Cyber Academy South Dakota

February 25, 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR: Cyber SD Academy Cadets (Foundations Course)
FROM: Max Kravets, 2nd Lt., CAP
SUBJECT: Cyber Academy Welcome Letter

Dear Cadet(s),

Congratulations on your selection to attend the 2026 Cyber Academy (CNCA) in South Dakota. The purpose of the Cyber Academy is to expose cadets to potential government, military and civilian careers that support computer cyber operations. Likewise, cadets are exposed to ideals of leadership and service through aerospace education and training. Dakota State University is a National Center of Excellence and the gateway to the best career exploration in IT and Cyber Security. You will spend a week exploring computer cyber career fields. Activities include classes by the top computer cyber and private sector professionals.

Please read this detailed Welcome Letter in its entirety.
All sections are important and there are immediate action items you'll need to complete to retain your slot in this activity.

PRECOURSE WORK: The foundations course does not require any pre-course work.

ACTIVITY TITLE Details Overview: Activity Director Contact Information
If you have questions about this activity, please contact:
ACTIVITY DIRECTOR: 2nd Lt. Max Kravets
EMAIL ADDRESS mkravets@mncap.org
PHONE 952-201-0505
Foundations Course Cyber Academy SD
Dates: 06 Jul -12 Jul 2026 Cadets
Address: 820 Washington Ave N, Madison, SD 57042
Time Zone: Central Time Zone
Activity Cost: 500.00

Action Needed: Accept OR Decline Your Slot in Writing by March 14 (For Summer)
To accept your slot:

- Please email 2dLt Max Kravets at mkravets@mncap.org with the subject line: Slot Acceptance Foundations Course Cyber Academy SD.
- In the body of the email, confirm you plan to attend.

To decline your slot:

- Please go to Registration Zone and cancel your application for Foundations Course Cyber Academy SD.
- Send a courtesy email to 2nd Lt. Max Kravets at mkravets@mncap.org notifying the staff you have cancelled.

It's ok if you change your mind and decide that this activity is not a good fit for you. We simply ask your courtesy to take action and decline your slot. This helps us offer that slot to another cadet on the alternate list.

Thank you for communicating in a timely manner. If you do not communicate any action by March 14, we will assume you are declining your slot.

Payment Policies (Summer)

- Important payment dates:
  - Standard Payment $500.00 is accepted Apr 1-14
  - Late Payment $600.00 is accepted from Apr 15-22
- You must pay online in Registration Zone using PayPal or a credit card.
- If you haven't paid your tuition by April 22, National will unslot you on April 23 and you will be at the bottom of the alternate list.

Due to the complex nature of National Cadet Special Activities, no refunds are available after April 30.

If you were a Lift/Top financial assistance recipient OR Activity Scholarship recipient, you will have already been notified via email and your relevant tuition payment will have been entered in Registration Zone at the time you were slotted. Please check your activity card in Registration Zone to see if you have any balance due.

TRAVEL ITINEIRARIES:

The **Sioux Falls Regional Airport** for arrival and departures. Travel itineraries are due no later than ***1 May 2026***. Please inform your travel coordinator of the travel information below as these are the only pick-up times available for our activity.

- Please email your travel itinerary to 2nd Lt. Max Kravets at mkravets@mncap.org no later than 1 May 26.
- In that email, please include your method of travel, arrival date and time and departure date and time.

Travel Rules and Expectations

Students may arrive/depart from the following locations for this activity:

If you are flying commercially:

- You must fly into and out of Sioux Falls Regional Airport (IATA)
- Your flight must arrive between 1000 and 1300 on 6 Jul 26
- Your flight must depart between 1400 and 1730 on 12 Jul 26
- These timelines are firm. We only have drivers and vans available within these timelines on Arrival and Departure dates.
- We are not able to accommodate Unaccompanied Minors. We do not have the resources to participate in the Unaccompanied Minors program.

If you are being dropped off/picked up by personal car:

- If you are being dropped off/picked up by personal car:

- Please arrive at 820 Washington Ave N, Madison, SD 57042 at 1300 on 6 Jul 26 In processing starts at 1300hrs.
- Please depart at 820 Washington Ave N, Madison, SD 57042 at 1300 on 12 Jul 26 Out processing starts at the completion of the graduation and the refreshments on Sunday.

If you are driving yourself, you will be expected to turn in your keys upon arrival.

Lodging Cadets will be staying at the Zimmerman Hall at DSU,. The cost of lodging and meals is included in your activity fee. **The snack and soda machines in the lobby of the hotel are off limits to the cadets.** Cadets may bring up to $20 in cash for purchases at the Base Exchange, we might be able to go if time in the schedule permits. Two cadets of the same gender will share a room that contains two beds.

Meals
All meals are included in your activity tuition.
If you have prescribed dietary restrictions, allergies or food-related accommodations requests, please ensure all of that information is entered and up to date in CAP Health in eServices. For activities where meals are provided on military installations:

Activity Expectations
- National Cadet Special Activities are fun, but intentional learning and career exploration experiences.
- You will be busy with programming from early morning through the evening.
- We expect you to be fully engaged in the activity, with your wingmen, senior staff, guest speakers and instructors.
- Expect that you will not be on the internet or with access to your phone. (Unless an Emergency)
- Set expectations with your friends and family that you will generally not be available by text, email or social media while at this activity. Upon arrival to the activity you will text your parents telling them you arrived safely and then all phones will be locked up and will be returned on the date of graduation from the activity.

Updating CAP Health
You were required to update CAP Health to register. You will be required to update CAP Health within 30 days of the activity start date. Please be sure to include any updates to medical history, and proactively communicate with the Activity Director, especially new injuries. Injuries may not prevent you from attending, but we need to prepare for your arrival and prepare for any assistance.

Example: I'm going to ABC activity, and I recently twisted my ankle. I'm currently on crutches. I should tell the AD about my injury because this activity involves a lot of walking.

Example: A cadet takes medication that needs to be refrigerated. This information should be included in CAP Health so the HSO understands this need and can have productive conversations with families.

Grooming Standards
National Cadet Special Activities are premier opportunities for cadets to learn, network and grow as youth leaders. At these activities, you represent the Civil Air Patrol. A professional appearance is required. Please ensure that you meet grooming standards per CAPR 39-1 prior to arriving at your activity. Failure to meet grooming standards will result in your being sent home at your own expense. Activity staff do not have waiver authority.

Uniforms for Activity

Cadets- Will wear ABUs, or an OCP uniform as long as it is complete. You will be given these details in the schedule for each uniform for wear. Senior Members- ABU or an OCP uniform, **Blue Polo and Gray Slacks (preferred)**

Packing List Will be sent along with the Welcome Letter.

Restricted Items
The packing list will have all prohibited items listed. **Laptops for this activity will be provided. You can bring your own, but it's not necessary.**

Communication
The activity staff will communicate with you via email. Please monitor your email and be responsive to anything related to the activity. If we ask you to take action, we need you to take care of it right away and no later than the deadline stated. Deadlines are there for a reason; please don't be the person that holds up an entire activity.

If you have a different email address that is your primary, please update your eServices profile and notify 2dLt Kravets immediately with your updated contact information.

Graduation Requirements
Completion of the following requirements means you graduate this activity and earn the NCSA ribbon Cadets must fulfill the following requirements to be eligible for graduation from the CNCA-SD and to wear the activity patch and NCSA ribbon on their uniform:



- Participate ***actively*** in all of the course's activities, including attentiveness during lectures and briefings and contributing meaningfully and regularly to discussions.
- Successfully complete any **pre-arrival course work.**
- Pass rate of **80%** for any quizzes.
- Demonstrate a high degree of professionalism and commitment to the Core Values throughout the course, as judged by the CNCA staff.

Graduation Ceremony
There is a graduation ceremony on 12 Jul 26 at 1000 hrs. We will have light snacks and refreshments and then cadets will be signed out of the activity and change into civilian clothes and ready either for transport to the airport via a CAP Van or released to parents and travel home by private auto. **Ensure you sign out of the activity prior to leaving.**

The staff and I look forward to a wonderful week and the privilege of sharing this learning opportunity with you.

Sincerely,

Max Kravets
Max Kravets, 2nd Lt., CAP
Activity Director, Cyber Academy South Dakota CNCA-SD
mkravets@mncap.orgmkravets@mncap.org
952.201.0505