

# Microsoft DreamSpark (MSDN) User Guide



#### **SECTION ONE**

What is MSDN?



www.uscyberpatriot.org



#### Microsoft Educational "Storefront"

- Microsoft Imagine Cup is a Cyber Diamond sponsor of CyberPatriot
- Under its sponsorship, Microsoft allows fully registered CyberPatriot participants to access and use MSDN (Microsoft Developer's Network), also known as DreamSpark
- MSDN is an educational "storefront" through which users can "shop" for and download free Microsoft products
- Most products come with 2-year license keys
- MSDN is an extremely generous program and a very useful tool for teams that want to create their own practice images and access other Microsoft software

#### **SECTION TWO**

**Account Creation and Activation** 

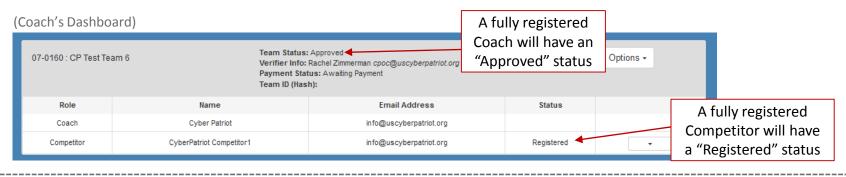


www.uscyberpatriot.org



- MSDN access is only granted to (or renewed for) Coaches, Mentors, Team Assistants, and Competitors <u>fully registered</u> for the current season of CyberPatriot
- You can check your registration status by logging into <a href="https://www.uscyberpatriot.org">www.uscyberpatriot.org</a> and viewing your Dashboard.\* Coaches can also check the registration status of their competitors from their Dashboard (see respective screenshots below)
- More information on the Coach and Competitor registration processes is available here
- More information on the Mentor/Team Assistant registration process is available <a href="here">here</a>

\*You should also receive automated emails notifying you when your status has been updated. If you have not been receiving these emails, check your spam and add info@uscyberpatriot.org to your approved senders list.



Welcome Cyber Patriot

Mentor Status: Approved

Edit Profile Create Team Find Team Change Password

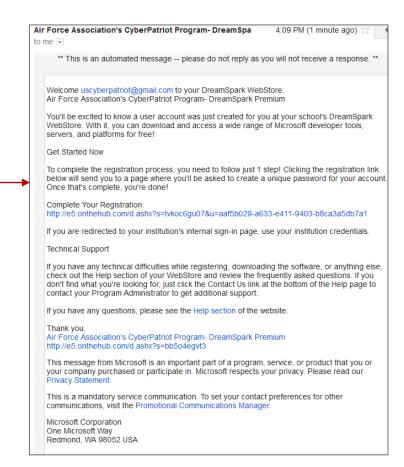
A fully registered Mentor/Team Assistant will have an "Approved" status

Change Password



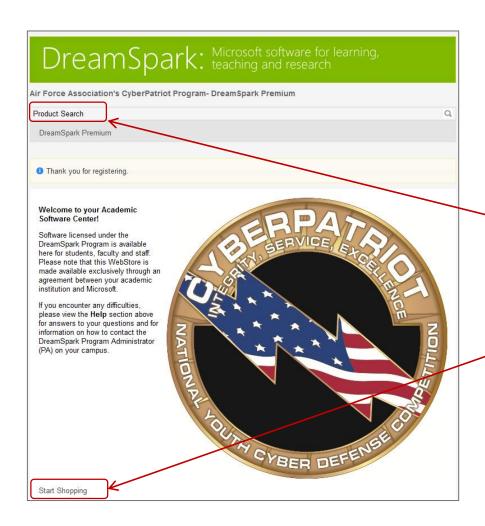
#### Activating Your Account

- MSDN accounts are issued/renewed in batches twice a week for newly approved Coaches, Mentors, and Competitors
  - You should expect up to a 3-business-day lag between when your CyberPatriot registration is approved to when your MSDN account is issued
- New CyberPatriot participants will receive an email from an @kivuto.com address with instructions for activating their accounts
  - Check your spam folder if you are fully registered and have not received the email
- Returning participants will not receive an email notifying them their account has been renewed.
  - You should be able to log into your old account 2-3 business days after your registration status for the current season has been marked "Approved"
- After registering, you will be logged into the MSDN site. Bookmark this site for easy access





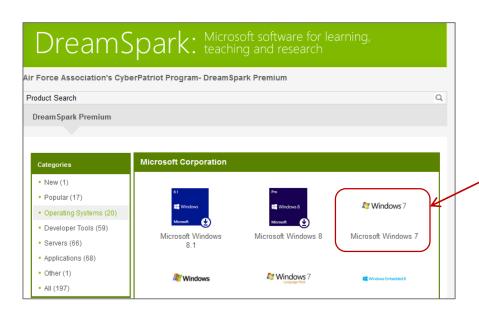
## Navigating MSDN



After logging in to the site, click the "Start Shopping" link to browse available software titles or search for specific programs using the search bar



# "Purchasing" Software



1. Click on a program to view details

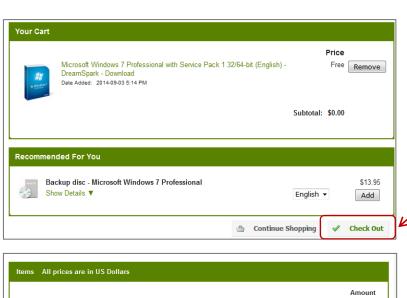


2. On the next screen, add the program to your cart

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# "Purchasing" Software (cont.)



Microsoft Windows 7 Professional with Service Pack 1 32/64-bit (English) - \$0.00

Subtotal: \$0.00
Taxes: \$0.00
Total: \$0.00

Contact Information Fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required

First Name\*
CyberPatriot
Program Office
Email\*
uscyberpatriot@gmail.com

Proceed With Order

Proceed With Order

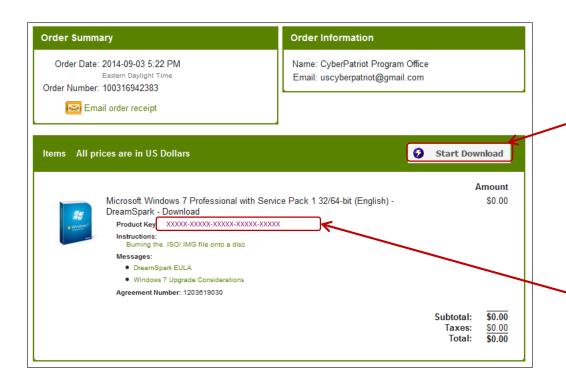
3. From your shopping cart, click the "Check Out" button

4. Read and accept the terms of service and other messages on the on the next few pages

5. Review your order and "Proceed"



# Downloading and Activating Software



Immediately download the product from the confirmation page or download it later from the link in the confirmation email you receive after you purchase the product\*

\*Note: You may be prompted to install MSDN's Secure Download Manager (an .msi file and an .sdx file). Allow both of these files to run

Make sure to keep a record of your Product Key, so you can activate the program after installing it

#### **SECTION THREE**

**How to use MSDN Programs for Training** 



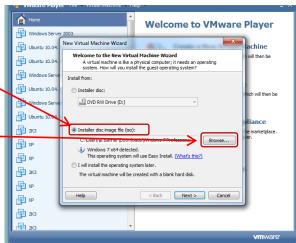
www.uscyberpatriot.org



## Creating an Image from MSDN

- Download an operating system file from MSDN. It will be a .iso file.
- Open VMWare Player and click "Create a New Virtual Machine."
- Choose to install from "Installer disc image file (iso) from the window that pops up
- Click browse and navigate to where you download the image on your machine –
- Click "Next



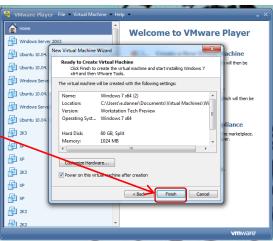




## Creating an Image from MSDN (cont.)

- Enter the product key you obtained when you downloaded the file to activate the operating system.
- Select the version of the operating system you want to install. (Note: Professional versions and higher are more often used in CyberPatriot)
- The next few slides windows specify system resources for the image. The default settings will work well, but can be changed.
- Once resources have been specified, click Finish on the last window.
- In the VMware library, you can now highlight your new image and select Play Virtual Machine







## Creating Your Own Unscored Practice Images

- Using a Windows image you downloaded from MSDN or using an Ubuntu image (freely available at www.Ubuntu.com, create your own practice image by following these steps:
  - 1. Open the image in VMWare Player as outlined on slides 11 and 12
  - 2. Go through the system and replace the default settings with weaker ones (e.g. turn off the firewall, add several non-password protected accounts)
  - 3. Keep a list of the changes you make as you go
  - 4. When you have added all of the vulnerabilities you want to use to test your students, shut down the image
  - 5. Have your students restart the image you just created and find and fix the vulnerabilities you planted
  - 6. Evaluate your students' performance using the list of changes you kept while creating the image\*

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<sup>\*</sup>This is the simplest, quickest way to create an unscored practice image. Texas A&M Corpus Christi has created a Windows 7 scoring client to help CyberPatriot teams automatically score their own images. If you want to automatically score a Windows 7 image you have created using that scoring client, follow the instructions here: http://www.uscyberpatriot.org/competition/trainingmaterials/practice-images