

Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Program Preparedness

The Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Program in Title 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 170 implements the required security measures necessary to safeguard Federal Contract Information (FCI) and Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) to help protect U.S. Department of Defense programs. The security requirements are designed to satisfy the requirements that a contract will specify (CMMC levels 1-3) that will need to be achieved and maintained during the entire contracts period of performance.

The CMMC Program Requirement will flow down in subcontracts, when applicable, in a phased approach after the draft Title 48 CFR Part 204 is executed as a final rule (estimated to occur in mid-2025.) Once CMMC is fully implemented, DoD contractors and sub-contractors, handling FCI and CUI (excluding commercial-off-the-shelf procurements) will be required to have the specified CMMC level (1-3) identified in the solicitation as a condition of winning a contract award.

The National Defense Information Sharing & Analysis Center (ND-ISAC) has released the "C3PAO Shopping Guide for Small & Medium-Sized Businesses", created by the ND-ISAC Small Medium Business Working Group, designed to help organizations like yours navigate the CMMC Level 2 assessment process. This guide provides a structured approach to evaluating Third-Party Assessment Organizations (C3PAOs), ensuring you make informed decisions when selecting assessors. It includes a scoring tool to simplify comparisons and streamline your path to certification.

As part of the Defense Industrial Base, who will likely store, process or transmit CUI, your proactive engagement in achieving CMMC Level 2 compliance is crucial. By starting now, you can address potential challenges early, enhance your cybersecurity posture, and ensure your eligibility for future contracts.

Adhering to [DFARS](#) requirements currently in-place will ensure your continued participation in DoD contracts in the future.

Feel free to download these valuable resources:

- [*C3PAO Shopping Guide*](#)
- [*CMMC C3PAO Scoring Spreadsheet*](#)
- [*CMMC Program Information*](#)