



A new requirement for all United States Department of Defense suppliers and contractors, Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) is a crucial part of ensuring national security!

CYBERSECURITY MATURITY MODEL CERTIFICATION (CMMC)

The Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) 2.0 is a recently-revised verification method put in place by the United States Department of Defense (DoD). This certification is part of the Department's efforts to set clear requirements for contractors when it comes to cybersecurity. The goal of CMMC is to implement an appropriate level of cybersecurity across the supply chain of the Defense Industrial Base (DIB). The DIB supply chain includes more than 300,000 companies, all of which are responsible for protecting unclassified information (CUI) under the CMMC.

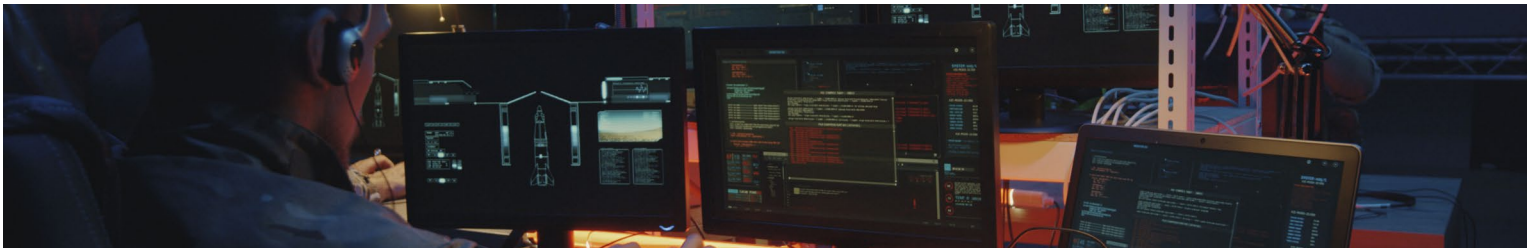
Version 2.0 of the Certification Model, introduced in November 2021, simplifies what was previously five tiers of requirements into three. This consideration was made based on a number of factors, including the cost burden on small businesses, companies not in control of CUI, and other points involving support of the warfighter or strategic command.

CMMC will define 3 levels of cybersecurity readiness, which all US DoD contracts will invoke on the DIB supply chain. It is estimated that over 300,000 DIB contractors will be affected throughout the roll-out, with the majority requiring a Level 1 or Level 2 certification.

What are the different CMMC levels?

There are three levels of CMMC certification, corresponding to different cyber security processes and practices. The three levels are:

- **Level 1: Foundational** - Companies with FCI only, requires protection but not critical to national security. This level requires annual self-assessment and 17 practices in place.
- **Level 2: Advanced** - Companies with CUI. Requires annual self-assessment for select programs and triennial third-party assessment for critical national security information. Aligned with NIST SP 800-171, requires 110 practices in place.
- **Level 3: Expert** - The highest priority companies with CUI that must be assessed by the government directly. Requires 110+ practices in place based upon NIST SP 800-172.



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