



Defense and Compliance

ComplyClinic Playbook

NIST 800-171 Evidence Checklist for Small Contractors

A practical evidence checklist to help turn security work into assessment-ready documentation.

Audience: Small contractors preparing evidence for CMMC Level 2 or NIST 800-171 aligned security work.

General educational resource only. This is not legal advice, certification advice, or a substitute for a formal security risk analysis, CMMC assessment, or incident response engagement.

Why evidence matters

Security implementation and assessment evidence are related but not the same. Evidence shows what is configured, documented, reviewed, and repeated.

Small contractors should build evidence continuously instead of waiting until an assessment deadline.

Core document set

System Security Plan, scope diagram, asset inventory, data flow diagram, policies, procedures, POA&M, incident response plan, access control procedures, configuration standards, and training records.

Identity and access evidence

User list, privileged user list, MFA settings, access review records, account creation and termination procedures, password policy, remote access settings, and administrator approval records.

Device and endpoint evidence

Asset inventory, encryption status, endpoint protection status, patch reports, baseline configurations, vulnerability scan results, and exception tracking.

Network evidence

Network diagram, firewall rules, VPN settings, segmentation design, Wi-Fi settings, external exposure review, and remote management restrictions.

Audit and incident evidence

Log sources, log retention settings, alert process, incident tickets, tabletop exercise records, and after-action reports.

Evidence maintenance rhythm

Monthly: access and vulnerability review. Quarterly: policy and asset review. Annually: risk assessment, incident tabletop, training completion, and SSP update.

Next step: Schedule an evidence readiness review to organize your SSP, policies, and control proof. Schedule now

Need help turning this into a practical roadmap? Book a free consultation at complyclinic.com.

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