



**THIS
MONTH'S
FOCUS**

SPeD CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

DID YOU KNOW?

The SPeD Certification Program is codified in DODI 3305.13, "DOD Security Education, Training, and Certification" and DODM 3305.13, "DOD Security Accreditation and Certification."

 CDSE – Center for Development of Security Excellence

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 Center for Development of Security Excellence

CDSE Pulse

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SPeD UPDATES: RENEWAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Security Professional Education Development (SPeD) Certification Program is part of the DOD's initiative to professionalize the security workforce. It is for individuals performing security functions on behalf of DOD and ensures a common set of competencies exist among security practitioners that promotes interoperability, facilitates professional development and training, and develops a workforce of certified security professionals.

Since its inception in 2011, the SPeD Certification Program has delivered over 28,000 tests with an all-time pass rate of just over 51 percent, and there are over 10,300 active certifications and credentials with individuals employed at 48 different DOD Components and federal agencies. The program currently has six certifications and three credentials.

As of October 1, 2022, new



certification maintenance and renewal policies and procedures are in effect for the SPeD Certification Program. These changes include:

- Professional Development Units (PDUs) based on level of effort
- Updated and expanded PDU categories
- Single expiration date across all certifications/credentials
- Single Certification Renewal Forms (CRFs), and maintenance periods based upon the candidate initiating an action (e.g., submitting a form in the My SPeD system or attaining a new SPeD Certification).

Certification expiration dates are based on the most recent earned certification and date of the latest CRF submission and approval. The certificant must submit a single CRF to capture all PDUs and annotate on the form which certifications/credentials they are renewing. Only currently conferred certifications and credentials will be identified on the form as renewable. Upon submission and approval of the CRF, the new expiration date will align across all held certifications and credentials, and will expire two years from that date.

To maintain an active SPeD and/or Adjudicator Professional Certification



(Continued from previous page)

(APC) or credential, a certification holder must obtain at least 100 PDUs, at least 50 of which must be security-related. Various professional development activities, including completing training, attending conferences, or completing SPeD projects, are eligible for PDUs. Individuals who fail to obtain the required number of PDUs within two years will have their certification(s) or credential(s) expire.

Expiration will result in the loss of all rights and privileges that come with holding SPeD and/or APC certifications and credentials. Certification and credential holders whose certification(s) and/or credentials have expired must re-establish each certification and/or credential by testing and being conferred to meet all certification and/or credential maintenance requirements.

To help certificants with these changes, the SPeD Program has new and improved products. The updated Handbook combines both SPeD and APC information into one comprehensive handbook, available on our website. Additionally, a new document called the Defense Security Essential Body of Knowledge (D-SEBOK) provides a truncated version of the DOD Security Skill Standards (DS3), organized by disciplines. The D-SEBOK is available for certificants on STEPP and is intended as an additional resource for security professionals to use for professional development.

For more information on these updates to the SPeD Certification Program or to sign up to take an assessment visit: <https://www.cdse.edu/Certification/>

ANTITERRORISM CREDENTIAL

On October 12, the Antiterrorism Credential (ATC) went live. Candidates are eligible to pursue the ATC if they are DOD personnel or a contractor assigned to a security position for which attainment of this certification has been deemed a requirement. Candidates must currently hold an Antiterrorism Officer (ATO) position and have completed the AT-Level II training requirements outlined by their component or agency.



For more information regarding the ATC, as well as scheduling the assessment, refer to your **Component Service Representative** and the **DOD Professional Certification and Credentialing Handbook**.

SPSC TRANSFORMATION

In addition to the changes listed above, the SPeD Program also recently transformed the former "Special Program Security Certification" to become the Special Program Security Credential (SPSC). This change will mean greater flexibility to ensure that the SPSC aligns with changes occurring in the SAP community. This credential is ideal for personnel who will be, or are already performing security officer functions for and/or on behalf of DOD Special Access Programs. For more information, visit the **SPSC webpage**.





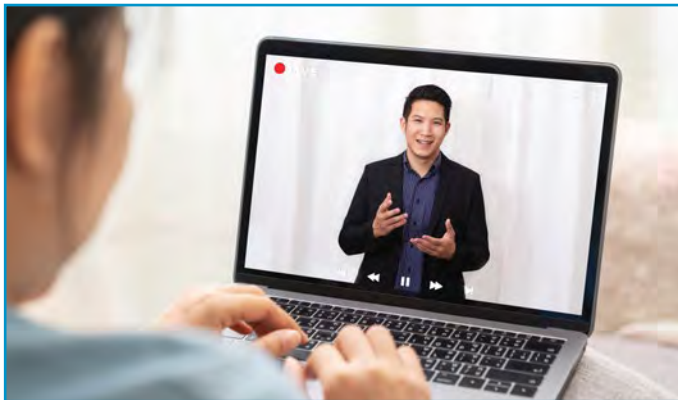
UPCOMING SP&D WEBINAR



Join us on January 26, 2023 for the SP&D Program Webinar. Participants will get a chance to learn more about the overall program, changes that were outlined in this issue, and have a chance ask questions. [Register](#) for the webinar.

2022 VIRTUAL DOD SECURITY

The 2022 Virtual DOD Security Conference was held on October 12-13 and drew nearly 2000 participants! This year's conference theme was "Developing a Resilient Security Workforce in a Changing Environment" and 30% of attendees were attending for the first time. The agenda included policy change and implementation updates on topics such as security in a digital world, operations security, controlled unclassified information, personnel security policy, PERSEREC studies, and more. If you missed the conference or would like to revisit the presentations, the recordings are available now in the [CDSE Conference Archive](#). Please note, you must have a .mil or.gov email to access the presentations.



CERTIFICATION PSAs

Want to know more about the SP&D Program and how it differs from the other CDSE programs? View CDSE's Certification public service announcements (PSAs): [Certificates vs. Certifications PSA](#).

UPCOMING ILT/VILT TRAINING COURSES

As you considering signing up for one of CDSE's instructor-led (ILT) or virtual instructor-led (VILT) courses. Training is free and the VILT eliminates travel expenses. CDSE courses earn PDUs toward maintenance of SP&D Program certifications and credentials. Select courses with American Council on Education (ACE) credit recommendations may earn transfer credits at participating universities. Additionally, the DOD Security Specialist course is approved for Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credit toward several CompTIA certification renewals. Here is list of ILT/VILT courses available January - February, 2023:

DOD Security Specialist Course (VILT) January 9 - February 5, 2023



This course provides students a baseline of fundamental knowledge to perform common DOD security tasks and practices. It incorporates industrial, information, personnel, and physical security disciplines to understand their interrelationships, related policies, programs, and procedures.

SAP Mid-Level Security Management (VILT) SA201.10 January 17 - February 3, 2023



This course offers an in-depth explanation of Special Access Program (SAP) security management and focuses on the student's ability to determine enhanced security requirements based on the threat and vulnerability of SAPs.

Getting Started Seminar (GSS) for New FSOs (VILT) February 7 - 10, 2023

This course is not only a great way to get started as a new Facility Security Officer (FSO), but also a way for experienced FSOs to learn about policy changes, procedural changes, emerging trends, threats, concerns, etc. Students work in collaboration with other security professionals, exploring security topics through practical exercises.

Orientation to SAP Security Compliance Inspections (ILT) February 14 - 15, 2023

This course provides students with policy and direction to ensure inspections are standardized, equitable, and consistent across inspection agencies utilizing the DOD SAP Security Manuals.



CDSE LINKEDIN



Did you know that CDSE is now on LinkedIn? Follow our profile for real-time information on professional development opportunities such as courses and events!

INSIDER THREAT SENTRY



Have you downloaded the Insider Threat Sentry App? This mobile addition to CDSE's insider threat portfolio expands the availability of posters, videos, security awareness games, job aids, case studies, and more. The application is available

for users from the Android and iOS app stores. The app provides direct access to relevant insider threat content in one easy-to-use place. Download it today!



WHAT THE SECURITY COMMUNITY IS SAYING

Counterintelligence Awareness and Reporting for DOD (CI116):

"Honestly, this is one of the best structured and developed training courses I have been required to take working in DOD field. I wish all of the classes I am required to take as required by DOD were equal in effectiveness and ease as this one was to me!"

"Great training compared to other online military training. I didn't feel like I had to decipher a code to answer questions."

REGISTER FOR SPRING EDUCATION CLASSES

Registration is now open for the spring semester of CDSE Education classes that run from January 23 - May 21, 2023. Classes fill quickly, so please register early to secure your spot in the spring semester. CDSE Education Program offers:

- Tuition-free and 100% virtual instructor-led courses
- Real-world practical assignments
- Virtual networking with professionals throughout the security community
- Five Security Education Certificate programs
- Highly qualified instructors

You can learn more about the available classes and register for them by accessing the links here: <https://www.cdse.edu/education/courses.html>. To register, log into STEPP via: <https://cdse.usalearning.gov/login/index.php>. If you have any questions, or need additional information, contact the CDSE Education Program at: dcsa.cdseeducation@mail.mil.

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 - <https://www.cdse.edu/news/index.html>.

Insider Threat
Bulletins

Weekly
Flash

Quarterly
Product Report

