Preparing for a Security Professional Education Development (SPēD) Certification Assessment

The Security Asset Protection Professional Certification (SAPPC) assessment is training agnostic, meaning you do not have to complete any prescribed training or courses before taking the certification assessment. However, preparing for the assessment by gaining additional training, education, or experience in the topic areas may prove beneficial.

Competency Preparatory Tools (CPTs) help you prepare for your SPēD certification assessment. The SAPPC CPTs consists of a series of open-ended questions in each of the five security areas to assist you in increasing your proficiency.

Note: Specific CPT questions are not found on the assessment.

To view available CPTs for each SPēD certification assessment, please visit https://www.cdse.edu/certification/prepare.html.

CDSE-offered Training

You are invited to familiarize yourself with courses addressing the topics noted in the SAPPC Areas of Expertise. The Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) provides diverse security courses and products to Department of Defense (DoD) personnel, DoD contractors, employees of other federal agencies, and selected foreign governments. Training is presented through a variety of learning platforms and is streamlined to meet performance requirements.

To view available CDSE-offered training, please visit https://www.cdse.edu/catalog/index.html.

CDSE-offered Education

CDSE has established a program of advanced and graduate-level courses designed specifically to broaden DoD security specialists' knowledge and understanding of the security profession and prepare them for leadership positions and responsibilities. All of the courses are tuition free and are offered in a virtual instructor-led environment.

To view available CDSE-offered training, please visit https://www.cdse.edu/education/index.html.

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page   **1**

SAPPC Area of Expertise

The SAPPC assessment measures your ability to apply fundamental security knowledge. Although your current work may primarily be in one of the core security disciplines (i.e., information, personnel, physical, industrial, or general security), the results of the practice analysis performed by DoD demonstrates the importance of having awareness and a fundamental body of knowledge across the core security disciplines and the ability to apply foundational security concepts, principles, and practices. The SAPPC is not only valuable to you as your career advances, it also strengthens the confidence the DoD has in your general knowledge in security.

The Areas of Expertise specified in the following charts were identified during practice analysis as critical domains that should be addressed by the SAPPC. The weights indicated were derived from importance ratings provided by subject matter experts (SMEs) during the assessment development process.

Area of Expertise	
Information Security	**Exam Weight: 31%**
Information Protection Principles	Declassification Concepts
Release of Classified Material to Foreign Persons	Classification Markings
Security Incidents	Policies and Procedures for Handling Special Types of Information
Classification Concepts	Safeguarding
Classification Duration	Transmission and Transportation
Derivative Classification Concepts	Cyber and Information Security Concepts
Personnel Security	**Exam Weight: 28%**
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles	Personnel Security Systems
Position Sensitivity Designations	Personnel Security Investigations
Safeguarding Personnel Records	Personnel Security Investigative Requirements

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page   2

Area of Expertise	
Physical Security	**Exam Weight: 10%**
Facility Access Control Procedures	Physical Security Standards for Storage of Classified Information
Physical Security Concepts	
Industrial Security	**Exam Weight: 13%**
Contracts and Contract Administration	Foreign Ownership, Control, or Influence (FOCI)
Industrial Security Concepts	Visits and Meetings
Personnel and Facility Security Clearance under the National Industrial Security Program (NISP)	
General Security	**Exam Weight: 18%**
Counterintelligence	Inspections and Assessments
Operations Security (OPSEC) Concepts	Protected Information Categories
OPSEC Threats Analysis, Indicators, and Measures	Research and Technology Protection Concepts
Risk Assessment and Management	Special Access Program (SAP) Concepts
Information Technology (IT)/Information Security (IS) Security Functionality and Controls	Security Briefings

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 3

Policy/Reference Finder

The resources below can be used to assist you in locating current versions of policies used within the CPTs.

Note: Unclassified publications that contain tactics, techniques, procedures, etc., may require a Common Access Card (CAC) to access.

- Security Executive Agent Directives are available via the National Counterintelligence and Security Center: https://www.dni.gov/index.php/ncsc-how-we-work/ncsc-security-executive-agent/ncsc-policy

- DoD Issuances are listed on the Washington Headquarters Services Executive Services Directorate website:

  - DoD directives: https://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/issuances/dodd/

  - DoD instructions: https://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/issuances/dodi/

  - DoD manuals/publications: https://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/issuances/dodm/

  - Directive-type memorandums: https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/DoD-Issuances/DTM/

- All Joint Publications (JPs): https://www.jcs.mil/Doctrine/Joint-Doctine-Pubs/

  - JPs that require CAC access are available via the Joint Electronic Library Plus (JEL+): https://jdeis.js.mil/my.policy

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **3**

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Information Security Fundamentals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Information Protection Principles	How does the need for greater information transparency affect the protection of sensitive and classified information?	What is the need-to-know criteria?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Information Protection Principles		How does the concept of responsibility to share relate to the information protection concepts of eligibility, access, and need to know?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Information Protection Principles		How are the concepts of need to know and responsibility to share alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **4**

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Information Security Fundamentals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Release of Classified Material to Foreign Persons	What are the procedures for handling information governed by export control laws, executive orders, and policies?	What are the export control laws, executive orders, and policies that restrict disclosure of classified information to foreign governments or international organizations, or to persons who are sponsored by them, whether in the U.S. or abroad?		DoDD 5230.11, June 16, 1992
Release of Classified Material to Foreign Persons		What are a security professional's roles/responsibilities in assessing risks of foreign involvement?		DoDI 5205.10, Incorporating Change 1, August 31, 2018; DoDD 5230.11, June 6, 1992; DoDI 5210.02, Incorporating Change 2, August 21, 2018; P.L. 90-29, December 19, 2014; DoDI 2015.4, Incorporating Change 1, August 31, 2018; DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016; DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Release of Classified Material to Foreign Persons		How are the roles, responsibilities, jurisdiction, and authorities of the International Program (IP) and the Foreign Disclosure Officer (FDO) alike? How are they different?		
Release of Classified Material to Foreign Persons		What is Foreign Disclosure Guidance?		

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 5

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Information Security Fundamentals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Security Incidents	What are the relevant guidance and requirements for handling an incident of potential or actual compromise?	What are the commonalities between handling a security incident, a security infraction, and a security violation? What are the differences?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Security Incidents		How are preliminary inquiries and counterintelligence (CI) inquiries alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Security Incidents		What is a security professional's role in the execution of a damage assessment?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Security Incidents		What is the process for initiating a preliminary inquiry and an investigation?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **6**

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Classification and Declassification Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Classification Concepts	How would you support the execution of the classification decision process?	What is a security professional's role in supporting the documentation of classification decisions?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Classification Concepts		What is a security professional's role in preserving the integrity of the classification decision process?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Classification Concepts		How would you apply a Security Classification Guide?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018; DoDM 5200.45, Incorporating Change 1, April 6, 2018, Enc 2
Classification Concepts		What are the key elements needed to write a Security Classification Guide?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018; DoDM 5200.45, Incorporating Change 1, April 6, 2018, Enc 2
Classification Concepts		How would you ensure a Security Classification Guide is complete and accurate?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018; DoDM 5200.45, Incorporating Change 1, April 6, 2018, Enc 2

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 7

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Classification and Declassification Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Classification Duration	How would you support the execution of declassification processes/systems and the regrading of classified information?	What is the process for requesting and executing the regrading of classified information?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Classification Duration		How would you apply the declassification requirements of a Security Classification Guide?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Classification Duration		How would you apply the principles and procedures for extending classification duration?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Derivative Classification Concepts	What is the the role of the derivative classification process in managing risks to DoD assets?	How would you apply the derivative classification process?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Declassification Concepts	How would you support the execution of declassification processes/systems and the regrading of classified information?	How would you apply the requirements of a Security Declassification Guide?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 8

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Classification Management

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Classification Markings	What is the proper way to apply classification and/or control markings?	How are classification and control markings specified by the Controlled Access Program Coordination Office (CAPCO) alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 2, Incorporating Change 3, May 14, 2019; ICD 710, June 21, 2013
Classification Markings		What are the equivalencies between DoD classification and control markings and those used by other entities (e.g., Department of State, NATO, etc.) specified by CAPCO?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 2, Incorporating Change 3, May 14, 2019
Classification Markings		How would you apply Security Classification Guide requirements to mark different types of documents and special types of materials?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 2, Incorporating Change 3, May 14, 2019
Classification Markings		What are the equivalencies between authorized security classification control, and dissemination markings, and Foreign Security Classifications?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 2, Incorporating Change 3, May 14, 2019

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **9**

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Information Protection Requirements

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Policies and Procedures for Handling Special Types of Information	How would you apply procedures for handling special types of information?	What are the roles, responsibilities, jurisdictions, and authorities of the SAP office?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Policies and Procedures for Handling Special Types of Information		How are protection requirements for Sensitive Compartmented information (SCI), collateral classified Information, and controlled unclassified information alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Policies and Procedures for Handling Special Types of Information		What are the roles, responsibilities, jurisdictions, and authorities of the Special Security Office?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Policies and Procedures for Handling Special Types of Information		What are a security professional's roles and responsibilities for protecting communications security (COMSEC) material?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018
Policies and Procedures for Handling Special Types of Information		How would you apply the requirements for handling special types of information (including atomic energy, NATO, foreign government or specialized treaty, critical infrastructure, and scientific and technology information)?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 1, Incorporating Change 1, May 4, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 10

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Information Protection Requirements

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Safeguarding	How would you apply requirements for safeguarding protected information and/or classified information?	How would you apply measures and procedures (e.g., handling, storage, disposition, and destruction) for safeguarding classified information against unauthorized access?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Safeguarding		How would you apply safeguarding measures and procedures associated with a classified workplace?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Safeguarding		How do conducting security checks of classified materials contribute to the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Safeguarding		How does an individual's lack of attention to their custodial responsibilities for safeguarding classified materials introduce risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Safeguarding		How do the requirements for the conduct of classified discussions contribute to the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Transmission and Transportation	How would you apply the requirements for transmitting and transporting classified information?	How would you apply the transmission and transportation processes and procedures?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Transmission and Transportation		What is the role of transmission and transportation procedures in managing risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **11**

INFORMATION SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Cyber for Security Professionals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Cyber and Information Security Concepts	How would you 1) explain your role in protecting DoD information systems and the information they process, transmit, and store; and 2) describe the implications of the current operating environment's focus on responsible sharing of information in the effective management of risks to DoD assets?	How are information assurance and information security security goals alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Cyber and Information Security Concepts		What is a security professional's role in pursuing and meeting information assurance goals?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Cyber and Information Security Concepts		How does the need for greater information transparency affect the protection of sensitive and classified information?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Cyber and Information Security Concepts		What is the the process for responding to a spillage?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Cyber and Information Security Concepts		What are the purpose, intent, and security professional's role in each step of the process for responding to a spillage?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013
Cyber and Information Security Concepts		How would a lack of attention to the concept of compilation and the tentative marking process introduces risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **12**

PERSONNEL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Personnel Security Fundamentals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles	What is the role of Personnel Security Program elements in effectively managing risks to DoD assets?	What is the role of the security professional in the process for executing personnel security investigation and re-investigation requirements (including waivers)?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles		What is the process for executing clearance downgrades, upgrades, denials, revocations, and/or terminations?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles		What are the various organizational roles associated with the process for executing clearance downgrades, upgrades, denials, revocations, and/or terminations?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles		How are the concepts of and standards underlying suitability and eligibility determinations alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles		How would you evaluate the applicability and/or application of personnel security standards?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles		How would the application of the adjudication process affect the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Concepts and Principles		How would the implementation of the continuous evaluation process affect the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017; Security Executive Agent Directive (SEAD) 6, January 12, 2018; SEAD 3, June 12, 2017

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **13**

PERSONNEL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Personnel Security Fundamentals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Position Sensitivity Designations	How would you explain the role of security professionals in the position sensitivity designation process?	What is a security professional's role in the position sensitivity designation process?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017; Federal Investigative Standards, December 14, 2012; Bond Amendment, January 1, 2008; ICPG 704.2, October 2, 2008; E.O. 12968, August 7, 1995; DoDM 5205.07, Volume 2, Incorporating Change 1, February 14, 2018
Position Sensitivity Designations		What is a security professional's role in the process for processing position sensitivity designation waivers?		
Safeguarding Personnel Records	How would you explain the role of disposition and destruction procedures in managing risks to DoD assets?	What is the role of disposition and destruction procedures in managing risks to DoD assets?		DoD 5400.11-R, May 14, 2007; DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Safeguarding Personnel Records		What is the role of security professionals in complying with the DoD Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)?		DoD 5400.11-R, May 14, 2007; Public Law 110-175, 121 Stat. 2524, January 4, 2016 (The Freedom of Information Act)
Safeguarding Personnel Records		What are the FOIA provisions and exemptions?		
Safeguarding Personnel Records		What is the FOIA referral policy?		

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 14

PERSONNEL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Personnel Security Fundamentals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Personnel Security Systems	How would a security professional support the execution of the personnel security program using the appropriate personnel security systems?	What is the role of various personnel security systems in the process for executing personnel security investigation and re-investigation requirements?		No Reference Listed
Personnel Security Systems		What is the role of various personnel security systems in the process for executing clearance downgrades, upgrades, denials, revocations, and/or terminations?		

PERSONNEL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Personnel Security Standards

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Personnel Security Investigations	How would you support the execution of the personnel security investigation process?	What are the personnel security investigation types?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Personnel Security Investigation Requirements	How would you apply the personnel security investigation requirements?	How would you apply the Limited Access Authority process?		
Personnel Security Investigation Requirements		How does the authorization of Limited Access Authority affects the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 15

Security Asset Protection Professional Certification (SAPPC)
Competency Preparatory Tools (CPTs)

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PHYSICAL SECURITY CLUSTER
Area of Expertise: Physical Security Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Physical Security Concepts	What are the roles of security surveys, inspections, and reviews in protecting assets, and in assessing and/or managing risks to assets?	How are the concepts of threat, vulnerability, and criticality alike? How are they different?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Physical Security Concepts		How are the various categories of physical security measures employed and deployed to defend, deter, detect, and deny adversary access to DoD assets?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Physical Security Concepts		How are the various categories of physical security measures employed and deployed (with other security measures) to provide defense-in-depth?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Physical Security Concepts		How are the various categories of physical security measures employed and deployed to provide area and point security?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Physical Security Concepts		What is the role of security professionals in the execution of security surveys, inspections, and reviews?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Physical Security Concepts		How are the goals and functions of security surveys, inspections, and reviews alike? How are they different?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Physical Security Concepts		How are the commonalities of risk assessment from security surveys, inspections, and reviews? What are the differences?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **16**

PHYSICAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Physical Security Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Facility Access Control	What are the various facility access control measures?	How do the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD 12) provisions affect facility access control procedures?		DoD 5200.08-R, Incorporating Change 1, May 27, 2009
Facility Access Control		How would you apply restricted area personnel access requirements?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018
Facility Access Control		How can how positive identification requirements affect facility access control procedures?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018
Facility Access Control		How are identification systems used to effectively control access to facilities?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018
Facility Access Control		How are visitor identification control methods used to effectively control access to facilities?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018
Facility Access Control		Why are access control measures contingent on threat levels?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018
Facility Access Control		What methods are used for controlling access while dealing with power outages?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **17**

Security Asset Protection Professional Certification (SAPPC)
Competency Preparatory Tools (CPTs)

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PHYSICAL SECURITY CLUSTER
Area of Expertise: Physical Security Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Facility Access Control	What are the various facility access control measures?	How are inspection and search procedures used to effectively control access to facilities?		DTM 09-012, August 23, 2018

PHYSICAL SECURITY CLUSTER
Area of Expertise: Physical Security Standards

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Physical Security Standards for Storage of Classified Information	What are the various facility access control measures associated with the storage of classified information?	Why do different facilities have different facility access control procedures?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, March 19, 2013

INDUSTRIAL SECURITY CLUSTER
Area of Expertise: Industrial Security Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Contracts & Contract Administration	How would you apply the steps of the contracting process under the influence of the security professional?	What are the risk management implications of security as a contract item?		DoDD 5000.01, Incorporating Change 2, August 31, 2018; DODI 5000.02, Incorporating Change 4, August 31, 2018; DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2 August 1, 2018
Contracts & Contract Administration		How do the Cognizant Security Office (CSO), Government Contracting Activity (GCA), and security professionals work together to safeguard classified information released during all phases of the contracting process?		DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2, August 1, 2018; DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Contracts & Contract Administration		How are DD-Form 254 from DD-Form 441 alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2, August 1, 2018; DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 18

INDUSTRIAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Industrial Security Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Contracts & Contract Administration	How would you apply the steps of the contracting process under the influence of the security professional?	What is the role of the security professional in the preparation and execution of the DD-Form 254?		DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2, August 1, 2018; DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Contracts & Contract Administration		How does the NISP "multi-party" approach to security (i.e., the potential for three different sets of security professionals working on the same contract) affect the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Contracts & Contract Administration		What abilities are required to develop a Statement of Work (SOW)?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Contracts & Contract Administration		What are the different types of solicitations, including: Requests for Quotes (RFQ), Requests for Proposal (RFP), and Inquiry of Proposal (IFP)?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Contracts & Contract Administration		What are the provisions for contracts that involve subcontracting?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Contracts & Contract Administration		How would you apply classification interpretation procedures?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 19

INDUSTRIAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Industrial Security Concepts

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Contracts & Contract Administration	How would you apply the steps of the contracting process under the influence of the security professional?	How would you apply the requirements for a classified contract?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Industrial Security Concepts	How would you apply procedures for safeguarding classified information that fall under the purview of the NISP?	How would you apply the provisions of the NISP Operating Manuel (NISPOM) (or applicable security policy and regulations) to review, verify, and/or include appropriate security requirements in contracts and/or other contracting-related documents (i.e., RFP, RFI, SoW)?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016; DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2, August 1, 2018
Industrial Security Concepts		What are the elements of a properly written DoD Contract Security Classification Specification?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016; DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2, August 1, 2018
Industrial Security Concepts		What are the elements of a properly written DoD Security Agreement?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016; DoDM 5220.22 Volume 2, August 1, 2018
Personnel and Facility Security Clearance under NISP	How would you apply procedures for safeguarding classified information that fall under the purview of the NISP?	What support is provided to stakeholders in the execution of the facility security clearance (FCL) process?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Personnel and Facility Security Clearance under NISP		How does the relationship between FCL and personnel security clearance (PCL) affect the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 20

INDUSTRIAL SECURITY CLUSTER				
Area of Expertise: Industrial Security Concepts				
Concepts/Topics		**Question**	**Answer**	**Reference**
Foreign Ownership, Control, or Influence (FOCI)	How would you apply FOCI requirements and guidance in working with companies with foreign ownership, control, or influence?	What are the steps in processing a FOCI case?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Foreign Ownership, Control, or Influence (FOCI)		How are risk assessment and management principles applied to identify and mitigate FOCI concerns?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Foreign Ownership, Control, or Influence (FOCI)		What are FOCI security measures (i.e., board resolutions, security control agreements, and limited facility security clearances)?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016
Visits and Meetings	How would you apply procedures associated with the disclosure of classified information during visits and meetings?	What are the roles of visits and meetings requirements on managing risks to DoD assets?		DoD 5220.22-M, Incorporating Change 2, May 18, 2016

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page 21

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Threat, Vulnerability, and Risk Assessment/Management

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Counterintelligence (CI)	How would you 1) identify CI roles in managing risks to DoD assets, and 2) leverage CI concepts, principles, and processes to protect DoD assets?	How are the roles of CI and security professionals in managing risks to DoD assets alike? How are they different?		DoDD 5240.02, Incorporating Change 1, May 16, 2018
Counterintelligence (CI)		What is the role of the Foreign Visitor Program in the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDI 5240.26, Incorporating Change 2, May 1, 2018
Counterintelligence (CI)		What is the process for obtaining information about threats targeting one's area of responsibility?		DoDD 5240.06, Incorporating Change 2, July 21, 2017
Counterintelligence (CI)		How is CI threat information used in assessing and managing risks to DoD assets?		DoDD 5240.06, Incorporating Change 2, July 21, 2017
Counterintelligence (CI)		What are the methods for informing and educating stakeholders within one's area of responsibility of general and local threats to mission, program, personnel, organization, asset, or operation?		DoDI 5240.26, Incorporating Change 2, May 1, 2018
Counterintelligence (CI)		What are the various collection methods adversaries use to collect information about DoD assets?		DoDD 5240.06, Incorporating Change 2, July 21, 2017; JP 2-0, October 22, 2013
Counterintelligence (CI)		How would an understanding of adversaries' capabilities, intent, and collection methods affect a security professional's ability to manage risks to DoD assets?		JP 2-0, October 22, 2013

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **22**

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER				
Area of Expertise: Threat, Vulnerability, and Risk Assessment/Management				
Concepts/Topics		**Question**	**Answer**	**Reference**
Counterintelligence (CI)	How would you 1) identify CI roles in managing risks to DoD assets, and 2) leverage CI concepts, principles, and processes to protect DoD assets?	What is the process for reporting individuals exhibiting CI indicators?		DoDD 5240.06, Incorporating Change 2, July 21, 2017
OPSEC Concepts	How would you leverage critical OPSEC processes to protect DoD assets?	How are the OPSEC survey process and the five-step risk assessment process alike? How are they different?		DoDM 5205.02, Incorporating Change 1, April 26, 2018
OPSEC Concepts		How is information obtained through the conduct of OPSEC assessments and surveys used to manage risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5205.02, Incorporating Change 1, April 26, 2018
OPSEC Concepts		What is the process for initiating an OPSEC assessment and survey?		DoDM 5205.02, Incorporating Change 1, April 26, 2018 (CAC enabled)
OPSEC Threat Analysis, Indicators, and Measures	How would you leverage critical OPSEC processes to protect DoD assets?	How would you recognize OPSEC indicators?		JP 3-13.3, January 06, 2016 (CAC enabled)
OPSEC Threat Analysis, Indicators, and Measures		What are the purpose and function of an OPSEC threat analysis?		JP 3-13.3, January 06, 2016; DoDM 5205.02, Incorporating Change 1, April 26, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **23**

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Threat, Vulnerability, and Risk Assessment/Management

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Risk Management Framework	How would you identify, analyze, and communicate security-related threats, vulnerabilities, and risks?	How do DoD security programs (information, personnel, physical, and industrial) contribute, individually and as a whole, to the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5205.02, Incorporating Change 1, April 26, 2018; DoD 5200.08-R, May 2009; DoDD 5200.43, Incorporating Change 2, August 15, 2017; UFC 4-010-06, Revised January 18, 2017; UFC 4-020-01, September 11, 2008
Risk Management Framework		How would limitations of a particular security program affect the effectiveness of other security programs?		
Risk Management Framework		What is the purpose and function of each step of the risk assessment and management process?		
Risk Management Framework		What are the sources of information about (e.g., asset criticality and impact of loss, threats, vulnerabilities, and risks)?		
Risk Management Framework		How does the risk assessment process contribute to the characterization of costs and benefits associated with a potential security plan of action?		

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **24**

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Cyber for Security Professionals

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
IT/IS Security Functionality and Controls	What are the baseline controls applicable to a specific system categorization?	What are the specific baseline administrative and/or physical security controls applicable to each system categorization?		DoD 5200.08-R, May 2009
Inspections and Assessments	What are the responsibilities in the conduct of cybersecurity inspections and assessments?	What is the Command Cyber Readiness Inspections (CCRI) process?		NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4, Updated January 22, 2015; NIST SP 800-53A Revision 4, December 2014
Inspections and Assessments		What is the purpose, intent, and a security professional's role in each step of the CCRI process?		NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4, Updated January 22, 2015; NIST SP 800-53A Revision 4, December 2014
Inspections and Assessments		What is the Mission Assurance Assessment (MAA) process?		DoDI 3020.39, Incorporating Change 1, February 13, 2018; DoDI 3020.45, August 14, 2018
Inspections and Assessments		What is the purpose, intent, and a security professional's role in each step of the MAA process?		DoDI 3020.39, Incorporating Change 1, February 13, 2018; DoDI 3020.45, August 14, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **25**

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER				
Area of Expertise: Program Security				
Concepts/Topics		**Question**	**Answer**	**Reference**
Research and Technology Protection Concepts	How would you apply methods and procedures for protecting critical program information?	What are the security requirements for the DoD Research and Technology Program (RTP)?		DoDI 5535.08, Incorporating Change 1, September 1, 2018
Research and Technology Protection Concepts		What is the security professional's role within the DoD RTP?		DoDI 5535.08, Incorporating Change 1, September 1, 2018
Research and Technology Protection Concepts		What is the process for assessing risk of foreign involvement?		DoDI 2040.02, Incorporating Change 1, July 31, 2017
Research and Technology Protection Concepts		How are the Program Protection Plan (PPP) from a Technology Assessment and Control Plan (TACP) alike? How are they different?		DoDI 5200.39, Incorporating Change 2, October 15, 2018
Research and Technology Protection Concepts		What is a security professional's role in PPP and TACP development?		DoDI 5200.39, Incorporating Change 2, October 15, 2018
Research and Technology Protection Concepts		What is the purpose of the Multidisciplinary Counterintelligence Threat Assessment?		Cancelled Policy 5200.39-R
Research and Technology Protection Concepts		How would you identify common RTP countermeasures?		DoDI 5200.39, Incorporating Change 2, October 15, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **26**

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: Program Security

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
SAP Concepts	What are the procedures for handling critical program information (CPI) requiring enhanced protection?	What are the similarities between protection requirements for SAP CPI and collateral information at the same level of classification? What are the differences?		DoDM 5205.07 Volumes 1-2, Incorporating Change 1, February 12, 2018; DoDM 5205.07 Volume 3, Incorporating Change 2, February 12, 2018; DoDM 5205.07 Volume 4, Incorporating Change 1, May 9, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **27**

GENERAL SECURITY CLUSTER

Area of Expertise: General Security Tools and Methods

Concepts/Topics		Question	Answer	Reference
Security Briefings	How would you apply security education, training, and awareness requirements as a security professional?	What is the role of security briefings in the effective management of risks to DoD assets?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017
Security Briefings		How are security briefings conducted?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017; DoDM 5105.21-M, Volumes 1-3, Incorporating Change 1, April 5, 2018; DoDM 5200.01, Volume 4, Incorporating Change 1, May 9, 2018
Security Briefings		What are the strategies for selling security education, training, and awareness (SETA) programs to senior leadership?		DoDM 5200.02, April 3, 2017; DoDM 5105.21-M, Volumes 1-3, Incorporating Change 1, April 5, 2018; DoDM 5200.01, Volume 4, Incorporating Change 1, May 9, 2018
Security Briefings		What are the methods for delivering security training?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 4, Incorporating Change 1, May 9, 2018
Security Briefings		What are the key activities involved in maintaining a security education program?		DoDM 5200.01, Volume 4, Incorporating Change 1, May 9, 2018

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **28**

Helpful Tips

- The body of material covered on the assessment cannot be memorized in its entirety. Use memory techniques only to help recall key points.

- Focus on the application of accepted principles, practices, and theories, not memorizing facts, dates, and names.

- The SAPPC assessment is based on DoD policy only, and does not incorporate additional Component or agency requirements.

Published: December 16, 2019. All content is subject to change.

SAPPC CPTs | Page **29**