



USACCESS Program

Blue Top Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings and Training

Meeting/Training	Date & Time (EST)	Location	Dial-In Info
Derived Credentials Working Group	Wed, Feb 18 9:00-12:00	GSA Central Office 1800F St. NW Rm. 3042	866-556-0154 Passcode: 2132069
User Group	Tue, Feb 24 9:00-12:00	GSA Central Office 1800F St. NW Conference Rm. 3046	888-455-1864 Passcode: USER GROUP
Registrar Classroom Training	Wed and Thurs Feb 18-19 Mar 18-19 Apr 8-9	HP Chantilly, VA	Contact Jim Schoening for information or to Register
CAB	Thurs, Mar 5 9:30 to 12:00	Grant Thornton 333 John Carlyle Dr., Alexandria, VA 4th Fl. Conf. Rm	No Telecon Provided

Special Points of Note:

Now found on
www.fedidcard.gov:

- > Service Order Requests and Test Card Orders
- > Role Holder Web Based Training Registration
- > Deployment Activities and USAccess Center Status Alert
- > Contact Steve Sill (Stephen.sill@gsa.gov) to be added to User Group (UG) distribution list.
- > Contact Jim Schoening (jim.schoening@gsa.gov) for Registrar Classroom Training sign up

Windows 7 Fixed Workstation Update

In the next few days, Agency Leads will receive an email asking for information to help the MSO develop a schedule for replacing fixed Windows XP machines with fixed Windows 7 machines in USAccess Credentialing Centers. The email includes a list of Agency sites, and asks Leads to confirm/provide Site, IT and Registrar POC information for each site. Agencies are also asked to indicate any scheduling preferences the MSO should take into consideration when prioritizing the equipment shipment and installation schedule. For example, Forest Services may want to avoid installations during fire season.

NOTE: Agencies must provide this information to the USAccess Help Desk by February 27. If the help desk does not receive this information, the Agency’s sites will not be scheduled for upgrade. Any sites that are not upgraded by mid-June will not be allowed to operate within the USAccess infrastructure.

Once the schedule is developed, HP will email the Agency Leads and provide 2 day/time options for the Agency’s prep call. The prep call is the first step in the upgrade process, and will be held before equipment ships to the site.

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Windows 7 continued

Once the prep call occurs, equipment will ship to the site and the Agency has 2 weeks from the time of its arrival to schedule an install call with HP using a special GSA Online Scheduling link that is provided during the prep call.

The install call is led by an HP Deployment person, and walks the site's local IT and Registrar through the process of setting up the new Windows 7 system and certifying the site with a test enrollment/activation, and then packing up and returning the Windows XP system.

All sites must be upgraded by mid-June in preparation for the MSO ATO. **Again, if a site is not upgraded, the site will not be allowed to operate in the USAccess infrastructure.**

More information will be provided at the February User Group meeting scheduled for February 24 at the GSA 18th Street location.

To repeat: This upgrade applies ONLY to Fixed enrollment and activation sites, NOT to light stations.

Registrar/Activator Training Calls and Customer Calls to be repurposed to Win7 Upgrade Calls

The USAccess Program will soon be commencing a Windows 7 Upgrade process. During this time there will be weekly Prep Calls with pending upgrade sites. As a result, the timeslots currently being used for Refresher/Activation Refresher Training and Customer Calls will be repurposed for Windows 7 Prep Calls. The Upgrade process is scheduled to complete in June. At this point the Refresher/Activation Refresher Training calls will be reinstated.

Enrollment Reminder

GSA reported that agencies have been sending applicants to enroll that do not have two forms of ID and/or do not have SSNs. USAccess is not currently equipped to sponsor or enroll applicants that do not have a SSN. FIPS 201 requires that two identity source documents in their original form are used to validate an applicant's identity. There are not any exceptions.

Please be sure applicants have the information they need to successfully enroll. Failure to prepare an applicant results in increased burden on roleholders, on the help desk, a frustrated applicant, and wasted time.

Connect.gov Program Seeking Volunteers

Do you have a PIV card or CAC? The [Connect.Gov](#) program is seeking volunteers to participate in a short 10 minutes testing of the Connect.Gov solution. Your participation and assistance is extremely valuable to the program!

Please respond to Angela (Angela.M.Lagneaux@usps.gov) and Ashrab (ashahmed@deloitte.com) with the following information and a member of the USPS team will provide you specific instructions to perform the testing, which can be executed remotely at your convenience.

- Whether you have a PIV card or CAC
- The issuing agency

About Connect.Gov: The Connect.Gov service enables citizens to access online Federal Government Services in a convenient, privacy enhancing, and secure manner without having to create a new login. To learn more about Connect.Gov, please click [here](#).

Service Enhancements

System Changes Since Last Blue Top

- Maintenance completed as scheduled on January 31
- Update Interagency Agreement (IAA) Numbers
- Onboarded National Science Foundation
- Added OPAC Combinations for DOI
- Added OPAC Combinations for GSA

Planned Changes

Routine Maintenance is planned for February 28, 2015. Please plan for the USAccess Service and Role Holder Portals to be unavailable for most of the day.

Light Credentialing Solution (LCS) and Light Activation (LA) installers v3.4

The new LCS and LA 3.4 installers will be available next week for Agency download from the SFTP server. The LCS upgrade is a **MANDATORY** update, as it renews a certificate required for enrollments that is set to expire March 15. If LCS kits are not updated to v3.4 by March 15, they will receive an error message when attempting to launch the enrollment application. The LCS installer also includes updates for Java (Java 7 Update 75) and ActivClient (Hotfix 197). Agencies can update machines as soon as the installer is available as v3.4 works within the existing USAccess infrastructure.

The LA installer is a **RECOMMENDED** update that includes updates for Java and ActivClient (same versions as those included with LCS v3.4). LA machines are not affected by the enrollment certificate that expires on March 15, 2015. While LA systems with v3.2 software will still function in the USAccess infrastructure after March 15, the MSO highly recommends that Agencies update their machines to v3.4 to deploy the latest version of Java and receive the ActivClient hotfix.

Fixed enrollment workstations must also have the updated enrollment certificate updated by March 15. Fixed workstations will be updated using our automated update distribution method, therefore no action is needed by Agencies.

Draft release notes will be available for the LCS and LA v3.4 installers on the Agency Lead Portal by end of day Friday, February 13.

NOTE: Some agencies have experienced issues accessing the SFTP server using Internet Explorer recently. If you receive an “Internet Explorer cannot display the webpage” message when attempting to access the SFTP server, please check the TLS configuration in your IE settings. From the Tools>Internet Options>Advanced tab, verify the User TLS 1.0 and TLS 1.1 boxes are checked.

Continued**SIP service certificates expiring in Mid-March 2015**

SIP customers will also need to update their services with new certificates in mid-March. An email was sent to SIP customers the week of February 2 informing them of the need update the certificates and provided ETAs on when they will be available for each environment (Test, Staging and Production.)

Security Tip*Credential Inventory Tool (CIT) Credential Check-In*

Issuing Organizations are required to maintain a Chain-of-Trust from the time Credentials are physically received, transferred to the credential holder, and throughout the lifecycle to Credential destruction.

Timely use of the CIT by Operators and Activators is required to ensure that the Chain-of-Trust is properly maintained throughout its lifecycle and that USAccess and your agency knows the status and location of a credential.

Timely use of the CIT is required for the following actions.

- Checking in newly received PIV credentials
- Creating credential pick-up addresses
- Creating special instructions for Applicants to follow for credential pickup.
- Sending Credential Ready for Pick-up email to Applicants.
- Perform auditing and reporting, and
- Marking returned Credentials as collected and deactivated
- Marking Credentials as destroyed