

NIST 800-171 Compliance Checklist

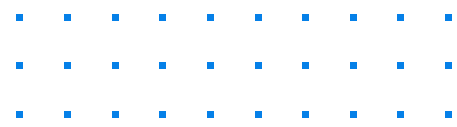
1. Identify and Categorize Your CUI

Implement an internal review to identify the CUI your organization handles

Categorize CUI based on the 20 categories outlined in the [CUI registry](#) including:

- Critical infrastructure
- Defense
- Export control
- Financial
- Immigration
- Intelligence
- International agreements
- Law enforcement
- Legal
- Natural and cultural resources
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Nuclear
- Patent
- Privacy
- Procurement and acquisition
- Proprietary business information
- Provisional
- Statistical
- Tax
- Transportation





2. Perform a Gap Analysis

Perform a gap analysis to determine what requirements you're meeting and what controls you need to implement to achieve compliance

Evaluate existing security controls to assess your current processes and procedures against the requirements set forth in NIST 800-171

3. Implement and Test Security Controls

Develop and implement any controls that aren't currently in place to satisfy NIST 800-171

This includes developing policies, procedures, and processes related to the 14 requirement families

Baseline controls and specific details on each requirement can be found in the [800-171 publication](#)

Once you implement the controls, begin testing them to ensure they're able to withstand potential threats

4. Document Your System Security Plan

Appoint an internal team of senior IT professionals and any other relevant stakeholders within your organization to build out your SSP

List all company personnel with responsibilities related to your system, such as system administrators and IT specialists.

Collect documentation for your SSP, including security policies, system records, previous audit results, and system architecture documents

Complete the SSP template using [the template](#) provided by NIST

Create a plan of action and milestones (POAM)

If you uncover areas of non-compliance while creating your SSP, include them in your plan of action along with key milestones and a compliance deadline

After completing the steps outlined in your POAM, update your SSP with plan modifications

Be sure to update version numbers in your SSP to keep track of ongoing modifications as infrastructure and technology continue to evolve

5. Conduct Ongoing Risk Assessments

Continuously monitor your operations, assets, and individuals related to handling and protecting CUI

Ensure risk assessments consider threats, vulnerabilities and the likelihood and impact on your organization

Conduct ongoing vulnerability scans of your system and system components

6. Develop an Incident Response Plan

Establish an incident response plan that includes procedures for preparation, detection, analysis, containment recovery and user response activities

Track and document system security incidents

Regularly test your incident response plan to assess its ongoing effectiveness

7. Commit to Ongoing Employee Education

Ensure managers, system administrators, and users of the company systems are trained on potential security risks and applicable policies, standards, and procedures related to the security of those systems

Train personnel to carry out their security-related responsibilities

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