Are you a high school student in Missouri with a knack for problem-solving and a curiosity about the digital world? The Missouri High School Cybersecurity Challenge is your chance to dive into the exciting field of cybersecurity.

What is the Challenge?

This two-round competition is designed to give you hands-on experience in computer science, while giving you an advantage to explore careers in cybersecurity and other STEM fields. You'll learn to use the same professional security tools that protect banks, hospitals, and government agencies from cyber attacks.

How Does it Work?

- **Team Up:** Participate in teams of three, accompanied by an adult sponsor.
- **Round 1 (Jan. 19-21, 2027):** Online challenges that test your problem-solving abilities, research skills, and understanding of cybersecurity concepts through engaging challenges and puzzles.
- **Round 2 (Feb 17, 2027):** The top 10 teams from round one advance to an exciting in-person final in Columbia, MO. Here, you'll gain hands-on experience using real-world security tools in a virtual environment featuring Windows and Linux machines and servers.

Why Participate?

- **Develop Key Skills:** Enhance your problem-solving, research, and technical skills.
- **Authentic Learning Experience:** Engage with real cybersecurity tools and scenarios, not just theoretical concepts
- **No Prior Program Required:** While an understanding of security and computer networks is helpful, prior enrollment in a cybersecurity program is not necessary to participate. Whether you're a coding newbie or a tech wizard, this challenge will meet you where you are and push you to grow.

The Missouri High School Cybersecurity Challenge offers an unparalleled opportunity to learn, grow, and potentially kickstart a rewarding career in cybersecurity. Don't miss out on this chance to secure your future!

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