Executive Order on Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)

Overview for Departments and Agencies

The CUI Executive Order standardizes the way in which departments and agencies (agencies) handle unclassified information that requires safeguarding or dissemination controls, pursuant to and consistent with applicable law, regulations, and Government-wide policies. The Order establishes the CUI program and designates the National Archives and Records Administration as its Executive Agent (EA).

Successful implementation of this Order by agencies will enhance the efficient and effective management, control, and sharing of CUI and further the administration’s goals of openness and uniformity of government practices. A standardized program that is consistently applied will support the individual missions of agencies and will enhance information sharing within and between agencies as well with State, local, tribal, and private sector partners.

Each agency will review all categories, subcategories, and markings used by the agency to designate unclassified information for safeguarding or dissemination controls. Based on this review, each agency will then submit to the EA a catalogue of proposed categories and subcategories of CUI, and associated markings, within 180 days of the effective date of the Order. Each submission must include definitions for all proposed categories and subcategories, as well as identification of the basis in law, regulation, or Government-wide policy for safeguarding and dissemination controls.

The EA will review the submissions with affected agencies, resolve conflicts, and approve categories, subcategories, and associated markings for CUI. These efforts will populate a public registry of authorized CUI categories and subcategories, associated markings, and applicable safeguarding, dissemination, and decontrol procedures to be applied uniformly by agencies. The registry will be established within one year of the Order.

The EA, in consultation with agencies, will develop and issue an initial implementation directive within 180 days of the Order. Within 180 days of the EA’s issuance of this implementation directive, agencies that originate or handle CUI will provide the EA with an agency-specific plan to implement the requirements of the Order, including interim target dates for compliance with CUI requirements.

After a review of agency plans, and in consultation with affected agencies and the Office of Management and Budget, the EA will establish deadlines for phased implementation of the CUI program by agencies. The EA will report annually to the President on the status of this implementation for the first 5 years following the date of the Order and then biennially afterwards.
Overview of CUI Implementation

**Day 0**
- Review all categories, subcategories, and markings

**Day 180**
- Propose CUI categories, subcategories, and markings
- Develop initial directives (policies and procedures)
- Review and approve agency proposals for CUI categories, subcategories, and markings

**Day 360**
- Develop and submit proposed implementation plans
- Publish CUI registry
- Establish deadlines for phased implementation by agencies
- Publish agency implementation status report annually; biennially after 5 years

**Executive Agent**
- EO Signed

**Departments and Agencies**
- Begin CUI implementation (agency-specific guidance, training, and oversight)