BACKGROUND

National security determinations are governed by the principles established in Executive Order 12968 -- Access to Classified Information. Adjudicative guidelines are established by Security Executive Agent Directive 4.

The Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency Adjudications Directorate adjudicates national personnel security eligibility determinations, suitability, fitness, and credentialing (favorable & unfavorable) determinations in accordance with 13 adjudicative guidelines, as well as relevant executive orders, DOD regulations and laws, and the Security Executive Agent (SECEA) and Suitability Executive Agent (SUITEA).

PROCESS AND ELIGIBILITY

The adjudication process is based on decisions made by applying a standard set of guidelines to an individual’s specific circumstances. Trained adjudicators assess an individual’s loyalty, trustworthiness, reliability and determine whether it is in the best interest of national security to grant the individual an eligibility for access to classified information or render a favorable suitability determination.

Security clearance eligibility is a determination that a person is able and willing to safeguard classified national security information and/or occupy a national security sensitive position. The national security clearance eligibility levels are: Confidential, Secret, and Top Secret.

Military members, federal employees, or contractors who require access to classified national security information and/or assignment to a national security position must be granted security clearance eligibility at the proper level to access that information or occupy the national security sensitive position.

DESIGNATION OF DUTIES AND POSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIAL-SENSITIVE</th>
<th>CRITICAL-SENSITIVE</th>
<th>NONCRITICAL-SENSITIVE</th>
<th>NON-SENSITIVE</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Special-Sensitive and Critical-Sensitive positions require Tier 5 and Tier 5R investigations.</td>
<td>Noncritical-Sensitive positions require Tier 3 or Tier 3R.</td>
<td>Non-Sensitive positions are subject to the appropriate Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 4 suitability investigation.</td>
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For more information, go to: [www.dcsa.mil/mc/pv/dod_caf/](http://www.dcsa.mil/mc/pv/dod_caf/)

DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY

Dated: June 14, 2021