

Beginning October 1, 2006, the Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS), Architect-Engineer Contract Administration Support System (ACASS), and Construction Contractor Appraisal Support System (CCASS) will require Department of Defense users (military and civilian) to present a valid DoD Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) certificate in order to log into the application. Beginning November 1, 2006, Contractor users will be required to present a valid DoD PKI certificate in order to log into CPARS, ACASS, and CCASS. Non-DoD Federal Government users may continue to access the applications without a PKI certificate. The requirement for PKI certificates is implemented in accordance with DoD security policy promoting secure electronic transactions. Please visit http://www.cpars.navy.mil/pki_info.htm for detailed information regarding implementation of the PKI requirement.

DoD Users: If you have a Common Access Card (CAC), then you should already have a PKI certificate. In order to verify that your certificate is valid, please visit http://www.cpars.navy.mil/pki_info.htm and click on the "To determine if you have a valid DoD PKI Certificate" link. If you do not have a CAC, please contact your Command PKI point of contact for installation of a "soft certificate" on your computer.

Contractor Users Working at a DoD Facility: If you are working at a DoD facility and have a Common Access Card (CAC), then you should already have a PKI certificate. In order to verify that your certificate is valid, please visit http://www.cpars.navy.mil/pki_info.htm and click on the "To determine if you have a valid DoD PKI Certificate" link. If you do not have a CAC, please see the paragraph below.

Contractor Users Not Working at a DoD Facility: You may purchase a DoD PKI Certificate from one of three External Certificate Authorities (ECAs). The ECAs are vendors who provide digital certificates to DoD's industry partners who are using their own equipment or working in non-government facilities. A list of ECAs is available at http://www.cpars.navy.mil/pki_info.htm. Each contractor employee accessing CPARS, ACASS, or CCASS will need an Identity Certificate; an Encryption Certificate is not required. Certificate prices range from \$99 - \$115 per certificate per year, with volume discounts available at some ECAs.

We understand that the implementation of PKI may require some extra effort on the part of our CPARS, ACASS, and CCASS users when accessing the application(s). However, we must fully comply with the DoD requirement to implement PKI in order for our information systems to remain secure and viable. We are working to implement PKI with as little disruption to the login process as possible. If you have questions regarding PKI, please visit http://www.cpars.navy.mil/pki_info.htm. You may also contact our Help Desk at 603-431-9460 x486. We thank you for your patience as we implement this important security measure.