

The facility clearance, in order.

The standard DoD path under 32 CFR Part 117. Your sponsor's DD 254 and your DCSA field office govern; where they differ from this page, they win.

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- 01 **Sponsorship.** A government agency or cleared prime tells DCSA a contract requires your company cleared, through a DD 254 or a sponsorship letter. You cannot start this yourself. No sponsor, no process.
 - 02 **DCSA acknowledgment and the NISS package.** DCSA opens your case; you submit the facility clearance package through NISS. Complete packages move. Incomplete ones sit.
 - 03 **The documents.** SF 328 (foreign ownership, control, or influence), DD 441 security agreement, key management personnel list, exclusion resolutions, and entity documents: articles, bylaws, ownership records. They have to agree with each other.
 - 04 **Name and train the FSO.** A U.S. citizen employee who will run the program, through DCSA's FSO curriculum. Often an existing employee wearing a second hat.
 - 05 **Key management personnel clearances.** The senior management official and the FSO submit for clearances; other officials are cleared or formally excluded. The SF-86 in e-QIP is the usual long pole.
 - 06 **Interim FCL.** DCSA can issue an interim while final processing completes; for many contracts it lets work begin. Not guaranteed, and FOCI questions usually take it off the table until resolved.
 - 07 **Final FCL.** When the entity review, the agreements, and the key personnel clearances close, the FCL goes final. From here the job is running the program: reporting, training, self inspections, the annual rhythm.

WHAT SLOWS IT DOWN

- An incomplete NISS package, or entity documents that don't match each other
- Key personnel slow to finish their SF-86s in e-QIP
- Unanswered FOCI questions on the SF 328
- A sponsor who goes quiet after the initial letter
- Ownership or corporate changes mid process

BEFORE SPONSORSHIP EVER ARRIVES, THE FREE WINS

- Current SAM registration and a CAGE code · clean entity records · a named FSO candidate

Bastion Launch takes a company from sponsorship to interim FCL: the package drafted, the filings staged, the FSO trained, nothing submitted without your approval, all on hardware in your building. \$9,500, flat. **bastionsoftware.com**