



CYBER@UC

BEARCATCTF

2027 SPONSORSHIP PACKET

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OVERVIEW

BearcatCTF is a 24-hour cybersecurity Capture-The-Flag competition hosted by **Cyber@UC**, a student-led organization at the University of Cincinnati. Held annually at the 1819 Innovation Hub, it brings students from UC and universities worldwide together to sharpen their skills, compete head-to-head, and win prizes.

Throughout the event we run educational seminars and a sponsor expo, giving partners direct, face-to-face access to motivated talent who have proven their abilities under pressure. Our challenges span the full cybersecurity skill spectrum, from cryptography and forensics to reverse engineering, OSINT, binary exploitation, and web, and scale from a competitor's first CTF to well beyond their fiftieth.

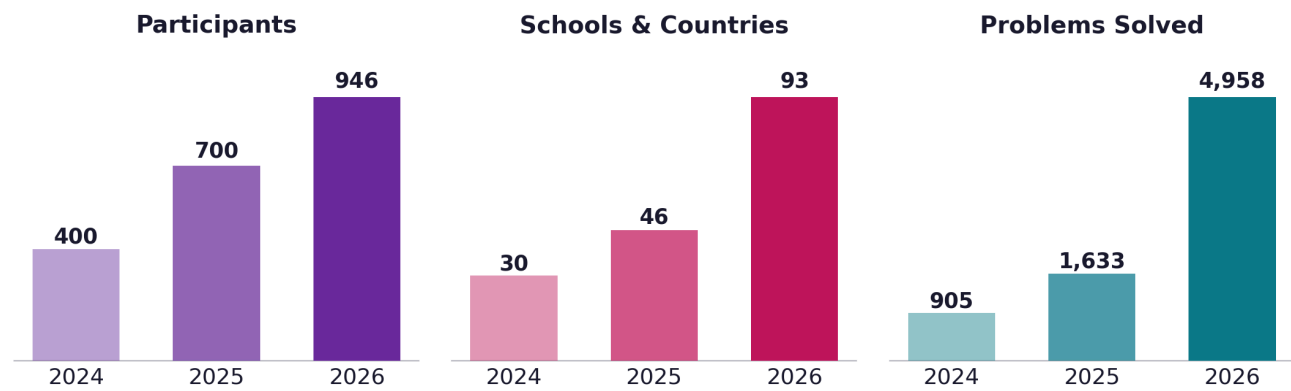
What started as a regional competition is now a globally-attended event. In our most recent year, BearcatCTF drew **946 competitors** who together completed nearly 5,000 challenge solves, with that reach still growing fast, as the next page shows.

BY THE NUMBERS

A RAPIDLY GROWING COMPETITION

BearcatCTF is scaling quickly. In just two years, participation has more than doubled, our reach has expanded to dozens more schools and countries, and total problems solved have grown more than fivefold.

YEAR-OVER-YEAR GROWTH



METRIC	2024	2025	2026
Participants	400+	700+	946
Schools & Countries	30	46	93
Problems Solved	905	1,633	4,958
Prize Pool	\$1,700+	\$1,900+	\$3,000

Over **200 competitors joined us in person** at the 1819 Innovation Hub, with the rest competing remotely from around the world. Competitors love our competition with **85% of survey respondents rateing the event 4 out of 5 or above**, and **80% said they are likely to return** next year. Our infrastructure and problem creation teams continue to improve every year and it shows through a smooth and well run competition.

WHY SPONSOR

Sponsoring BearcatCTF puts your company in front of hundreds of skilled students at the moment they are proving what they can do.

Test & Recruit the Best Talent Directly

Higher sponsorship tiers let you author your own challenge for the competition: put a problem from your own field in front of the room and see exactly who solves it and how. The competitors who crack it have pre-screened themselves for your team, and you recruit them face-to-face at the sponsor expo.

Your sponsorship delivers:

- **Brand visibility:** Your logo on event shirts, the event website, and in front of every competitor across hundreds of teams.
- **A dedicated booth:** At the career fair to talk with students about open roles and your work.
- **Thought leadership:** Host a technical workshop or deliver the kickoff keynote at the event.
- **Direct hiring pipeline:** Connect with emerging cybersecurity talent before they reach the broader job market.

With industry backing, we continue to bring new students into cybersecurity while ensuring our existing talent is fully prepared for the field.

PAST SPONSORS INCLUDE

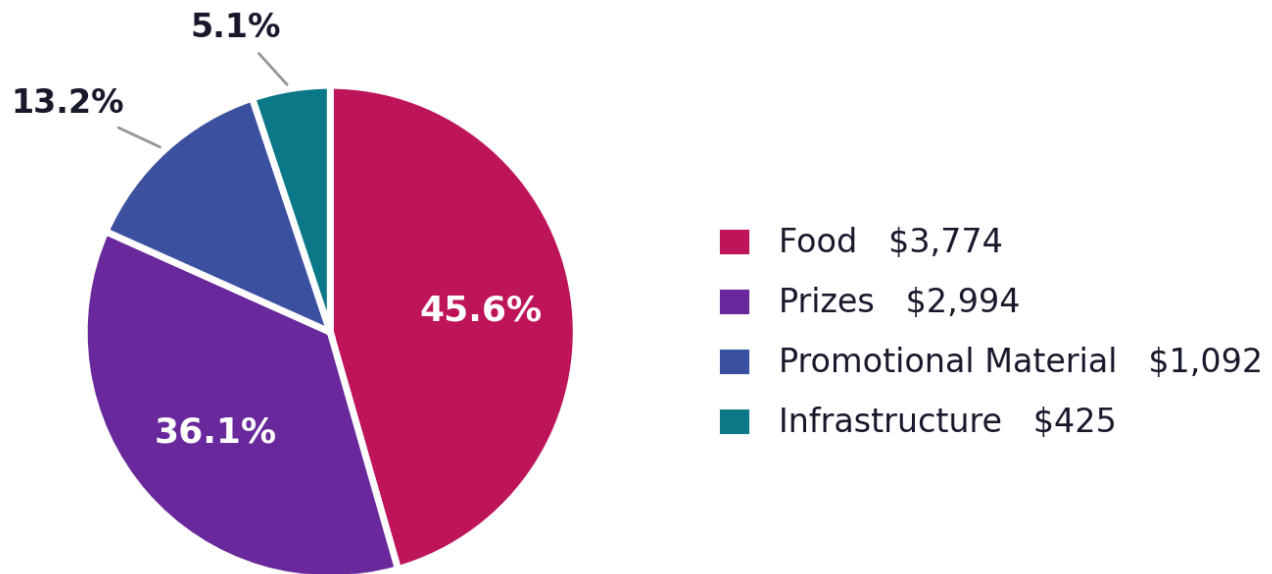
**Fifth Third Bank • Trail of Bits • Ohio Cyber Range
Institute • HII • Caesar Creek Software • ISSA**

YOUR INVESTMENT

WHERE YOUR SUPPORT GOES

Your sponsorship directly fuels the growth shown on the previous pages. Every dollar goes toward making the competition better for the students who attend.

2026 EVENT SPENDING



We are reinvesting in the areas that drive the most growth, and sponsorship lets us go further on each:

- **Bigger prize pools:** stronger prizes draw stronger competitors and raise the level of competition. Hardware like Flipper Zeros, Raspberry Pi kits, portable SSDs, and custom challenge coins gives winners real tools to keep building their craft long after the event. Our prize pool has grown every year, and we intend to keep that climb going.
- **College outreach:** expanding into more universities, bringing in fresh talent and broadening the audience your brand reaches.
- **More promotion:** better marketing to grow registration and in-person attendance year over year.
- **An improved on-site experience:** more activities and a stronger connection between remote and in-person competitors.

Sponsoring BearcatCTF means investing in a competition that is measurably growing. Your support positions your brand in front of that growth as it continues.

GET INVOLVED

SPONSORSHIP TIERS

Choose the level that fits your goals. Every tier puts your brand in front of our community, and higher tiers add booth space, the ability to author a challenge, workshops, and the keynote stage.

Benefit	Bronze \$500	Silver \$1,250	Gold \$2,250	Platinum \$5,000
Branding Logo on event shirts & website*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Career Link Link to your careers page or email	✓	✓	✓	✓
Career Fair Dedicated booth space		✓	✓	✓
Sponsor Challenge Author your own CTF challenge		✓	✓	✓
Host Session or Workshop Educational talk in your field			✓	✓
Keynote Talk at event kickoff				✓

*Complimentary sponsor shirt(s) available on request. Custom sponsorship arrangements are welcome; reach out and we'll tailor a package to your goals.

Ready to support the next generation of cybersecurity talent?

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