



THIS MONTH'S FOCUS

SPēD CERTIFICATION

DID YOU KNOW?

The SPēD Program has delivered nearly 32,000 assessments with an all-time pass rate of 50 percent across all assessments.

 CDSE – Center for Development of Security Excellence

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CDSE Pulse

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SPēD CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Security Professional Education Development (SPēD) Certification Program is part of the DOD's initiative to professionalize the security workforce. Established in DOD Instruction 3305.13 and DOD Manual 3305.13, this initiative ensures there exists a common set of competencies among security practitioners that promotes interoperability, facilitates professional development and training, and develops a workforce of certified security professionals.

In general, candidates are eligible to pursue SPēD certification if they are DOD personnel performing security enterprise functions or federal employees of a participating agency within the security workforce. Contractors assigned to and performing security functions on behalf of the DOD are eligible if requirements are outlined in either their Performance Work Statement (PWS), Statement of Work (SOW), or authorized in writing by the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR). Eligible candidates must meet outlined prerequisites based on the specific certification or credential they are pursuing. For example, an eligible candidate must first obtain the Security Fundamentals Professional Certification (SFPC) before they are eligible to pursue the Security Program Integration Professional Certification (SPIPC), Security Asset Protection Professional Certification (SAPPC), or Special Program Security

Certification (SPSC). Adjudicators at agencies accepted into the program must complete prerequisite training before they are eligible to take the Adjudicator Professional Certification (APC) and must obtain the APC prior to attempting the Due Process Adjudicator Professional Credential (DPAPC). There is no specific prerequisite for the Physical Security Certification (PSC), and only Antiterrorism Officers (ATOs) are eligible to pursue the Antiterrorism Credential (ATC).

As of April, the SPēD Certification Program transitioned its candidate management system (CMS) to Defense Acquisition University (DAU). Current certificants and candidates alike must establish a new DAU account to gain access to program offerings by completing the SAAR form available [here](#).





Following their DAU account approval, new candidates must request to **take an assessment**, by selecting their owning component/agency emblem from the appropriate certification or credential drop-down. This will prompt the candidate to complete the Certification and Credential Enrollment Form that will be routed to their Component Service Representative (CSR) for approval.

As a note, it may take between six to eight weeks for current certificants to see their certifications and credentials reflected in their account once their DAU account has been approved. Due to this system transition, the SP&D Program Management Office (PMO) no longer has administrative oversight of account creation, courses, or system access as it did with previous candidate management systems. For questions related to DAU accounts, account navigation or access, eLearning activities, or course offerings, please contact the **Help Desk**.

The SFPC, SAPP, SPIPC, and PSC are nationally accredited with the National Commission of Certifying Agencies and are identified as 'Enterprise Certifications.' Achieving a SP&D certification publicly confirms certificants meet comprehensive professional standards and are prepared for success in the security profession.

The SP&D Certification Program currently has three 'Enterprise Credentials.' The Industrial Security Oversight Credential (ISOC) is ideal for DOD, federal members, and Industry under the National Industrial Security Program (NISP). The ATC provides a recognized and reliable indication of a security practitioner's understanding and ability to specify purpose, function, and role of an antiterrorism program. The SPSC is ideal for personnel who will be or are already performing Security Officer functions for and/or on behalf of the Department of Defense Special Access Programs. Please review the DOD Professional Certification and Credentialing Handbook for further information and pre-requisite information.

The SP&D Certification Program also has specialty certifications and credentials which include the Adjudicator Professional Certification (APC) and the Due Process Adjudicator Professional credential (DPAPC). The APC certifies that adjudicators are qualified to perform all essential adjudicative functions related to determining the eligibility of a Government employee, military service member, or contractor employee under the

ENTERPRISE CERTIFICATIONS



Security Fundamentals Professional Certification (SFPC)



Security Asset Protection Professional Certification (SAPP)



Security Program Integration Professional Certification (SPIPC)



Physical Security Certification (PSC)

SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION AND CREDENTIAL



Adjudicator Professional Certification (APC)



Due Process Adjudicator Professional Credential (DPAPC)

CREDENTIALS



Antiterrorism Credential (ATC)



Industrial Security Oversight Certification (ISOC)



Special Program Security Certification (SPSC)

National Industrial Security Program (NISP) for access to classified information or assignment to sensitive duties. The DPAPC provides the recognition and official record of an individual's demonstrated understanding and application of occupational and technical knowledge, skills, and expertise necessary to proficiently perform essential due process adjudicator tasks (e.g., writing Statement of Reasons (SORs), evaluating responses to SORs, recommending eligibility determinations or other functions following evaluation of responses to SORs).



CERTIFICATION AND CREDENTIAL VALUE

But what is the true value of certifications and credentials? They foster understanding of the concepts and principles deemed critical to protect the Nation's assets. They provide nationally accredited and recognized credentials transportable across the DOD, Federal Government, and Industry. They provide a reference to determine an individual's understanding of the concepts and principles deemed critical to protect the Nation's assets and a source to increase workforce productivity. They provide competent, mission-ready professionals and promotes interoperability. They define consistent standards which build upon professionalizing the workforce and assure their mission readiness. Visit the SPêD Certification webpages and access the following resources to learn more about the program.

RESOURCES	DESCRIPTION
Certification Homepage	CDSE Certification Homepage
Certification Tracker	See how many security professionals are certified
Certification Maintenance	Information on maintaining your certifications and credentials
FAQs	Find answers for frequently asked questions about the SPêD program
DOD Professional Certification and Credentialing Handbook	Source document that provides over-arching program information
Competency Preparatory Tools (CPTs)	Resources that can be used to build your foundation and help you prepare for your assessment(s)
Credley	Site to retrieve digital badges
DAU Login	DAU login site
DAU SAAR Form	Link to SAAR Form to create a SPêD CERT DAU account
Assessment Request form	CDSE webpage with links to assessment request forms
DAU Helpdesk	DAU Helpdesk
SPêD Program Contact	SPêD Program Contact
Pearson VUE Contact	1-888-477-0284; Pearson VUE Contact for assessment scheduling issues



MAINTAINING CERTIFICATION AND CREDENTIALS

To maintain active and up-to-date SPeD Certifications, you must earn 100 Professional Development Units (PDUs), 50 of which must be security related, within your two-year maintenance cycle. To maintain an active and up-to-date SPeD stand-alone Enterprise Credentials (such as ATC), you must earn 75 Professional Development Units (PDUs), 50 of which must be security related, within your two-year maintenance cycle. You will need to log in to your DAU account to record your PDUs and submit your Certification Renewal Package. If you haven't established your DAU account already, create it as soon as possible, as it can take between six to eight weeks for your account to update and reflect your certifications and credentials.

Don't lose your certification or credential due to an inability to submit your PDUs prior to your expiration date. Visit our [Certification Maintenance](#) webpage to learn more!

2024 DCSA SECURITY CONFERENCE FOR DOD – REGISTRATION OPEN!

Registration is now open for the 2024 DCSA Security Conference for DOD on August 6-8! This year's conference theme is "Collaboration: Breaking Down Barriers." The agenda will include topics such as Insider Threat, controlled unclassified information, personnel security vetting, policy updates, and more.

The conference is open to .mil and .gov email holders and is first come, first served to reserve your in-person or virtual seat.

Find out more and register [here](#).



REGISTRATION OPEN FOR FALL EDUCATION CLASSES

The CDSE Education Program's Fall 2024 Semester registration is now open. The fall semester classes will run from August 19 to December 15, 2024. Classes fill quickly, so please register early to secure your spot in the fall semester.

CDSE Education Program offers:

- Tuition-free & flexible 100% virtual instructor-led courses
- Five security education post-baccalaureate certificate programs
- Highly qualified instructors
- Real-world practical assignments
- Virtual networking with professionals throughout the security community

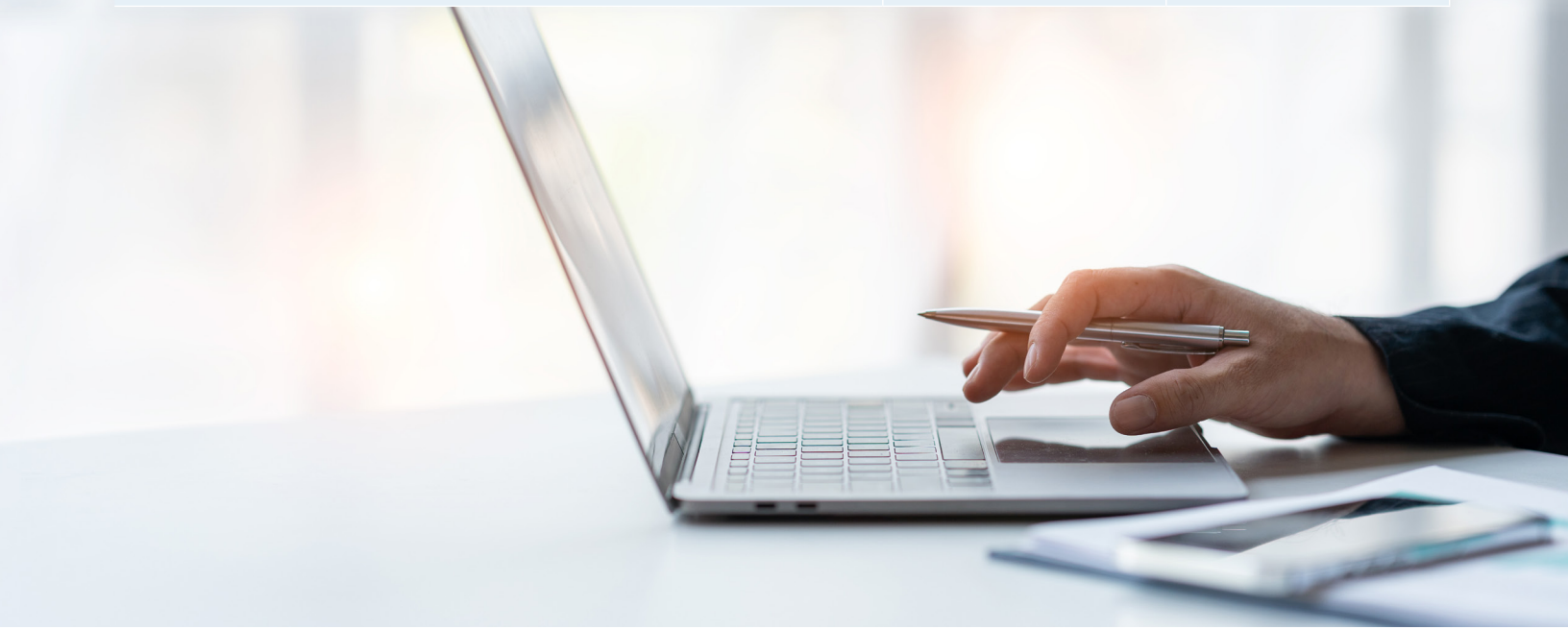
Visit the [Education Program](#) webpage to learn more and sign up!



FY 2024 UPCOMING COURSES

Consider signing up for one of CDSE's instructor-led training (ILT) or virtual instructor-led training (VILT) courses. Training is free and travel expenses is not necessary for VILT courses. Take CDSE courses to earn PDUs toward maintenance of SP&D Program certifications and credentials. Select courses also have ACE CREDIT recommendations that may earn transfer credits at participating universities and/or are approved for CEU credit toward some CompTIA certification renewals. Access the [training schedule](#) today to learn more and secure your spot. Below is a list of ILT/VILT courses available in August and September. All ILT iterations are located at Linthicum, MD, unless indicated otherwise.

COURSE	DATE	RECOMMENDATION
DOD Security Specialist	Aug. 6 - 14 (ILT) Aug. 19 - Sept. 15 (VILT) Sept. 17 - 25 (ILT)	 
Getting Started Seminar for New Facility Security Officers	Aug. 20 - 23 (VILT)	
Introduction to Special Access Programs	Sept. 3 - 6 (ILT) (Huntsville, Ala.)	 
Assessing Risk and Applying Security Controls to NISP Systems	Sept. 9 - 13 (ILT)	
Insider Threat Detection Analysis Course (ITDAC)	Aug. 12 - 16 (VILT) Sept. 9 - 13 (VILT)	
Orientation to SAP Security Compliance Inspections	Aug. 6 - 7 (ILT) (WPAFB, Ohio) Sept. 9 - 10 (ILT) (Huntsville, Ala.)	
Personnel Vetting Seminar	Aug. 10 - 22 (VILT) Sept. 10 - 12 (VILT)	





WHAT THE STUDENTS ARE SAYING

ED506: HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR DOD SECURITY:

“This course provided a lot of valuable information I believe will be necessary to know for career advancement. It allowed me to learn firsthand the information one should be familiar with regarding diverse teams and legal aspect of what their rights as employees are and resources available to them.”

“This course came in very handy when I encountered an HR issue with one of my staff members. The reading material helped me effectively work through the issue with my HR team. The information within the course was timely and, in most cases, effective because my Division relates directly to the national security programs.”

“I found the classes on recruiting and hiring, workforce development, and performance development to be very interesting and important lessons learned that I will apply to my duties as a supervisor.”

ED509: ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF DOD SECURITY PROGRAMS:

“I have been an evaluator, but I believe that I would have been much better if I had taken a course like this before I started.”

“The course helped me better understand the different types of evaluations, inspections, and assessments in security.”



UPCOMING WEBINARS

CDSE webinars are a great way to gain insight into various security topics and interact with security experts. Webinars can also be used as professional development units (PDUs) in support of SPeD certification maintenance. Sign up today for the following upcoming live webinar:

Kicking Off a CUI Awareness Campaign

August 1, 2024
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm ET

Security Rating Score Tool and Resources

August 29, 2024
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm ET

Security Professional Trusted Workforce 2.0

September 17, 2024
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm ET

Click [here](#) to register for this event and join the discussion!



CDSE NEWS

CDSE offers an email subscriber news service to get the latest CDSE news, updates, and information. You may be receiving the Pulse through your subscription, but if you were forwarded this newsletter from another source and would like to subscribe to the Pulse or one of our other topics, visit our [news page](#) and sign up or update your account today.

