



Understanding Facility Clearance

A facility clearance is not just about classified material; it is the process by which a company and its people are vetted appropriately from a National Security perspective.

Authority: The National Industrial Security Program (NISP) was established by Executive Order 12829 to **ensure cleared U.S. industry partners safeguard the classified information** in their possession while performing work on contracts, programs, bids, or research and development efforts.

What is a Facility Clearance? It is an **administrative determination**, from a National Security standpoint, that **a company and its people** are eligible for access to classified information at the same or lower classification level as the clearance being granted.

What is a NISP contractor and Non-NISP contractor? A NISP contractor **requires access** to classified information in the performance of their duties. A Non-NISP contractor **does not require access** to classified information, BUT may have an enhanced vetting requirement due to position sensitivity.

What is a Background Investigation? A background investigation ensures personnel are reliable, **trustworthy**, and suitable for the job.

What is a Security Clearance? The term "**security clearance**" should only be used when referring to a national security position where someone needs eligibility for access to Classified National Security Information (CNSI).

Facility Clearance "NISP Contractor"

- ◆ Requires access to classified Information based on the Statement of Work or Performance Work statement
- ◆ Requires sponsorship from a Government Contracting Activity or Prime Contractor
- ◆ Requires a DD 254
- ◆ Requires a Security Clearance

No Facility Clearance "Non-NISP"

- ◆ Does not have a requirement to access classified information
- ◆ Does not require a DD 254
- ◆ May require vetting via background investigation due to position sensitivity

Educate yourself and our future contractors!

Submitting a Sponsorship

https://www.dcsa.mil/Portals/128/Documents/CTP/FCSubmitting_a_Sponsorship_Request_External.pdf

Facility Clearance Handbook:

https://www.dcsa.mil/Portals/128/Documents/CTP/FC/FCL_Orientation_Handbook_9_March_2021.pdf

Department of the Navy Office of Small Business Program Webinar: Navigating Facility Clearances

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iCK8BgoMIEs>