

Independent CMMC Certification for the Defense Industrial Base

Organizations that process, store, or transmit Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) for the U.S. Department of Defense must demonstrate compliance with the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) program.

As an authorized CMMC Third-Party Assessment Organization (C3PAO), August Schell conducts independent certification assessments to verify that contractor information systems meet required federal cybersecurity safeguards.

Our certified assessors evaluate implementation of security controls aligned with NIST SP 800-171, helping organizations achieve CMMC certification in accordance with Department of Defense requirements.

CMMC Level 2 Certification Assessments

CMMC Level 2 certification validates that organizations have implemented the required security practices to protect Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) within their systems. Our assessment process evaluates the implementation and effectiveness of the 110 security requirements from NIST SP 800-171 across the organization's scoped environment.

Assessment Activities Include:

- ✓ Confirmation of CMMC assessment scope and boundary
- ✓ Review of System Security Plan (SSP) and supporting documentation
- ✓ Evaluation of security policies, procedures, and technical implementations
- ✓ Interviews with personnel responsible for control implementation
- ✓ Examination of objective evidence demonstrating control effectiveness



OUTCOME

An independent certification assessment evaluating compliance with CMMC Level 2 security requirements.

Conditional Certification & POA&M Closeout Assessments

Organizations may receive a Conditional CMMC Status when limited deficiencies are documented in a Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M). Our assessors perform follow-up evaluations to verify that required remediation actions have been completed.

Services Include:

- ✓ Verification of POA&M remediation activities
- ✓ Validation of implemented security controls
- ✓ Documentation review and evidence validation



OUTCOME

Completion of the POA&M closeout assessment supporting full CMMC certification when all requirements are met.

Triennial Certification Reassessments

CMMC Level 2 certifications are valid for three years, after which organizations must undergo reassessment to maintain certification status. Our reassessment services ensure continued compliance with CMMC requirements and verify that implemented controls remain effective.

Services Include:

- ✓ Review of updated security documentation
- ✓ Validation of implemented controls
- ✓ Evaluation of continued control effectiveness and documentation currency



OUTCOME

Verification that the organization continues to meet CMMC certification requirements.

Our Assessment Methodology

Our assessments follow a structured process aligned with CMMC program guidance and assessment standards.



Assessment Planning

Define scope, schedule, and required documentation.

1.



Technical Evaluation

Examine implementation of required security practices.

3.



Assessment Reporting

Document findings and certification determination.

5.

2.



Documentation Review

Evaluate the System Security Plan and supporting artifacts.

4.



Personnel Interviews

Validate operational processes and control effectiveness.

Standards Alignment

CMMC certification assessments verify compliance with federal cybersecurity requirements including:

- ✓ NIST SP 800-171 Rev. 2
- ✓ DFARS 252.204-7012 safeguarding requirements
- ✓ 32 CFR Part 170 (CMMC Program Rule)
- ✓ DFARS 252.204-7021 (CMMC requirements clause)

Assessment Integrity and Impartiality

August Schell operates as both a CMMC RPO (advisory/consulting) and an authorized C3PAO (certification assessments). In accordance with Cyber AB accreditation requirements, August Schell is prohibited from conducting a CMMC Level 2 certification assessment for any organization it has provided consulting or remediation services to within the preceding three years. Affected organizations must obtain certification from an independent C3PAO.

Schedule a Certification Assessment

If your organization is preparing for CMMC certification, August Schell's C3PAO team can guide you through the independent assessment process. Contact us today to learn more about scheduling a certification assessment.

