

# CYBERSECURITY IN RESEARCH & HIGHER EDUCATION



### What is Cybersecurity Awareness Month?

Cybersecurity Awareness Month is an annual event held every October to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity. Cybersecurity is the practice of protecting systems, networks, and data from digital attacks. These attacks can aim to change, or destroy sensitive information, extort money from users, or disrupt normal business operations.

This month long campaign focuses on fostering a culture of cybersecurity awareness in research and higher education institutions, aimed at better protect data, comply with regulations, and maintaining their reputation and financial stability.

### Cybersecurity Awareness in Research and Higher Education

#### Protection of Sensitive Data

Universities and research institutions handle a vast amount of sensitive data, including personal information of students and staff, research data, and intellectual property. Cybersecurity awareness helps protect this data from breaches and unauthorized access.

#### Safeguarding Research Integrity

Research projects often involve valuable and sensitive information that can be targeted by cybercriminals. Being cyber-aware, helps maintain the integrity and confidentiality of research data, preventing theft or manipulation.

#### Compliance with Regulations

Higher education institutions must comply with various data protection regulations, such as GDPR, FERPA, HIPAA, or GLBA. Cybersecurity awareness ensures that staff and students understand these regulations and adhere to best practice to avoid legal repercussions.

#### Preventing Financial Loss

Cyberattacks can lead to significant financial losses due to data breaches, ransomware attacks and the costs associated with mitigating these incidents. Awareness and proactive measures can help prevent such financial impacts.

#### Maintaining Institutional Research Reputation

A cybersecurity breach can damage the reputation of an institution, leading to a loss of trust among students, staff, faculty, and partners. Awareness and preparedness help maintain a positive reputation by demonstrating a commitment to security

## ✔ Enabling Safe Remote Work and Learning

With the increase in remote work and online learning, cybersecurity awareness is essential to protect against threats that arise from these environments, such as phishing attacks and unsecured networks.



## Educate and Train

Attend training sessions to increase your cybersecurity awareness knowledge. Caltech offers a couple of training classes that are available via [access.caltech](https://access.caltech.edu) in

### My Learn > Course Catalog > Computer Security:

- ✔ Cybersecurity Awareness Knowledge Pre-check
- ✔ Cybersecurity Awareness



## Next Week in the Series: The Art of Phishing