



Tuesday Tips is a new outreach effort by OGCA. The idea behind *Tuesday Tips* is to convey tips, tricks and other helpful information around the area of research administration. Our goal is to post on (almost every) Tuesdays. If there is something you would like to see covered on *Tuesday Tips*, email: UAF-GCReATE@alaska.edu. For more Tips visit [OGCA website](#).

Controlled Unclassified Information in Sponsored Research

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) created information security standards to safeguard and distribute material or data deemed sensitive but not classified as Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) in any Non-Federal Information Systems and Organizations doing research or procuring other goods and services for the US federal government.

CUI is federal non-classified information the U.S. Government creates or possesses, or that a non-federal entity (such as the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)) receives, possesses, or creates for, or on behalf of, the U.S. Government, that requires information security controls to safeguard or disseminate.

The federal CUI Program is a government-wide approach to creating a uniform set of requirements and information security controls directed at securing sensitive government information.

These controls must be compliant with the federal regulations specified in [32 CFR Part 2002](#)(link is external) and [NIST SP 800-171r1](#)(link is external).

"Information" as defined by the federal CUI Program may include research data and other project information that a research team receives, possesses, or creates in the performance of a sponsored contract.

A research project at the UAF may require the implementation of CUI information security controls when the federal contract/award contains language/clauses (e.g., FAR, DFAR) requiring those controls. OGCA and in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research/Export Control Officer reviews the contracts to determine the applicability of the clauses in negotiation with the sponsor.

A research project may also include CUI if it is using data acquired under a Data Use Agreement (DUA) and the data is information classified by the government as CUI.

RESEARCHER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

If CUI compliance is required for a research project, the Principal Investigator and their unit will work with UAF's OGCA and in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research/Export Control Officer to:

- Verify that the research project will receive, possess, and/or create CUI
- Identify, the appropriate information security system/technology solution to use to secure and store the information and/or appropriate system.
- Create the required information security plan for the research project. This plan outlines the policies and procedures the research team will follow (e.g., information access restrictions, laboratory security, etc.) to comply with the CUI requirements.

Additional Information [on Controlled Unclassified Information \(CUI\) in Sponsored Research Guidance](#) be found by clicking on the link or by contacting OGCA.