agencies report activities to OCIC Analyst
  - OCIC develops final report
- Step 9. OHS requests AARs**
- All involved agencies provide AARs on all activities

### INCIDENT INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

#### Organization Information

Organization Name  
Address  
County  
Phone  
Type of Organization

#### Contact Information (POC)

Name  
Title  
Phone  
Email  
Security Team

#### Number of Devices on Network

Does the network hold PPI?  
Does the agency have a LEADS device?  
If yes, has LEADS been informed?  
Date of most recent backup?

#### Incident Information

Date of incident (or when suspicious activity began)?  
Time of incident (or when suspicious activity began)?  
Type of incident?  
Have the infected devices been taken off the network?  
Have the infected devices been turned off\*?  
What has been done so far to mitigate the issue?  
Who else has been contacted about this incident?  
Does your organization have cyber insurance?  
If yes, has your insurance been contacted?

*\*Disconnected from the Internet is the best option, powering down will effect forensics of the device.*





## Other Pending State Programs:

- State aggregate purchasing program
- .GOV migration
- Local Cyber Protection Grants



<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>  
<https://cyber.ohio.gov/>

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT CYBER GRANTS

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) included provisions for SLCGP (State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program) to address cyber risks and threats to the information systems of state, local, or tribal governments. State of Ohio is matching with over \$10 million in-kind contributions.

## **Round 1: \$7million – Closed in September**

## **Round 2: Estimated \$5 million – Spring 2025**

Helping local governments purchase cybersecurity software, transition to a Dot Gov, and targeting collective defense arrangements.

Local government cybersecurity grants (Helps Defend and Recover)

Local government Dot Gov Domain Transition (Protects Websites and Prevents Fraud)

<https://cyber.ohio.gov/>

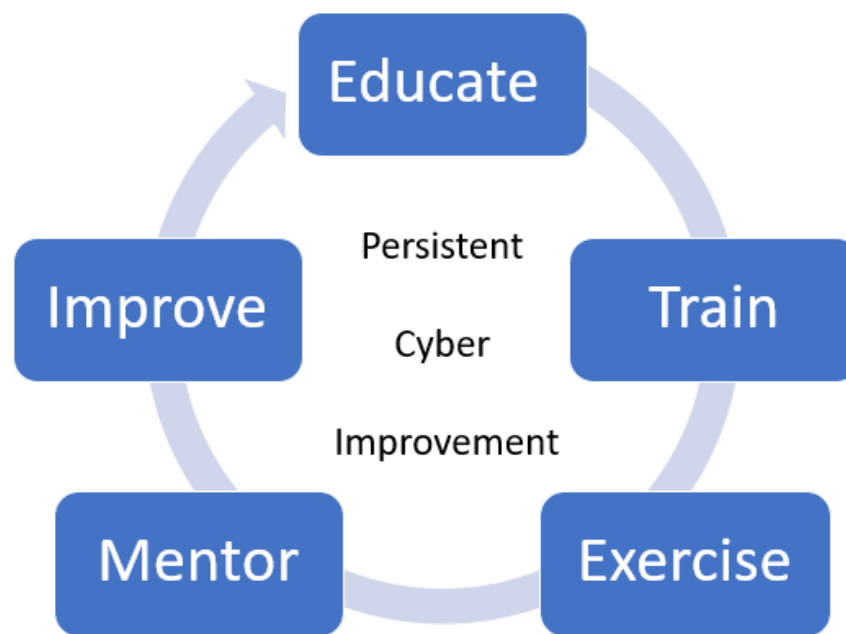




# Scalability of OC3 Efforts

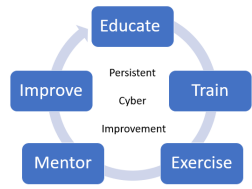
## Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement (O-PCI)

### Senior Leaders Brief





# Gateways



	Gateway 1 (Core)			Gateway 2 (Standard)			Gateway 3 (Advanced)		
	Classes	Products/actions	End Point	Classes	Products/actions	End Point	Classes	Products/actions	End Point
All Users	Cyber Awareness		Annual Cert	Cyber Awareness		Annual Cert	Cyber Awareness		Annual Cert
IT Professionals	Cyber 101	Cyber Inventory Best practices/NIST Internal Auditor	OhCR visit and review AAR	Cyber 102	Cyber anticipation/response recovery plan Continuity of Effort Plan TTX SOP/OPLAN Plan Manager	Usable Plans TTX AAR	Cyber 103	Red on Blue X plan	Complete Red on Blue AAR
Managers	Cyber 101	Cyber Inventory Best practices/NIST Internal Auditor	OhCR visit and review AAR	Cyber 102	Cyber anticipation/response recovery plan Continuity of Effort Plan TTX SOP/OPLAN Plan Manager	Usable Plans TTX AAR	Cyber 103	Red on Blue X plan	Complete Red on Blue AAR
C Suite	Cyber 101 Legal/Risk management	Internal Auditor Review Provide resources	Org. Badge	Cyber 102 Legal/Risk management	Cyber anticipation/response recovery plan Continuity of Effort Plan TTX SOP/OPLAN Plan Manager	Org. Badge	Cyber 103 Legal/Risk management	Red on Blue X plan	Org. Badge



**OHIO PERSISTENT  
CYBER IMPROVEMENT**



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SECURING THE FUTURE

# **Cybersecurity Frontline First Aid Kit (CFFAK)**

- **What is the Cybersecurity Frontline First Aid Kit (CFFAK)?**
- **The CFFAK is an online resource that guides Ohio local governments through basic cybersecurity actions such as asset inventory, data classification, updating software, implementing strong passwords, and educating staff about common threats.**
- **It provides immediate, actionable steps to enhance security and serves as a precursor to the more comprehensive O-PCI program. By implementing better practices contained in the CFFAK, you can advance your government's efforts towards robust cybersecurity, ensuring the protection of public services and maintaining public trust.**





**OHIO PERSISTENT  
CYBER IMPROVEMENT**



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INSTITUTE**  
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL,  
SECURING THE FUTURE

# **Cybersecurity Frontline First Aid Kit (CFFAK)**

- **How do I access this resource?**
- **To access the CFFAK, identify the organizational lead that will complete cybersecurity action steps by completing the form at [ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/cffak](https://ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/cffak). Completing this form prompts us to create an account for you on our online learning platform.**
- **Note: The organizational lead is often the IT Director, Manager, or equivalent. However, if your organization does not have a person in that role, it can be a department head, manager, or the designated liaison to a third-party IT vendor that you use.**
- **[www.ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/cffak](https://www.ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/cffak)**



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SECURING THE FUTURE

# Cybersecurity Frontline First Aid Kit (CFFAK)

- **What happens next?**
- **You'll receive a welcome e-mail from our online learning platform that will grant you access to the Cybersecurity Frontline First Aid Kit. We use this platform to organize the resource so that it is accessible and easy to apply in your work.**
- **The learning platform is located at [learn.ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org](https://learn.ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org)**
- **As you navigate through this resource, you will often see the Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement (O-PCI) design. The Cybersecurity Frontline First Aid Kit is a first step towards better cybersecurity, but we encourage all local governments in Ohio to complete the comprehensive O-PCI program that includes training for all the staff in your organization, from frontline workers to executives.**



**OHIO PERSISTENT  
CYBER IMPROVEMENT**

# Serving Ohio's Public Servants



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**OHIO PERSISTENT  
CYBER IMPROVEMENT**



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# Overview

- **Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement (O-PCI) Purpose**
  - Supporting local government entities and their staff in all of Ohio's 88 counties in building and sustaining their capacity to anticipate, adapt, withstand and, when necessary, recover from cyber aggression.
- **Delivered at no cost to Ohio-based Local Government Entities (LGE)**
  - Funded through the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the State of Ohio.
- **Persistent Cyber Improvement Model**
  - Includes a blend of online, hybrid, and in-person modules that are tailored to local government entities of all sizes as well as to the range of organizations that have a strong cybersecurity posture and those that are actively developing in this critical space.



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# How to Participate

1. Register at: <https://www.ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/opci>
2. County leadership will meet with OCRI staff to initiate the onboarding process, including review of training requirements, timeline, and review of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), and other required documentation.
3. Interested local government entities within a county will be onboarded into O-PCI through a combination of outreach by county leadership and OCRI staff to establish county-based cohorts of training participants.
4. Training begins on a mutually agreed upon start date once a cohort of local government entities are onboarded, MOU and NDA agreements are completed, and dependent on OCRI capacity.





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# More Information

- **Visit [ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/opci](https://ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/opci)**
  - All handouts are available on the site
  - 30 Minute webinar from December 2023 posted with FAQs
- **Reach out to your county government officials**
  - Interest from: Hocking, Jackson, Mercer, Fairfield, Holmes, Portage, Tuscarawas, Miami, Hamilton, Morrow, Lake, Ashtabula, Summit, Scioto, Cuyahoga, Lucas, Mahoning, Knox, Henry, Union, Washington
- **Connect with Us!**
  - [linkedin.com/company/ohio-cyber-range-institute/](https://linkedin.com/company/ohio-cyber-range-institute/)

# Ohio Cybersecurity for Small Business

**Free** cybersecurity training for all Ohio small businesses, created by The Ohio State University experts and funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

## Course Benefits:

- Enhance cybersecurity skills to **prevent, detect and respond to cyber threats**
- Improved ability to **safeguard sensitive data and systems**
- **Reduced risk of financial and reputational damage** from cyberattacks
- **Strengthened resilience and competitiveness** in the digital landscape



**240+** businesses have signed up and are in the process of certifying their employees.

Sign up here:  
**<https://osucybered.org>**

# Ohio Cybersecurity for Small Business Course Overview

**Gateway 1** of the cybersecurity training course provides a comprehensive overview of **essential cybersecurity principles** tailored for small business employees.

It focuses on **best practices**, **risk mitigation** strategies, and **foundational tools** to strengthen a business' cybersecurity posture.

Material covered in **Gateway 2**:

- **Ohio Data Protection Act**
- Regulatory compliance
- **Crown jewel** and risk assessment
- Implementing **controls** and policies
- Additional **in-depth information of Gateway 1 modules**

Both Gateways include **assessments** and **practical resources**, such as **detailed supplements** to help businesses develop **robust cybersecurity plans**. These include tools for creating **incident response plans**, conducting **security audits**, ensuring **continuity of operations**, and **more**.

Successful completion of Gateways 1 and 2 provides companies with artifacts to **reach CMMC** (Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification) **Level 1 compliance**, positioning businesses to meet **essential cybersecurity standards**.

Sign up here:  
<https://osucybered.org>



CyberOhio



U.S. Small Business  
Administration



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
CENTER FOR DESIGN AND  
MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE



## Resources you can use

- OC3 – <https://www.oc3.ohio.gov>
- Ohio Cyber Range – <https://ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org>
- Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement - <https://www.ohiocyberrangeinstitute.org/opci>
- Ohio Cyber Reserve – Respond - use ema process (Assist/Educate - [OhioCyberReserve@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:OhioCyberReserve@ucmail.uc.edu)) Join - <https://ohcr.ohio.gov/>
- Ohio Homeland Security - <https://homelandsecurity.ohio.gov/our-programs/ohio-cyber-program/ohio-cyber-program>
- Cyber Ohio - <https://cyber.ohio.gov/>
- CISA – <https://www.cisa.gov>
- FBI/NSA/Secret Service
- NIST – <https://www.nist.gov>
- NICE - <https://niccs.cisa.gov/workforce-development/nice-framework>
- Trusted vendors
- **Secure your home** - <https://www.nsa.gov/Press-Room/News-Highlights/Article/Article/3304674/nsa-releases-best-practices-for-securing-your-home-network>



# Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3)

OC3 is supported by a “whole of government” approach to ensure its success. Primary sponsors are the Adjutant General’s Department/Ohio National Guard, the Department of Higher Education, The Department of Education, The Department of Administrative Services, The Department of Public Safety, and The Department of Transportation.

OC3 has over 120 organizations who are active members who support the OC3 mission and objectives

<https://www.oc3.ohio.gov/>





# OHIO CYBER COLLABORATION COMMITTEE (OC3)

Ohio's cyber community working together to help Ohio's citizens and organizations achieve world class cyber security

## Points of Contact

### Primary

Mark Bell  
Cyber Security Outreach Coordinator  
2825 W Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus Ohio 43232-2789  
Phone 614-336-4903  
Mobile 614-256-2391  
Mark.a.bell16.nfg@army.mil



### Alternate

Craig Baker  
Program Administrator,  
Ohio Cyber Reserve (OhCR)  
2825 W Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus Ohio 43232-2789  
O: 614-336-7992  
Craig.w.baker2.nfg@army.mil