



USACCESS Program

# Blue Top Newsletter

## Upcoming Meetings and Training

Meeting/Training	Date & Time (EST)	Location	Dial-In Info
Derived Credential Industry Day	Mon, Apr 27 GSA Central Office Registration is now closed		No Telecon Provided
Registrar Classroom Training	Wed and Thu May 6-7 Jun 10-11	HP Chantilly, VA	Contact Jim Schoening for information or to Register
CAB	Thu, May 7 9:30 to 12:00	Grant Thornton 333 John Carlyle Dr., Alexandria, VA 4th Fl. Conf. Rm	No Telecon Provided
User Group	Tue, May 19 9:00-12:00	GSA Central Office 1800F St. NW Conference Rm. 3046	888-455-1864 Passcode: 5887966

Special Points of Note:

Now found on [www.fedidcard.gov](http://www.fedidcard.gov):

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

## Fixed Infrastructure Windows 7 Workstation Replacement Update

The schedule for fixed workstation replacement is posted on the Agency Lead Portal (ALP). This schedule includes the planned timeframes for fixed site Prep Calls, Windows 7 equipment shipments and Install Calls.

### Prep Calls Completed for Waves 1-5

Prep calls were completed for Waves 1-5. Wave 6 calls should be completed by the end of this week. Sites that attended these calls are now eligible for equipment shipping. **If a site does not attend a call, equipment will not be shipped.** If your site did not attend their scheduled call, please contact the MSO to have them attend a future prep call.

### Windows 7 Equipment Shipping

Equipment has shipped for Waves 1-4. Wave 5 should complete shipping by end of this week.

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## **Fixed Infrastructure Windows 7 Workstation Replacement Update continued**

Emails were sent to site POCs with shipment tracking information and instructions for preparing for the install call. Please look for the shipment email and be sure to follow the steps to prepare for and schedule the install call within 2 weeks of equipment arrival on site.

### **Install Calls/Site Recertifications**

As of Friday, April 17, we've certified/held install calls for 28 sites.

**As a reminder, please prepare for your Install Calls.** When a site completes the following steps before the call, we can complete an install in about an hour. When they are not completed, **they can take up to 3 hours.**

### **Please complete the following before your install call:**

- Registrars/Activators know UPN/Password (refer to USAccess Windows 7 Workstation Replacement Guide)
- Set up Windows 7 machines 1 hour prior to install call (refer to USAccess Win 7 Quick Install Guide)
- Line up Applicant to activate or update card during install call (needed to recertify site)
- Have Site POC, Local IT and Registrars/Activators on call

## **Finance Reminder**

As a reminder to all of our customer agencies, please be sure to maintain sufficient funding for your HSPD-12 services. The IA addendum form used to obligate additional funding and instructions for completing it can be found on the FedIDcard.gov website under the Customer Agencies tab in the Onboarding Process section. Please feel free to contact Spiro Papagjika ([spiro.papagjika@gsa.gov](mailto:spiro.papagjika@gsa.gov)) or Meredith Rose ([Meredith.rose@gsa.gov](mailto:Meredith.rose@gsa.gov)) with any funding-related questions.

## **Service Enhancements**

### **System changes since last Blue Top**

#### **Emergency Maintenance completed on Thursday, April 16.**

Emergency maintenance was completed to the backend USAccess infrastructure to address a published Microsoft vulnerability (MS15-034) that could potentially impact systems utilizing certain versions of the Microsoft Windows 7 & 8 Operating System that access the Internet. We worked with West Coast sites to schedule this work so as to minimize impact to operations. An email was sent to Agency Leads information them of this work.

Agencies should review the MS15-034 security bulletin to address any concerns within their own infrastructure (See: <https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/security/ms15-034.aspx>.)

**Maintenance and USAccess Release 9.6.4 was pushed to production on Sunday, April 19.** This release included monthly maintenance, incorporating a renewed Treasury OCIO CA certificate in to USAccess workflow, as well as fixes to the Adjudication portal to adjust formatting in the FBI/NCHC and SSN fields for known issues using Internet Explorer 11. Release notes are posted on the Agency Lead portal.

### **Planned changes**

**Maintenance is scheduled for this Saturday, April 25 from 5:30AM-10:00PM**

**Eastern.** The USAccess Service and role holder portals will be unavailable during this time.

**Maintenance is also scheduled for Saturday, May 2 for most of the day.** Please plan for the USAccess Service and role holder portals to be unavailable for most of the day.

## *Security Tip*

### *Hosting Light Solutions*

As many Credentialing Centers transition from Fixed to Light Solutions, it's important to remember that the rules for hosting the stations remain unchanged. The USAccess READY! Guide details the security, facility, and other requirements for hosting a Credentialing Center such as room size, single-purpose room requirement, and a lockable door.

