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## 10 Back-to-School Cybersecurity Tips

By Corey Sipe, Associate Editor | Sep 8, 2022

Cybersecurity (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/category/cybersecurity/>), Policies and Training (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/category/policies-training/>)

**Updated: Sep 13, 2022**

Now that schools and colleges have started up their academic year, it's important to stay protected electronically. Security professionals who work in educational settings should teach students and staff how to properly safeguard themselves from cybersecurity threats whether they are using institutional computer equipment or are bringing their own smart devices such as smartphones, smartwatches, tablets, and laptops.



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Below are 10 tips from the National Cybersecurity Alliance (<https://staysafeonline.org/>) that security professionals should share with students and staff. For more tips, see the group's guides on K-12 Online ([https://staysafeonline.org/online-safety-privacy-basics/k-12-online-learning/?utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmi=224309041&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9kY\\_7bmYSOzOXzzfIDPpT8-7Y2pYrJDTmZKkHcCx\\_hourOyruZa0axK-e\\_2fwwkw0hvY2rUXRg257aQuNssZ8aDHPvXKUkyp11dz6-Nbg02FXPBK0&utm\\_content=224309041&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://staysafeonline.org/online-safety-privacy-basics/k-12-online-learning/?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=224309041&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9kY_7bmYSOzOXzzfIDPpT8-7Y2pYrJDTmZKkHcCx_hourOyruZa0axK-e_2fwwkw0hvY2rUXRg257aQuNssZ8aDHPvXKUkyp11dz6-Nbg02FXPBK0&utm_content=224309041&utm_source=hs_email)) Learning ([https://staysafeonline.org/online-safety-privacy-basics/k-12-online-learning/?utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmi=224309041&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9kY\\_7bmYSOzOXzzfIDPpT8-7Y2pYrJDTmZKkHcCx\\_hourOyruZa0axK-e\\_2fwwkw0hvY2rUXRg257aQuNssZ8aDHPvXKUkyp11dz6-Nbg02FXPBK0&utm\\_content=224309041&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://staysafeonline.org/online-safety-privacy-basics/k-12-online-learning/?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=224309041&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9kY_7bmYSOzOXzzfIDPpT8-7Y2pYrJDTmZKkHcCx_hourOyruZa0axK-e_2fwwkw0hvY2rUXRg257aQuNssZ8aDHPvXKUkyp11dz6-Nbg02FXPBK0&utm_content=224309041&utm_source=hs_email)) and Higher Education Online Learning ([https://staysafeonline.org/resources/higher-education-online-learning/?utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmi=224309041&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9j8UbQxxxTt-RwE2sXCa0joflijLnMIFufks4UbfBENZjJ34NHrKH-vLBzIN3PQ4qkQPxXM9inE\\_GpZ3N14p5KJAbQdjPuKNHsGmzqjXpc8ljVAU&utm\\_content=224309041&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://staysafeonline.org/resources/higher-education-online-learning/?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=224309041&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9j8UbQxxxTt-RwE2sXCa0joflijLnMIFufks4UbfBENZjJ34NHrKH-vLBzIN3PQ4qkQPxXM9inE_GpZ3N14p5KJAbQdjPuKNHsGmzqjXpc8ljVAU&utm_content=224309041&utm_source=hs_email)).

**1. Protect Your Information:** Be careful when giving out personal details online such as addresses, phone numbers, usernames, passwords, birthdates, and Social Security numbers. This is important so you can protect your identity from being stolen.

**2. Don't Click on That:** When dealing with people you don't know, avoid clicking on links in emails, text messages, and direct messages. Doing so could be a huge cybersecurity risk, as it could load a virus onto your device. Security professionals should strongly encourage staff and students to forward suspicious messages or attachments to them.

**3. Apply Some Caution:** Ensure apps are legitimate before downloading them. Some apps can be malicious. Most smartphones on the market today are either iPhones or Androids. While experts report that Apple's iOS operating system for iPhone is more secure since it is a closed system while Android has an open-source code, it is possible to get a virus with either type of smartphone. Check to see who made the app, look at user review feedback, and research any articles online about the app's security features.

**4. Protect Your Computer:** Keep all your smart devices with you all the time. When you can't, or when using institutional computers, utilize locking features that require a PIN, password, or a biometric like a facial scan or fingerprint.

**5. Use a Password Manager:** Use capital letters, lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols that would be hard to guess, and save that in the manager. The manager allows passwords to be automatically randomly generated. It also prevents having to remember complex passwords and eliminates the need to write them down.

**6. Run Antivirus Software:** Security professionals should ensure that all institution-owned computers have antivirus software. Students and staff should check with security professionals to see if there is software the school has that they can install on their personal devices.

**7. Don't Forget to Update:** Security professionals should ensure that all institution-owned computers have the latest versions of security software, web browsers, operating systems, and programs. Students and staff should ensure their personal smart devices are updated as well. Many cybersecurity threats happen due to vulnerabilities that are later patched through manufacturer updates.

**8. Use MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication):** This offers a second step to secure accounts in case someone who is malicious gets ahold of your password. An example of an MFA is a text message with a code sent to your cell phone number that you must enter online when you log in along with your password. Many banks and financial institutions have MFA.

**9. Know the Privacy and Security Settings:** Security professionals should be careful to set proper settings for users of their computers and their Wi-Fi networks. Students and staff should review the privacy and security settings of their social media accounts.

**10. Clean Up Before You Go:** Before leaving a shared computer at an institution that you have been using, be sure to clear it of nonpublic information and remove any printouts of personal information at public workstations. It is best that everyone has their own log-in profiles when sharing computers.

By following these steps, students and staff members can ensure that they will have a safe and productive year whether they are attending an elementary school, middle school, high school, or university.

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Download this free report to learn seven steps to protect your facility from workplace violence.

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This report is sponsored by the **Total Security Summit**, an event specifically organized for VPs, Directors, and Managers of Security who are directly concerned with their facility's security and safety operations.

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### **Security Industry Association Surpasses Milestone of 100 SIA OSDP Verified Products**

**(<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/security-industry-association-surpasses-milestone-of-100-sia-osdp-verified-products/>)**

The Security Industry Association (SIA) announced a major milestone in its SIA OSDP Verified initiative – that over 100 device models have been named OSDP Verified through the comprehensive program, which validates device conformance to the SIA Open Supervised Device Protocol (OSDP) standard. SIA OSDP standard is an access control communications protocol standard maintained by SIA to improve interoperability, add [...]



(<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/gxo-boosts-security-with-asylon-dronedog-and-aerial-drone-system/>)

## **GXO Boosts Security with Asylon DroneDog and Aerial Drone System (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/gxo-boosts-security-with-asylon-dronedog-and-aerial-drone-system/>)**

GXO Logistics, Inc., the world's largest pure-play contract logistics provider, announced that it has deployed advanced air and ground security robotics at one of its major distribution centers in Clayton, Ind., and plans to significantly increase deployment of automated security systems across other sites within the next year. This would be the largest air and [...]



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## **SIA Announces Founding Members of Utilities Advisory Board Steering Committee (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/sia-announces-founding-members-of-utilities-advisory-board-steering-committee/>)**

The Security Industry Association (SIA) is pleased to announce the first members of its Utilities Advisory Board Steering Committee. SIA created the Utilities Advisory Board to offer insight and education to security practitioners, members of the security industry and other stakeholders about emerging security trends, regulatory compliance issues, and recommended practices for protecting utility infrastructure. The steering committee members, [...]



(<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/security-industry-association-names-alice-disanto-as-2022-committee-chair-of-the-year/>)

association-names-alice-disanto-as-2022-committee-chair-of-the-year/)

## Security Industry Association Names Alice DiSanto as 2022 Committee Chair of the Year (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/security-industry-association-names-alice-disanto-as-2022-committee-chair-of-the-year/>)

SILVER SPRING, Md. – The Security Industry Association (SIA) has named Alice DiSanto the 2022 recipient of the SIA Committee Chair of the Year Award, which recognizes individuals for excellence in leading SIA committees and advancing member objectives. SIA will present DiSanto with the award at The Advance, SIA's annual membership meeting, which will be held March 22 during [...]



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## ISC West Experiencing Continual Growth Heading into March 2022 Event (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/isc-west-experiencing-continual-growth-heading-into-march-2022-event/>)

ISC West, in collaboration with premier sponsor Security Industry Association (SIA), continues to experience steady growth for the upcoming event, and will be taking place just less than two months away on March 22-25, 2022 at the Venetian Expo in Las Vegas (SIA Education@ISC: March 22-24 | Exhibit Hall: March 23-25). After initial reports of [...]

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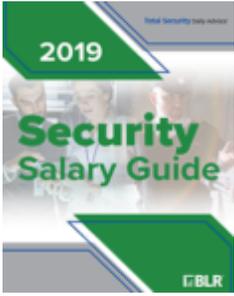


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## 3 Tips for Mitigating Campus Security Threats (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/3-tips-for-mitigating-campus-security-threats/>)

Our world is full of threats both external and internal. This whitepaper encourages looking at life safety and security measures on your campus from another perspective. Most facilities have addressed access control and the securing of main doors, but those should be measures of last resort. There are steps you can take — some that you may not have considered — to mitigate the threat before it arrives at your front door.



(<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/total-security-salary-guide-2019/>)

## Total Security Salary Guide

### **(2019) (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/total-security-salary-guide-2019/>)**

The 2019 Total Security Salary Guide is here to help physical and technical security employers and employees understand where they stand in today's security job market. This Salary Guide includes not only salary and wage data from 2017 to 2018, but also certification information as it applies to 20 benchmarked exempt and nonexempt security positions.

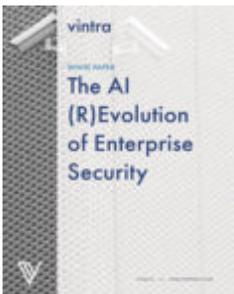


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### **Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Video Surveillance (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/artificial-intelligence-and-the-future-of-video-surveillance/>)**

A proliferation of cameras has resulted in an overwhelming amount of video available to security operators, analysts and investigators. Technology that used to be prohibitively priced, is now cheap and readily accessible.



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## **The AI (R)Evolution of Enterprise Security (<https://totalsecurityadvisor.blr.com/resource/the-ai-revolution-of-enterprise-security/>)**

Learn how to protect your people, assets and physical spaces better with AI-powered solutions that deliver whole-building security.

### **SOCIAL TIMELINE**

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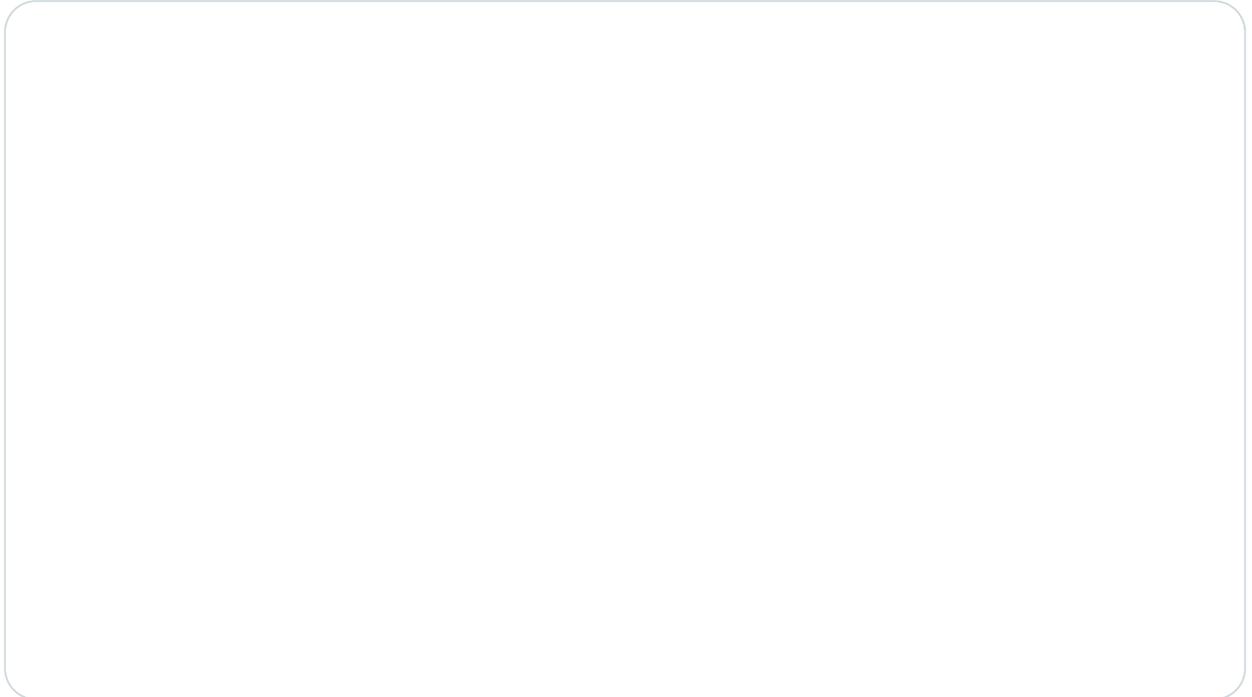
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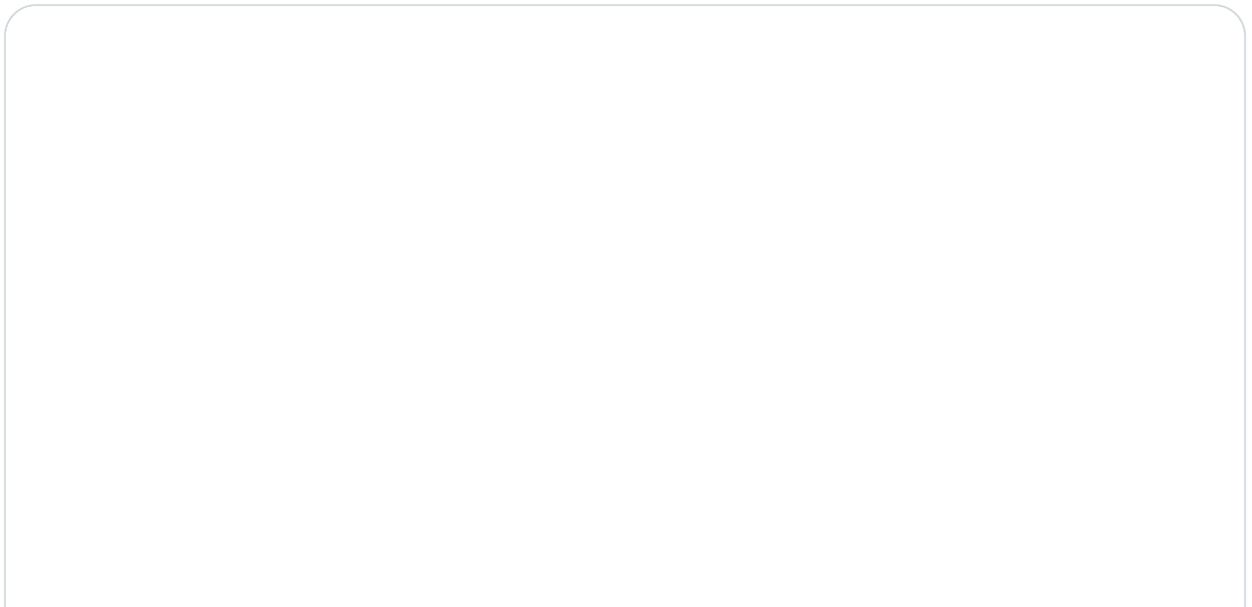


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"Embracing #AI Is Key to Combatting Evolving #Cyber Threats." Read article here: [bit.ly/3JmT8dv](https://bit.ly/3JmT8dv) 📄

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