

## CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY CYLAB CALL FOR SPONSORS



Create a world where everyone has the opportunity to learn and practice cybersecurity skills for free



*PICOCTF WAS DESIGNED BY EXPERTS AT CMU TO INTRODUCE YOUNG MINDS TO THE PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS INVOLVED IN HACKING.*

Sponsoring picoCTF gives you an opportunity to build brand visibility among cyber-oriented students across the nation and the world at the beginning of their journey, as well as with Carnegie Mellon students and alumni. Sponsor dollars support continued outreach and development to:

- **Electrify young minds around cybersecurity, a critical need for any company today.**
- **Help build a pipeline of talent into the cyber workforce, which is struggling to hire enough people.**
- **Build your brand through association and support for the world's largest free security engineering education platform.**

### THE FUN, FREE WAY TO LEARN AND PRACTICE CYBERSECURITY

picoCTF gamifies cybersecurity education by providing a safe and unique hands on experience. Challenges are presented in a graduated onramp of puzzles where participants learn to reverse engineer, break, hack, decrypt, and think creatively and critically to capture the flags. picoCTF is proud to be the largest free cybersecurity learning platform in the world, with over 450K active learners.

### WHAT IS A picoCTF COMPETITION?

The picoCTF competition is an annual cybersecurity event designed for middle school, high school, and college students. It follows a jeopardy-style capture-the-flag format and is organized by renowned cybersecurity experts who have been seven-time champions in the DefCon "World Series of Hacking." The competition spans over two weeks, during which participants engage in solving various cybersecurity challenges that mimic real-world problems faced by security professionals today.

One of the main objectives of picoCTF is to encourage diversity in the tech field. The competition is web-based, and all that is needed to participate is a computer and an Internet connection. Thanks to the support of sponsors, picoCTF is free and open to everyone.

#### Why picoCTF?

- **Leverage education content developed at Carnegie Mellon University**
- Low technology threshold required to participate
- **Gamified learning**
- Options for users to **learn, practice, compete** year-round
- Challenge containerization provides a **safe environment** for hackers and developers
- Teacher-specific **tools** for monitoring student progress
- **Ethical hacking** skill development for the future workforce

*"I think picoCTF is going to change lives here at Kealing! It has been a tremendous learning experience for all of us. What surprises and pleases me the most is the level of interest from the girls."*

**ANITA JOHNSON**

TEACHER AT KEALING MIDDLE SCHOOL IN AUSTIN, TX

*"I went from being someone who had never even heard of Cybersecurity to being someone who dreams about it at night. Thank you so much for this experience!"*

**picoCTF PLAYER**

8TH GRADE





## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

FOR QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL  
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT  
MICHAEL LISANTI, DIRECTOR OF  
PARTNERSHIPS, AT [MLISANTI@CMU.EDU](mailto:MLISANTI@CMU.EDU)

### BASE SPONSOR \$10K

#### Base Sponsor benefits plus:

- Logo placement on picoCTF sponsors page
- Summary report on picoCTF competition
- Joint promotional opportunities

### PRESENTING SPONSOR \$25K

#### Base Sponsor benefits plus:

- Exclusively recognized as the "presenting sponsor" during competition award ceremony
- Invitation to attend the USA Middle/High School competition award ceremony at CMU in Pittsburgh
- Invitation to provide a quote for a web article

### CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE SPONSOR \$50K

#### Base Sponsor benefits plus:

- Special recognition as an underwriting sponsor of picoCTF infrastructure
- Invitation to attend the USA Middle/High School competition award ceremony at CMU in Pittsburgh

### 2024 COMPETITION CATEGORY SPONSOR \$50K-\$100K

#### Base Sponsor benefits plus:

- Exclusive logo on category scoreboard for duration of the competition and pre and post period (~ 6-12 weeks total)
- Hold your own award ceremony locally, and/or attend the USA Middle/High School competition award ceremony at CMU in Pittsburgh
- Sponsor to verify winners, and offer prizes or visits independently and at their own additional cost. Example of categories include country-wide or local geography Middle/High (Primary/Secondary) Schools or Colleges/Universities

### picoGym SPONSOR \$150K

#### Base Sponsor benefits plus:

- Exclusive logo placement in picoGym for 1 year. The picoGym is the program's practice space containing all challenges and games, which has the most activity throughout the year
- Invitation to attend the USA Middle/High School competition award ceremony at CMU in Pittsburgh