

## § 1214.503

(b) *Mission Critical Positions/Duties.* Positions/duties which, if performed in a faulty, negligent, or malicious manner, could jeopardize mission critical space systems and/or delay a mission. While this regulation establishes suitability screening requirements which, if met, will allow unescorted access to mission critical space areas, compliance with the requirements does not authorize unescorted access to classified areas by Personnel Reliability Program (PRP) personnel who do not have security clearances.

(c) *Medical Authority.* A NASA civil service or contract physician/psychiatrist responsible for maintaining medical records, providing results of medical evaluations, and interpreting evaluations as they relate to reliable performance of mission-critical duties. The medical authority will coordinate evaluations with the investigatory authority.

(d) *Investigatory Authority.* A NASA civil service or contract individual responsible for reviewing court, law enforcement (Civil, DOD, NASA, other Federal), and other official records and NASA screening plans/procedures records to provide evaluations, recommendations, and guidance to NASA organizations, supervisors, and PRP adjudicators on issuing, denying, or revoking eligibility for mission critical positions/duties.

(e) *Certification.* The determination that an employee assigned to duties as described in §1214.505 of this part, is qualified to perform those duties, and that this employee has been found reliable in accordance with the adjudication guidelines set forth in Attachment B of NMI 8610.13.<sup>1</sup>

### § 1214.503 Policy.

(a) The Space Shuttle and the Space Station Freedom are included in the NASA National Resource Protection Program as delineated in NMI 8610.22, "National Resource Protection Program."<sup>2</sup> The Space Shuttle and the Space Station Freedom provide a capability to support a wide range of scientific applications and commercial,

<sup>1</sup> Copies may be obtained from NASA Headquarters (Code NA-2), Washington, DC 20546.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 1 to §1214.502(e).

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defense, and international uses. Since they will contribute significantly to ensuring a scientifically, technologically, and economically strong and secure nation, program reliability, operational and safety considerations require that stringent measures be taken to provide for the protection of the systems. In addition to the Space Shuttle and the Space Station Freedom, designated ELV's, designated payloads, Shuttle Carrier Aircraft and other designated resources which provide the same critical access to space or the ability to accomplish critical objectives in space are considered to constitute valued national resources.

(b) Measures to ensure this protection are:

(1) Special physical security provisions as provided in NMI 8610.22.<sup>3</sup>

(2) Procedures to ensure that personnel assigned to mission critical positions/duties meet screening requirements, as set forth in §1214.504 of this part prior to unescorted access to areas where mission critical space systems are located.

### § 1214.504 Screening requirements.

(a) Only those persons who are certified under the PRP will have unescorted access to mission critical space systems areas, be assigned to, employed in, or retained in mission critical positions/duties. While this regulation provides for unescorted access to mission critical space systems areas, it does not preclude the need for escorting of PRP personnel who do not have security clearances in classified areas. The certification will be based on an evaluation of screening data which is to be undertaken by a trained evaluator using evaluation guidance and criteria contained in Federal Personnel Manual (FPM) chapter 731 and Attachment B (Adjudication Guidelines) of NMI 8610.13.<sup>4</sup> The need for impartial and consistent evaluation of data based on a set of standards is considered paramount to the successful implementation of this program.

<sup>3</sup> See footnote 1 to §1214.502(e).

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 1 to §1214.502(e).