

# *ISOO Training Tip #21*

## *May 2019*

### **TOPIC: Declassification Guides**

#### **What is a Declassification Guide?**

Declassification Guides are the policy documents that detail what information the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP) has authorized to be exempted from automatic declassification at 25 years, 50 years, and 75 years.

#### **Which agencies have Declassification Guides?**

[ISOO Notice 2015-005](#) identifies which agencies have ISCAP approved Declassification Guides.

#### **Can information not in a Declassification Guide be exempted from automatic declassification at 25 years, 50 years, or 75 years?**

Restricted Data (RD) and Formerly Restricted Data (FRD) are classified under the Atomic Energy Act and are not subject to automatic declassification. Other than RD and FRD, only information that is in a Declassification Guide approved by the ISCAP may be **exempted** from automatic declassification.

#### **If specific information is approved for exemption in a Declassification Guide is that all I need to have the authority to exempt it?**

No, exemptions must be done by personnel who are authorized and trained for this purpose. In addition, even if information is listed in a Declassification Guide it is still subject to the damage threshold in [E.O 13526 Section 1.5\(a\)\(4\) and Section 3.1\(a\)](#).

#### **Why is the use of declassification guides important?**

This provides consistent national-level policy on what information may be exempted from automatic declassification

**Reference:** [E.O 13526 Section 1.5\(a\)\(4\) and Section 3.1\(a\)](#)  
[ISOO Notices 2015-005](#)



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