

FACILITY CLEARANCE ACRONYM GUIDE



CAGE	Commercial and Government Entity Code, a five-character ID number used to identify your specific facility, assigned by the DoD's Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)
CDC	Cleared Defense Contractor, one of the two possible sponsors of an FCL
CDSE	Center for Development of Security Excellence, creates the security education, training and certification programs for the DoD and industry (through which your FSO will complete training)
CSO	Cognizant Security Office
DCSA	Defense Counterintelligence Security Agency (previously DSS, or Defense Security Service, until June 2019), the agency through which you receive a facility clearance
DoD	Department of Defense
DSS	Defense Security Service (changed to DCSA in June 2019), industry veterans still use DSS and DCSA interchangeably
e-QUIP System	Electronic Questionnaire for Investigations Processing, web-based automated system used to process standard forms for background checks
FCB	Facility Clearance Branch
FCL	Facility Clearance
FOCI	Foreign Ownership or Controlling Interest
FSO	Facility Security Officer
GCA	government contracting activity, one of the two possible sponsors of an FCL
IC	Intelligence Community
ISR	Industrial Security Representative, the local DCSA rep who will guide you through the FCL process
KMP	Key Management Personnel, the people in your company who need to have personnel clearances or exclusions
NISP	National Industrial Security Program
NISPOM	National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual, outlines the requirements, restrictions and other safeguards a cleared company must put in place
NISS	National Industrial Security System
OPM	Office of Personnel Management, through which you submit electronic fingerprints for personnel clearances
SOW	SOW = Statement of Work
SWFT	SWFT = Secure Web Fingerprint Transmission, used to submit fingerprints to the OPM
PCL	PCL = Personnel Clearance
PWS	PWS = Performance Work Statement