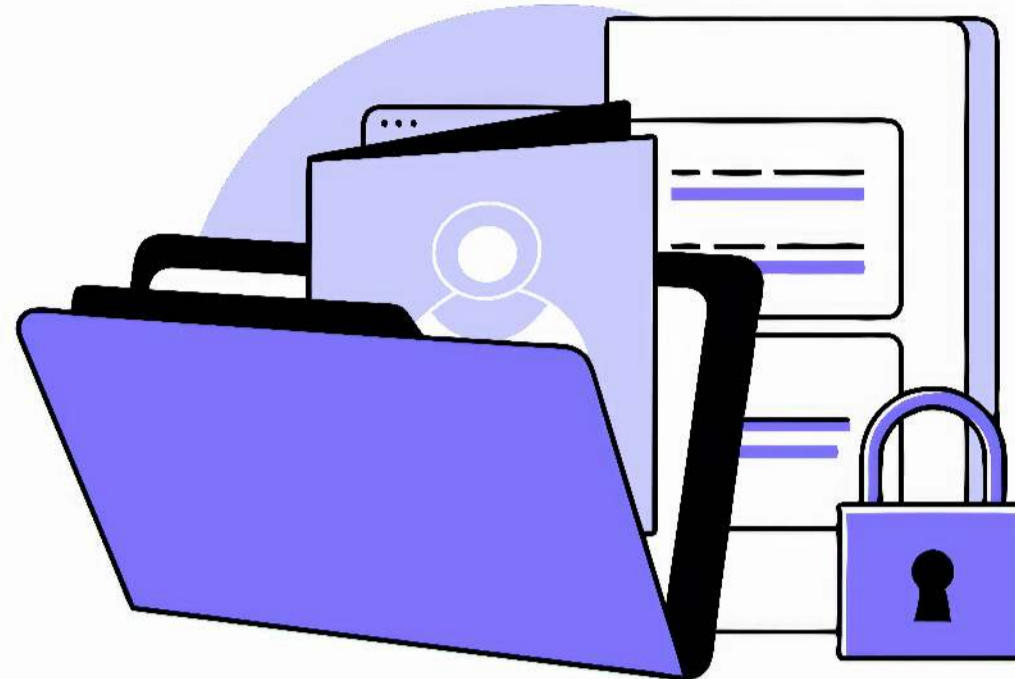




AG GRACE INC



Simplify Your CMMC Journey



## How to Conduct a CMMC Self-Assessment

Before any official CMMC assessment, contractors should take a hard look at their current cybersecurity posture. A self-assessment isn't just good practice — it's a critical step in preparing for certification and avoiding nasty surprises down the road.

Here's your no-fluff guide to doing it right.

## Why a Self-Assessment Matters

Self-assessments are mandatory for many contractors under DFARS 252.204-7019/7020. But beyond compliance, they help you:

- **Identify gaps** before they cost you a contract
- **Prioritize remediation efforts**
- **Build confidence** ahead of an official assessment

## 6 Key Steps to an Effective Self-Assessment

### 1. Determine Your CMMC Level

Start by identifying what level you're aiming for — most contractors handle **FCI (Level 1)** or **CUI (Level 2)**. Your level determines what controls you need to assess.

### 2. Use the Right Frameworks

For Level 2, base your review on **NIST SP 800-171**. Use the **DoD's Assessment Methodology** to assign scores to each control — starting at 110 and subtracting points for each gap.

### 3. Document Everything

Create a **System Security Plan (SSP)** that outlines how your organization meets each requirement. Pair it with a **Plan of Action & Milestones (POA&M)** to track what still needs to be done.

### 4. Focus on Evidence

An assessor won't just take your word for it. Collect artifacts: policies, screenshots, logs, system configs, training records — anything that backs up your compliance.

### 5. Score Yourself Honestly

This isn't the time to fudge numbers. Overestimating can lead to major issues later. Be thorough, be honest, and highlight realistic timelines in your POA&M.

### 6. Submit to SPRS

If you're handling CUI, you'll need to upload your score into the **Supplier Performance Risk System (SPRS)**. It's required to bid on DoD contracts.

## Pro Tip:

Start your self-assessment **at least 6–12 months before** you expect a CMMC assessment. It gives you time to fix issues without the pressure.

## Tools & Resources

- [NIST 800-171 Assessment Guide \(PDF\)](#)
- [SPRS Submission Portal](#)
- [CMMC Assessment Guides & Templates](#)

## Next in the Series:

"Building a System Security Plan (SSP): Your Compliance Blueprint" — Watch your inbox!

### Need help with your self-assessment?

[Schedule a free strategy session](#) with our CMMC consulting team, or email us [solutions@aggrace.com](mailto:solutions@aggrace.com) or call 240-315-6828 | [www.aggrace.com](http://www.aggrace.com)

Cybersecurity Consultant | CMMC Specialist



5257 Buckeystown Pike, Suite 206, Frederick, MD 21704  
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