



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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MEMORANDUM FOR COGNIZANT AUTHORITY SPECIAL ACCESS PROGRAM
CENTRAL OFFICES

SUBJECT: Temporary Periodicity and Clearance Submission Implementation Guidance for
Special Access Programs

- References:
- (a) DoDM 5205.07, Volume 2, "Special Access Program Security Manual: Personnel Security", November 24, 2015
 - (b) OUSD(I) Policy Memorandum, "Extension of Periodic Investigation Timelines to Address Background Investigation Backlog", January 17, 2017
 - (c) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Personnel Security Investigations Backlog and Impacts", November 14, 2016
 - (d) Director of National Intelligence, "Personnel Security Investigations Backlog and Impacts", December 10, 2016
 - (e) Defense Security Service, "Notice of Six-Year Submission Window for Contractor Periodic Reinvestigations", January 6, 2017
 - (f) OUSD(I) Policy Memorandum, "Personnel Security Clearances in Industry", December 7, 2016


Recent personnel security guidance from references (b) through (f) directs DoD Components and Agencies to immediately implement actions affecting Tier 3 and Tier 5 reinvestigation submission periodicity for Government and Industry. This guidance temporarily adjusts Tier 5 periodic reinvestigations (PRs) from five years to six years and Tier 3 PRs from 5 years to 10 years. To facilitate these actions, reference (a), enclosure 3, 1(d) periodicity is temporarily modified indefinitely until updated or rescinded. Acceptable types of clearances and investigations for SAP access include:

- Tier 3: A SECRET SAP requires a minimum of a final SECRET clearance based upon either a National Agency Check with Law and Credit, or an Access National Agency Check and Inquiries or equivalent investigation, current within six years. Note: reference (b) 1, "*Tier 3 PRs will continue to be conducted at ten year periodicity. The Department will delay implementation of the five year Tier 3 PR until OPM eliminates their backlog.*"
- Tier 5: A TOP SECRET SAP requires a final TOP SECRET clearance based on a Single Scope Background Investigation (SSBI), SSBI Periodic Reinvestigation (SSBI-PR), or a Phased Periodic Reinvestigation or equivalent investigation current within six years.

A current investigation is an investigation not older than 6 years from the closed date of the last investigation. DSS has not granted an exception for Tier 3 PR submissions at this time. If a candidate with current SAP access is outside the 6-year investigative scope, then the individual will retain existing SAP access provided that no potentially disqualifying information

exists. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure 4, 2(a)(3), CA SAPCOs may exercise exception authority for nominees who do not have a current investigation.

My points of contact are Mr. Paul Akerley and Mr. Shelton Mackey at 703-697-1282.



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- cc: 1. OUSD(I) Security Policy
2. DSS
3. OUSD(I) SAPCO
4. OUSD(P) SAPCO