

# Subpart 4.19 - Basic Safeguarding of Covered Contractor Information Systems

**Parent topic:** [Part 4 - Administrative and Information Matters](#)

## 4.1901 Definitions.

As used in this subpart-

*Covered contractor information system* means an *information system* that is owned or operated by a contractor that processes, stores, or transmits *Federal contract information*.

*Federal contract information* means *information*, not intended for public release, that is provided by or generated for the Government under a contract to develop or deliver a product or service to the Government, but not including *information* provided by the Government to the public (such as that on public Web sites) or simple transactional *information*, such as that necessary to process payments.

*Information* means any communication or representation of knowledge such as facts, data, or opinions in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual (Committee on National Security Systems Instruction (CNSSI) 4009).

*Information system* means a discrete set of *information* resources organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or disposition of *information* ([44 U.S.C. 3502](#)).

*Safeguarding* means measures or controls that are prescribed to protect *information systems*.

## 4.1902 Applicability.

This subpart applies to all *acquisitions*, including *acquisitions* of *commercial products* or *commercial services* other than commercially available off-the-shelf items, when a contractor's *information system* may contain *Federal contract information*.

## 4.1903 Contract clause.

The *contracting officer* shall insert the clause at [52.204-21](#), *Basic Safeguarding of Covered Contractor Information Systems*, in *solicitations* and contracts when the contractor or a subcontractor at any tier may have *Federal contract information* residing in or transiting through its *information system*.