



SANS

Launched in 1989 as a cooperative for information security thought leadership, it is SANS' ongoing mission to empower cyber security professionals with the practical skills and knowledge they need to make our world a safer place.

We fuel this effort with high quality training, certifications, scholarship academies, degree programs, cyber ranges and publicly available resources to meet the needs of every cyber professional. Our data, research and the top minds in cybersecurity collectively ensure that individuals and organisations have the actionable education and support they need.

Our instructors are experienced practitioners who also excel in mentoring others. They are respected leaders in cyber who share research, tools, and incident analysis with the world, and bring practical, collaborative expertise to our community. Not only have these individuals proven their expertise in the field, but they have also demonstrated extraordinary ability to train others to advance their own capabilities. Our instructors make it possible for SANS and GIAC to deliver on our mission to prepare and deploy the next generation of cyber security professionals. They, along with our students and community contributors, make SANS the engaging, high-quality educational organisation that it is.

The SANS Capability

The SANS cyber security training portfolio has been developed over a period of 35 years and is now regarded as the gold standard in its field by national governments, armed forces, and fortune 500 companies throughout the world.

Unlike other training providers, the purpose of the SANS training is to enable our delegates to take what they have learnt and be able to implement their knowledge in the workplace, as opposed to simply passing an exam.

At SANS, we have four core objectives:

- Develop Skills
- Retain Talent
- Reduce Risk
- Protect Assets

Expertise in digital services and delivering digital training services: Over the last 15 years, our online offering has been continually improved and refined to improve the learning experience. Over 6,000 professionals choose to train online with SANS, and our online Security Awareness Programme boasts 7 million users annually.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, approximately 30% of all SANS training was delivered online. Response to the pandemic resulted in a shift to 100% virtual delivery. Resources were re-allocated within SANS to support this shift. SANS invest millions of pounds per year into improving the functionality and user experience of our online delivery platforms.

These investments have allowed us to implement changes with minimal disruption to students.

SANS Programme Approach

SANS' dedicated Programmes Team have been designing, implementing, and monitoring a range of initiatives, which aim to raise awareness of security careers, improve prospects for individuals, provide theoretical and hands-on training for practitioners and strengthen the security of local employers and nations. The UK-based team provide bespoke programmes to the private sector, military organisations, and Governments with the UK, Europe, and the Middle East.



Partners: clients, mentors, employers or students

			
			
			

The team aim to understand the main objectives for the client, which often include providing key skills related to a specific cybersecurity discipline, or job function, enabling cybersecurity certification and supporting individuals into employment. Once the main objectives are understood, SANS propose a solution utilising existing and, in some cases, bespoke training, certifications, extra-curricular support, and engagement with industry, meeting their requirements for delivery within a specific budget, timeline, or training format (online, in-person or a mixture).

Previous Government Programmes include:



Administration and Compliance

SANS also have access to additional in-house resources to support the successful delivery of this contract. Legal Counsel and Data and Compliance teams can oversee contract, data sharing and protection requirements.

The SANS Solution

The 2024 SANS | GIAC Research Report, a first-of-its-kind survey, analysed the cybersecurity workforce with the goal of identifying the key factors to successfully build high-performing cybersecurity teams.

The survey polled HR and cybersecurity leaders across a wide range of industries and company sizes. 57% of respondents were part of large organizations, defined as having 1,000+ employees. Nearly half of all respondents indicated that they provided cybersecurity services or cybersecurity products; the other half from companies that need cybersecurity to keep their company safe.

The key takeaways from that survey, offered no real surprises but, formally confirmed our understanding of industry and Public Sector views, in that:

High-Performing Teams Are Built Through Training

- *The most effective strategy for developing high-performing cybersecurity teams is to hire mid-level staff with strong cybersecurity fundamentals on a particular work role and then provide training to meet specific job requirements, primarily through certification-based training.*

A Blend of On-the-Job Training and Certification of Skills is Needed

- *A balanced blend of on-the-job training and certification-based training, with a preference for immersive approaches, is found to be the most efficient method for effective team building.*

Certification-Based Training Is Preferred by Employers

- *Employers value hands-on training that leads to certifications, as it helps ensure that potential team members possess the necessary skills to excel in their roles before hire.*

Investment from Senior Management Is Essential

- *Senior management should consider allocating more resources, both in terms of budget and their own education and awareness, to address current market inefficiencies.*

SANS Training Formats

In-Person:

SANS live training events feature SANS instructors teaching multiple courses at a single location, with classes throughout the year in major cities across the world. These events offer students the chance to study in a focused environment without distraction but perhaps most importantly, they offer a direct access to SANS's world-leading Instructors.

SANS OnDemand:

Designed to offer convenient and flexible online cyber security training on your terms. Students who use our OnDemand training option are able to avoid travel, learn from the best in the business, and study at their own pace. You can train anywhere and anytime with 4 months of online access to the

OnDemand platform and mobile app. Certified Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) will be available throughout the course via email or Live Chat.

Live Online:

All the features of SANS classroom-based training events, without the need to travel. Instructor-led training over 1 or 2 weeks with courses available across multiple time zones. SANS Live Online represents our most interactive online training option, with classes taught via engaging, live-streamed sessions with expert SANS instructors. Students can access all of the same content, real-time instructor guidance, bonus sessions and learning results that you would receive in person.

SANS Instructors

SANS instructors are active professionals in the field. They are guaranteed to have real world experience and are up-to-date on the latest trends in the industry. This is a tremendous benefit when dealing with an industry that's constantly evolving.

However, not only have these individuals proven their expertise in the field, but they have also demonstrated extraordinary ability to train others to advance their own capabilities.