Technology has become a crucial tool to improve higher-education student experiences and educational outcomes. However, as the use of technology has expanded across universities and colleges, so has the pervasiveness of cybersecurity threats and crimes.

In fact, institutions have experienced a significant increase in ransomware attacks, which account for over 30% of all breaches. Additionally, the education industry faces a high number of threats due to system intrusion, miscellaneous errors and basic web application attacks. Combined, these four factors represent 80% of all breaches in education.¹

Keeping your students, faculty, administrators and campuses safe from the constantly evolving cyberthreats can be a significant challenge, especially with tight budgets and limited IT staff. You need a security and technology partner who truly understands the challenges you face and who can bring a vision for transformation.

With more than 25 years of experience in threat intelligence and security solutions, as well as our experience working with higher education institutions like yours, Verizon is your ideal partner to strengthen, secure and modernize your network to mitigate threats and safeguard student, faculty and university data.

Be prepared and know your cyber risks.

Your university or college holds a wealth of valuable data, making it a tempting target for cybersecurity threats. Meanwhile, 80% of all breaches involve the human element, including social attacks, errors and misuse.¹ Failing to implement security measures to protect that data can erode student trust and safety. It can also have a major impact on your budget and expenses.

Understanding the risks and threats specific to your institution is important. Verizon offers higher-education institutions a wide range of remote and onsite cybersecurity assessments to help you evaluate your risk posture. Specifically designed to provide an objective review of your cybersecurity controls and practices, these solutions can help you prepare for, recognize and respond to today’s threats and risks. As part of these assessments, our experts comb your systems and networks to find weaknesses before unauthorized users do.

Additionally, our assessments apply objective, evidence-based and collaborative methods to provide you with a written report on the test outcomes, quantitative scores on how well prepared your institution is against threats, and recommendations on how to strengthen your security and reduce your existing risks.

A wide range of assessments is available to meet your needs:

- Internal Vulnerability Risk Assessment
- External Vulnerability Risk Assessment
- Web Application Assessment
- Phishing Assessment
- Wireless Assessment
- Cybersecurity Policy and Procedure Assessment
- Email Security Assessment

61B+ security events and 500 M incidents (on average) monitored each year

25+ years of industry experience

6 digital forensics labs located around the world

600+ cases worked on average for customers worldwide each year
Protect your vital infrastructure and applications.

Distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks were the most common attack pattern across the nearly 24,000 security incidents analyzed in the 2022 Data Breach Investigations Report (DBIR), representing one of the leading causes of incidents within higher education. Fortunately, DDoS is also one of the easiest types of attack to mitigate effectively.

Verizon DDoS Shield helps you protect your internet-facing websites, applications and infrastructure from DDoS attacks. As a cloud-based service, it can handle today’s sophisticated and high-volume DDoS attacks, working across your institution to help you keep your campuses operating smoothly so you can enjoy more peace of mind.

Rapid Response Retainer can help you:

- Tackle risk proactively by helping you assess your response capabilities and deploy detection solutions to better prevent, mitigate and respond to cybersecurity incidents.
- Respond smarter by augmenting your response with assistance from our security experts and our VTRAC investigative capabilities.
- Control costs by putting a retainer service in place before an incident occurs, while also minimizing the added costs that would come from taking more time to contain a breach and recover from its effects.

Why Verizon?

Verizon is your partner, committed to helping you build secure connected campuses. We have more than 25 years of industry experience, nine security operations centers, six forensics labs and one of the largest IP networks in the world. A recognized leader in managed security services, we monitor billions of security events (on average) each year to improve our threat library and inform our teams. Our world-class team of security experts is always ready to help you meet your security challenges.

Verizon can help you strengthen, secure and modernize your network infrastructure to mitigate and respond to threats. Our security solutions and experienced consultants can help you combat today’s most destructive cybersecurity threats. We can help you with your institution’s security transformation journey, bringing the network, innovative solutions, and expertise in security and higher education to keep your university securely connected.

Get ahead of threats.

Your university relies on data, systems and networks to operate. Experiencing a data compromise can create significant exposure and risk. The faster you respond to a security breach—and the more you prepare for incidents and breaches—the better.

However, creating a strong incident response plan isn’t easy. The Rapid Response Retainer provided by our Verizon Threat Research Advisory Center (VTRAC) can help your university get ahead of cyber risk to responsibly and holistically secure data and systems so you can quickly contain threats and recover from breaches. It gives you proactive incident response capabilities customized to your cyber-risk profile—so you can get back to normal operations as quickly as possible.

Learn more:

To find out how Verizon can help your institution better protect against today’s threats, contact your Education Subject Matter Expert or your Government Account Manager, or call 855.343.7283.