Julio Pochet –   
Module 8.2 Assignment: Bug Bounty

# 🐛 What Is a Bug Bounty Program?

A bug bounty program allows ethical hackers to report security flaws in a company's software in exchange for a reward. Companies set rules, define the testing scope, and pay bounties for valid findings.  
  
- Hackers test live systems within legal boundaries  
- Rewards depend on severity and impact of bugs  
- Helps catch vulnerabilities before attackers do

# ✅ Advantages

- Cost-Effective: Pay only for real results  
- Access to Global Talent: Researchers worldwide can contribute  
- Find Bugs Faster: Especially the ones that internal teams may miss  
- Improves Trust: Shows customers you prioritize security

# ⚠️ Disadvantages

- Legal Risks if program rules aren’t clearly defined  
- Low-Quality Reports or spam from unskilled testers  
- Requires Internal Resources to validate and respond to reports  
- Sensitive Bugs Could Leak if not handled properly

# 🏢 Companies That Use Bug Bounty Programs

- Google – https://bughunters.google.com  
- Meta (Facebook/Instagram) – https://www.facebook.com/whitehat  
- Microsoft – https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/msrc/bounty  
- Tesla, PayPal, Intel, Uber, GitHub, Apple

# 💬 Summary

Bug bounty programs are a smart way to boost security by involving the global ethical hacking community. When well-structured, they help companies discover vulnerabilities early, save money, and build stronger products.