

Thank you for celebrating Cybersecurity Month with the MassCyberCenter



Dear Valued Partners:

Thank you for celebrating Massachusetts Cybersecurity Month with the MassCyberCenter team.

Since its inception six years ago, Massachusetts Cybersecurity Month has seen a surge in training and awareness events statewide. This growing momentum has fortified digital defenses across communities, with this month-long celebration becoming a strategic asset in safeguarding the state's economic infrastructure. By equipping residents, schools, municipalities and businesses with the tools to detect and deter cyber threats, Massachusetts is proactively defending its innovation economy, protecting critical services and ensuring long-term economic stability in an increasingly digital world.

Massachusetts treats cybersecurity not just as a technical priority, but as a cornerstone of economic resilience. By investing in cyber education, workforce development and public-private collaboration, the state is building a robust digital shield around its innovation sectors, small businesses and critical infrastructure.

One example of ecosystem collaboration is the “**Cybersecurity 101**” Webinar, presented by the MassCyberCenter and the [Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation](#). This webinar introduced consumers to the basics of best cybersecurity practices, including how to improve safety online and avoid scams. By learning how to recognize phishing attempts, create strong passwords and protect personal information, individuals can serve as the first line of defense against cybercrime. These practices will help safeguard their own data and the broader digital economy.

At the MassCyberCenter, our team continues to collaborate closely with the state's cybersecurity ecosystem to expand programs that build cyber resiliency, strengthen workforce development and meet the evolving needs of organizations across Massachusetts. By cultivating a skilled cyber workforce and empowering institutions to defend against digital threats, the MassCyberCenter is reinforcing the stability and competitiveness of the Massachusetts innovation economy. The Cybersecurity Month events and announcements below highlight how protecting our digital infrastructure is essential to protecting our economic prosperity.

On Behalf of the **MassCyberCenter**,



John Petrozzelli



CYBERSECURITY IS ECONOMIC SECURITY

Massachusetts
Cybersecurity Month
October 2025



2025 marked the sixth year of [Massachusetts Cybersecurity Month](#). This October, top cyber firms, universities, research and development (R&D) centers and more, across the ecosystem hosted several events and showcased programs highlighting the importance of cybersecurity to inform and engage public sector leaders.

This year's theme "**Cybersecurity is economic security**" underscored the critical connection between strong cybersecurity practices and the economic health of Massachusetts businesses and communities.

Click below to watch a video from Governor Maura Healey recognizing Cybersecurity Month:



Resources

**Cyber Resilient MA Grant Program - MDR
Now Available**

Funding for Managed Detection and Response (MDR) services remains available for municipalities, small businesses, and nonprofits under the MassCyberCenter's [Cyber Resilient Massachusetts Grant Program](#). The program provides grants of up to \$25,000 to fund MDR services from CyberTrust Massachusetts for up to three years.

The CyberTrust Massachusetts Security Operations Center (SOC) provides MDR with the support of [SentinelOne](#). This essential cybersecurity service positions organizations to detect and respond to cybersecurity threats and includes the following:

- Managed 24x7 Endpoint Detection and Response
- Network Discovery
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Active Directory and Entra Hygiene
- Active Directory Identity Protection
- Software and Asset Inventory

[CyberTrust Massachusetts](#), a nonprofit organization, is also currently piloting several new capabilities, with planned rollout in early 2026. These new capabilities include zero trust solutions for improved application and identity protection, log and alert management to integrate surveillance of critical assets, and advanced AI-based email protection solutions to defeat increasingly sophisticated attacks.

Applications will be reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis and must include a scope of work for MDR services from CyberTrust Massachusetts. To obtain a scope of work, municipal applicants should email muni@cybertrustmass.org; small business and nonprofit applicants should email smb@cybertrustmass.org.

Click the button below for more information.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

2026 Cybersecurity Awareness Program - Applications Now Open

The Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) has opened applications for the 2026 Cybersecurity Awareness Program. The Office of Municipal and School Technology (OMST) manages this program to improve the cybersecurity posture of municipalities through end-user training, evaluation, and simulated phishing campaigns.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Cyber Month Events Recap

2025 Massachusetts Cybersecurity Forum



On Monday, Oct. 6, the MassCyberCenter team hosted the ninth annual Massachusetts Cybersecurity Forum at the State House, where stakeholders from the private and public sectors across the state gathered to showcase the vibrant cybersecurity ecosystem and highlight Massachusetts as a national cybersecurity leader.

Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MassTech) Deputy Director and Chief Investment Strategist Ben Linville-Engler's opening remarks centered on the success of the MassCyberCenter's Security Operations Center (SOC) and Cyber Range Initiative, specifically how it supports the state's cybersecurity ecosystem and workforce development initiatives. He also announced a \$300,000 grant to the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UMass Lowell) to build a SOC on its campus.

The first panel session explored the critical role cybersecurity plays in safeguarding the defense industrial base (DIB), a cornerstone of national security and economic strength. Panelists from UMass Lowell, Wingbrance, Ciseve, and CyberTrust Massachusetts discussed how targeted workforce development and innovation are essential to protecting defense-related supply chains and infrastructure. The panel emphasized the need for specialized cybersecurity talent capable of addressing the unique challenges faced by defense contractors and manufacturers, including compliance with federal standards like the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC).

The second panel session focused on the evolving cybersecurity landscape for small businesses in Massachusetts and how they are adapting to protect their operations and customers. Panelists from the Massachusetts Small Business Development Centers, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Massachusetts Retailers Association and the Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED) discussed the growing threats facing small enterprises and how these risks can have devastating financial and reputational consequences, especially for businesses with limited resources. By investing in cybersecurity, small businesses are protecting assets, reinforcing customer confidence, and contributing to the state's broader economic stability.

Attendees also participated in a lively round of Ctrl-Alt-Destruct, a cybersecurity-themed card game that brings humor and camaraderie to the world of IT. Designed to reinforce cyber concepts in an entertaining way, the game invited participants to compete, collaborate, and laugh their way through fictional cyber mishaps and quirky scenarios. It was a refreshing reminder that even in a high-stakes field like cybersecurity, there's room for fun, creativity, and connection.

The MassCyberCenter team would also like to thank everyone who made the Forum possible — state leadership, speakers, panel moderators, panelists, and the [Massachusetts Cybersecurity Strategy Council](#).

In the News

Photo Gallery

MassCyberCenter at the Center for Advanced Manufacturing's 2025 Mash-Up



The MassCyberCenter proudly participated in the Center for Advanced Manufacturing's (CAM's) [2025 Massachusetts Manufacturing Mash-Up](#), held on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at Gillette Stadium. This dynamic event brought together the entire manufacturing ecosystem, including startups, educators, students, and industry leaders to tackle today's toughest challenges and drive tomorrow's growth.

At the MassCyberCenter's booth, the team engaged with hundreds of attendees navigating the intersection of manufacturing and cybersecurity, offering insights, resources, and connections to help them strengthen their operations and safeguard

their innovations. It was a great opportunity to showcase how cybersecurity is essential to the future of advanced manufacturing in Massachusetts.

"Cybersecurity 101" Webinar

"Cybersecurity 101"

Presented By:



On Friday, Oct. 10, the MassCyberCenter was proud to partner with the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation Deputy Undersecretary David Martin and his team to present the "Cybersecurity 101" webinar.

The webinar introduced consumers to best cybersecurity practices, including how to improve safety online and avoid scams. Some of these practices include information and guidance on passwords, multi-factor authentication, backups, software updates, safe online browsing, how to identify if one of your accounts has been found in a data breach, and how to create a personal incident response plan.

[Watch the Recording](#)

MassCyberCenter at the Government Technology's 2025 Public Sector Cybersecurity Summit



The MassCyberCenter team and its programs were represented at Government Technology's Massachusetts 2025 Public Sector Cybersecurity Summit on Thursday, Oct. 30 in Worcester. MassCyberCenter Director John Petrozzelli moderated a panel on strengthening government IT resiliency, and MassCyberCenter Senior Program Manager Max Fathy spoke on a panel focused on advancing the cybersecurity workforce.

The MassCyberCenter's SOC and Cyber Range Programs were also featured, with CyberTrust Massachusetts CEO Peter Sherlock moderating a panel on managing vulnerabilities and emerging tech risks and CyberTrust Massachusetts Director of Cyber Range Programs Meghan Martinez leading an interactive tabletop exercise scenario on the Immersive Cyber Range platform.

Interactive Map of 2025 Cyber Month Events

Thank you to all of the organizations that made Massachusetts Cybersecurity Month 2025 a success.

Click the image below to find an interactive map that highlights additional event recaps, resources, and media coverage from the month.

MASSACHUSETTS CYBERSECURITY MONTH OCTOBER 2025				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 CYBERSECURITY FOR OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PRESENTED BY MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2 DAY OF SHECURITY.	3
6 2025 MA CYBERSECURITY FORUM	7 SVP BOSTON CYBER SECURITY "CYBERSECURITY FOR BUSINESSES FOR NONPROFITS" PANEL HOSTED BY WEBINAR MAIN STREET BANK	8	9 WESTERN MASS CYBERSECURITY CONFERENCE	10 PATH OF THE ISO WEBINAR PRESENTED BY MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
13	14 "CYBERSECURITY 101" WEBINAR WITH OCABR	15 MASS. MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION "CYBERSECURITY FOR MUNICIPALITIES" WEBINAR	16 2025 BOSTON CYBERSECURITY SUMMIT	17 SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY CYBER RANGE SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE
20 WOMAN IN TECH WEBINAR PRESENTED BY MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	21 TUFTS UNIVERSITY "COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS DAY ON CYBERSECURITY"	22 2025 MASSACHUSETTS STEM WEEK	23	24
27	28 2025 WATER SECTOR CYBERSECURITY MEETING.	29 THE FUTURE OF THE ROBOTICS WORKFORCE WEBINAR PRESENTED BY MASSBAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	30 GOVTECH PUBLIC SECTOR CYBERSECURITY SUMMIT	31

Stay connected and keep the momentum going. Follow us for updates, resources, and ways to stay cyber smart year-round.



If you have any questions, please email the [MassCyberCenter](#) team.

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