

CyberAI Educator Academy

The WHAT

The Towson University [Center for STEM Excellence](#) in partnership with the TU Cyber Center is excited to announce the CyberAI Educator Academy, a year-long professional learning experience (PLE) for middle and high school educators in Maryland. The Cyber AI Academy will build teacher capacity to integrate cybersecurity concepts into their courses with a focus on how AI is being used in the rapidly evolving field. Program participants will increase their capacity to engage students in learning about careers and post-secondary opportunities in cyberAI fields. The program is primarily designed for teachers with little to no cybersecurity/AI content knowledge.



Participants will complete a Classroom Implementation Project during the 2026-2027 school year that will give them an opportunity to design and implement cyberAI-related lessons in their subject area.

The HOW

The CyberAI Educator Academy is built around a 4-day summer professional learning experience (PLE) for teachers held on the campus of Towson University. The summer PLE will take place June 22 - 25, 2026. Each day of the summer PLE is designed around a cybersecurity/AI concept. PLE facilitators will include a mix of university faculty, graduate students and K-12 pedagogical experts. Participants will have the option of staying on campus (free) or commuting daily and meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) will be provided to both residents and commuters. Optional evening activities will include networking with colleagues, cybersecurity themed games and workshops.

During the summer session participants will begin working on their Classroom Implementation Project, creating two cybersecurity/cyberAI lessons they will use in their own classrooms. The following school year, participants will attend virtual webinars, implement cybersecurity lessons in their classrooms and receive support from colleagues, K-12 pedagogical experts as well as content experts. The year-long program will culminate in with the in-person Maryland Cybersecurity Conference in Spring 2027 where participants will meet, network and share the results of their Classroom Implementation Projects.

Participants will leave the program with increased knowledge and confidence about cybersecurity concepts, as well as ideas and ways to continue to engage their students in learning about cybersecurity and exploring career and post-secondary opportunities in the field.

Curriculum and training in this project are partially supported by the NSA NCAE-C under Grant No. H98230-24-1-0096 at Towson University.

The WHEN and WHERE

The CyberAI Educator Academy Professional Learning Experience schedule is listed below. Attendance at all events is mandatory.

- ★ **Maryland Cybersecurity Conference** (in-person)
 - Saturday, May 2, 2026 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at the TU Center for STEM Excellence (701 E. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21202).
- ★ **CyberAI Educator Academy** (in-person)
 - June 22 -June 25, 2026, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (6:00 pm -7:30 pm optional evening activities) at TU main campus (10 West Burke Ave, Towson, MD, 21252).
- ★ **2026-2027 School Year Events** (asynchronous)
 - Complete CyberAI Classroom Implementation Project
- ★ **Maryland Cybersecurity Conference** (in-person)
 - Saturday, May 1, 2027 from 10 am - 3 pm, in-person at the Towson University Center for STEM Excellence (701 E. Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202).

The WHY

Teachers who successfully complete the CyberAI program will receive a \$1,200 stipend, a new computer (which is theirs to keep), and (3) CPD credits (pending MSDE approval). In addition, program participants will be members of an active learning community with access to peers engaged in teaching about cyberAI, TU faculty cybersecurity content experts, K-12 pedagogy coaches, near-peer classroom mentors for their students and access to hands-on cybersecurity equipment loaner kits for classroom use.

The WHO

Any secondary teacher in Maryland with an interest in learning more about cyberAI and a willingness to design and incorporate cyberAI into at least two lessons during the 2026-2027 school year are welcome. Teachers from any subject area are invited to apply and participants do not need any prior experience or knowledge in cybersecurity or artificial intelligence.

The APPLICATION

[Applications available here.](#) Applicant's will need to request their principal's fill out a Principal Support Form and are responsible for forwarding this link to their principal: <https://forms.gle/b6j5qzS98tRDUQML9>. Early-bird deadline for applying is March 18, 2026 and early-bird applicants will be notified of acceptance no later than April 2, 2026.

Frequently Asked Questions

I'm a middle or high school teacher and I don't yet know anything about cybersecurity or artificial intelligence (AI). Can I apply? YES! Our program is designed for participants who know nothing (or very little) about cybersecurity and/or AI. The Cyber AI Educator Academy will introduce you to the fundamentals of cybersecurity and AI and provide opportunities for you to find connections between cyberAI and the subjects/courses you currently teach. Please email GenCyber@towson.edu if you have questions about the curriculum.

I already teach cybersecurity and/or AI. Will I learn anything new in this program? Our program is primarily designed for participants who have little to no experience in cyberAI. If you're already very familiar with teaching cybersecurity or AI, this program may not meet your needs. That said, our focus on pedagogy and career connections means those who already teach about cyberAI may still benefit from the opportunity to work with other teachers, learn from cyberAI experts and share ideas about teaching cyberAI. If you're unsure if this is the right opportunity for you, please email GenCyber@towson.edu to make an appointment to talk with one of the program instructors.

I'm an alum of the B'More Codes GenCyber program that was offered by Towson University. Am I eligible to apply for this program? The CyberAI Academy introduces teachers to many of the same foundational concepts that you learned in GenCyber. Because of this overlap, we will not prioritize applications from GenCyber alumni.

I don't live in Maryland. Can I still apply? We are only able to accept educators who teach in Maryland schools. If you live outside of Maryland, but you teach in a Maryland school you are eligible.

I want to apply, but I'm not sure about the residential aspect of the summer PLE. Do I have to stay on campus to be part of the program? The summer PLE is an intensive course designed to immerse participants in all things cyberAI for four full days with networking opportunities, games and workshops available during evening hours. Because of the immersive nature of the program, we are providing the option for all participants to stay on campus (at no cost) for the duration of the summer PLE. However, participants are welcome to commute each day if they prefer not to stay on campus.

Will I have to pay for room and board on TU's campus during the summer PLE? No. TU will cover all the costs of your housing. All participants (commuters and residents) will also receive free breakfast, lunch and dinner.

I'm worried that I will not get enough downtime during the intensive summer PLE, especially if I'm staying in a dorm with other participants. Will there be opportunities for participants to relax and take some time to themselves? Absolutely! While the summer PLE will be an intensive learning experience with long days, participants will be provided with breaks and time to themselves. Each residential participant will be assigned their own room (with possibility of having to share a bathroom with another attendee of the same gender, depending on which dorms are available).

What if I can only attend some of the required sessions. Can I still participate? All participants must attend all required sessions. This includes the Maryland Cybersecurity Conference (in May 2026 and

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May 2027) and four day days of the in-person summer PLE. If you're not able to commit to attending all sessions, you will not be able to participate in the program.

I don't teach a cybersecurity or AI course. Can I still apply? Yes! In fact, you're our target audience! We're looking for teachers from all subjects with a willingness to learn about cyberAI. As part of the program, you will be developing and implementing two cyberAI lessons with your students. Since you will be designing the lessons, you can make them fit into your existing course curriculum.

I'm unsure if this is the right opportunity for me. How can I find out more about the program to determine if it is a good fit for my professional learning goals? Reach out to Dr. Mary Stapleton at GenCyber@towson.edu. She can answer any questions and put in touch with cyberAI faculty who can provide more details on the curriculum and learning goals of the program.

I have a question that wasn't addressed in this document. Is there a real human being I can reach out to? Yes! Email Dr. Mary Stapleton at gencyber@towson.edu with your questions.



Center for
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