

Tier 3 Implementation of Federal Investigative Standards

In December 2012, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and Office of Personnel Management (OPM) jointly issued revised federal investigative standards on the conduct of background investigations for individuals that work for or on behalf of the federal government in order to bring consistency to investigative quality expectations . In early fiscal year 2016, the Tier 3 investigation is being implemented as part of the phased approach for implementation of the federal investigative standards. As a result, the investigation types National Agency Check with Law and Credit (NACLC) and Access National Agency Check with Written Inquiries + Credit Check (ANACI) are being replaced with the Tier 3 investigation when Confidential or Secret access to classified information is required.

Effective 24 October 2015, users may notice the Tier 3 investigations versus NACLC/ANACI when reviewing investigative information in JPAS, for example, an investigation line may appear as "T3 From OPM, Case #: 16000000 RECEIVED, Closing Action: , Seriousness: , File Available: N" vice "NACLC From OPM, Case #: 16000000 RECEIVED, Closing Action: , Seriousness: , File Available: N". Periodic Reinvestigation will be designated as "T3R" to represent Tier 3 Reinvestigation.

Implementation of Federal Investigative Standards

Tiered Investigations

Tiered Investigation Standards							
Why We Investigate	Public Trust			National Security			
Reason	Suitability			Access to Classified Information			
Position	Low-Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Confidential	Secret	Top Secret	SCI
Position Sensitivity	Non-Sensitive			Non-Critical Sensitive		Critical Sensitive	Special Sensitive
Tiered Investigation Associated	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 4	Tier 3	Tier 3	Tier 5	Tier 5
Current Type Investigation	NACI	MBI	BI	NACLIC/ANACI		SSBI	
Standard Form Used	SF-85	SF-85P		SF-86			
Who Submits	Government Agencies (not NISP contractors)			FSOs			

- ❖ Three basic reasons for conducting background investigations
 - National Security – access to classified
 - Suitability / Fitness for government employment
 - Personal Identity Verification in support of credentialing
 - Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12)
 - Physical access to facilities and or logical access to systems