

# Does CMMC Level 1 Apply to You?

A 5-minute scope check for SMB defense contractors

## Applicability Check:

Does CMMC Level 1 apply to you?

- "We handle Federal Contract Information (FCI)"
- "We support DoD contracts directly or indirectly"
- "A customer, partner, or prime has asked us about CMMC or cybersecurity requirements"

## What Your Answers Mean

### Likely Out of Scope

CMMC likely does not apply at this time if:

- You have no DoD customers or subcontracting relationships
- You do not handle FCI
- You have not received contractual security requirements

### Possibly in Scope

CMMC may apply, but unclear if:

- Your DoD involvement is indirect or varies by contract
- Requirements differ across customers
- Guidance has been informal or inconsistent

### Likely in Scope

CMMC likely applies if:

- Handling FCI
- Supporting DoD contracts (directly or indirectly)
- Receiving contractual security requirements

## 5 Questions

1. Do we receive, store, or transmit FCI for any customer?
2. Are we a prime or subcontractor on any DoD-related work?
3. Have security requirements been flowed down in contracts or questionnaires?
4. Would different people in the company give the same answer about whether CMMC applies?
5. Has anyone asked us for cybersecurity evidence related to DoD work?

## What To Do Next

### A. Clarify Applicability

*If your answers were mixed, unclear, or unsure*  
→ [Avoid wasted effort by clarifying scope first](#)

*A short conversation can prevent unnecessary effort*

### B. Assess Readiness

*If you are confident CMMC does apply*  
→ [Validate with our free self-assessment](#)

*This is the right time to evaluate controls, ownership, and documentation*

## Disclaimer

This material is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal or regulatory advice.