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**FIPS PUB 201-2**

**FEDERAL INFORMATION PROCESSING STANDARDS PUBLICATION**

**Personal Identity Verification (PIV)  
of  
Federal Employees and Contractors  
DRAFT**

Computer Security Division  
Information Technology Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8900

March 2011



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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
*Gary Locke, Secretary*

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY**  
*Dr. Patrick D. Gallagher, Director*

37

## **Acknowledgements**

38

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42 contributions to the development of technical frameworks on which this standard is based.

43

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45 **FOREWORD**

46

47 The Federal Information Processing Standards Publication Series of the National Institute of Standards  
 48 and Technology (NIST) is the official series of publications relating to standards and guidelines adopted  
 49 and promulgated under the provisions of the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) of  
 50 2002.

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54

Cita Furlani, Director  
 Information Technology Laboratory

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59

60 **ABSTRACT**

61

62 This standard specifies the architecture and technical requirements for a common identification standard  
 63 for Federal employees and contractors. The overall goal is to achieve appropriate security assurance for  
 64 multiple applications by efficiently verifying the claimed identity of individuals seeking physical access  
 65 to Federally controlled government facilities and electronic access to government information systems.

66 The standard contains the minimum requirements for a Federal personal identity verification system that  
 67 meets the control and security objectives of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, including  
 68 identity proofing, registration, and issuance. The standard also provides detailed specifications that will  
 69 support technical interoperability among PIV systems of Federal departments and agencies. It describes  
 70 the card elements, system interfaces, and security controls required to securely store, process, and retrieve  
 71 identity credentials from the card. The physical card characteristics, storage media, and data elements  
 72 that make up identity credentials are specified in this standard. The interfaces and card architecture for  
 73 storing and retrieving identity credentials from a smart card are specified in Special Publication 800-73,  
 74 *Interfaces for Personal Identity Verification*. The interfaces and data formats of biometric information  
 75 are specified in Special Publication 800-76, *Biometric Data Specification for Personal Identity*  
 76 *Verification*. The requirements for cryptographic algorithms are specified in the Special Publication 800-  
 77 78, *Cryptographic Algorithms and Key Sizes for Personal Identity Verification*. The requirements for the  
 78 accreditation of the PIV Card issuer are specified in the Special Publication 800-79, *Guidelines for the*  
 79 *Accreditation of Personal Identity Verification Card Issuers (PCI's)*. The unique organizational codes for  
 80 Federal agencies are assigned in the Special Publication 800-87, *Codes for the Identification of Federal*  
 81 *and Federally-Assisted Organizations*.

82 This standard does not specify access control policies or requirements for Federal departments and  
 83 agencies.

84

85 *Keywords:* Architecture, authentication, authorization, biometrics, credential, cryptography, Federal  
 86 Information Processing Standards (FIPS), HSPD-12, identification, identity, infrastructure, model,  
 87 Personal Identity Verification, PIV, validation, verification.

**Federal Information Processing Standards 201  
2011**

**Announcing the  
Standard for**

**Personal Identity Verification  
of  
Federal Employees and Contractors  
DRAFT**

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99 Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute  
100 of Standards and Technology (NIST) after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to the  
101 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) of 2002.

102 **1. Name of Standard.**

103 FIPS PUB 201-2: Personal Identity Verification (PIV) of Federal Employees and Contractors.<sup>1</sup>

104 **2. Category of Standard.**

105 Information Security.

106 **3. Explanation.**

107 Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12), dated August 27, 2004, entitled “Policy for a  
108 Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors,” directed the promulgation of a  
109 Federal standard for secure and reliable forms of identification for Federal employees and contractors. It  
110 further specified secure and reliable identification that—

- 111 + Is issued based on sound criteria for verifying an individual employee’s identity  
112 + Is strongly resistant to identity fraud, tampering, counterfeiting, and terrorist exploitation  
113 + Can be rapidly authenticated electronically  
114 + Is issued only by providers whose reliability has been established by an official accreditation  
115 process.

116 The directive stipulated that the standard include graduated criteria, from least secure to most secure, to  
117 ensure flexibility in selecting the appropriate level of security for each application. As promptly as  
118 possible, but in no case later than eight months after the date of promulgation, executive departments and  
119 agencies are required to implement the standard for identification issued to Federal employees and  
120 contractors in gaining physical access to controlled facilities and logical access to controlled information  
121 systems.

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<sup>1</sup> This standard is in response to the Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12 which states that it is “intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch of the Federal Government”.

123 **4. Approving Authority.**

124 Secretary of Commerce.

125 **5. Maintenance Agency.**

126 Department of Commerce, NIST, Information Technology Laboratory (ITL).

127 **6. Applicability.**

128 This standard is applicable to identification issued by Federal departments and agencies to Federal  
 129 employees and contractors (including contractor employees) for gaining physical access to Federally  
 130 controlled facilities and logical access to Federally controlled information systems except for “national  
 131 security systems” as defined by 44 U.S.C. 3542(b)(2). Except as provided in HSPD-12, nothing in this  
 132 standard alters the ability of government entities to use the standard for additional applications.

133 Special-Risk Security Provision—The U.S. Government has personnel, facilities, and other assets  
 134 deployed and operating worldwide under a vast range of threats (e.g., terrorist, technical, intelligence),  
 135 particularly heightened overseas. For those agencies with particularly sensitive OCONUS threats, the  
 136 issuance, holding, and/or use of PIV credentials with full technical capabilities as described herein may  
 137 result in unacceptably high risk. In such cases of extant risk (e.g., to facilities, individuals, operations, the  
 138 national interest, or the national security), by the presence and/or use of full-capability PIV credentials,  
 139 the head of a Department or independent agency may issue a select number of maximum security  
 140 credentials that do not contain (or otherwise do not fully support) the wireless and/or biometric  
 141 capabilities otherwise required/referenced herein. To the greatest extent practicable, heads of  
 142 Departments and independent agencies should minimize the issuance of such special-risk security  
 143 credentials so as to support inter-agency interoperability and the President’s policy. Use of other risk-  
 144 mitigating technical (e.g., high-assurance on-off switches for the wireless capability) and procedural  
 145 mechanisms in such situations is preferable, and as such is also explicitly permitted and encouraged. As  
 146 protective security technology advances, the need for this provision will be re-assessed as the standard  
 147 undergoes the normal review and update process.

148 **7. Specifications.**

149 Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 201 Personal Identity Verification (PIV) of Federal  
 150 Employees and Contractors.

151 **8. Implementations.**

152 The PIV standard satisfies the control objectives, security requirements, and technical interoperability  
 153 requirements of HSPD-12. The PIV standard specifies implementation of identity credentials on  
 154 integrated circuit cards for use in a Federal personal identity verification system.

155 A PIV Card must be personalized with identity information for the individual to whom the card is issued,  
 156 in order to perform identity verification both by humans and automated systems. Humans can use the  
 157 physical card for visual comparisons, whereas automated systems can use the electronically stored data on  
 158 the card to conduct automated identity verification.

159 Federal departments and agencies must use accredited issuers to issue identity credentials for Federal  
 160 employees and contractors. For this purpose, NIST provided guidelines for the accreditation of PIV Card  
 161 issuers in [SP 800-79]. NIST also developed a PIV Validation Program that tests implementations for

162 conformance with this standard, and specifically with [SP 800-73]. Additional information on this  
 163 program is published and maintained at <http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/SNS/piv/npivp/>.

164 The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provides an implementation oversight of this standard.  
 165 The respective numbers of agency-issued 1) general credentials and 2) Special-risk credentials (issued  
 166 under the Special-Risk Security Provision) are subject to annual reporting to the OMB under the annual  
 167 reporting process in a manner prescribed by OMB.

168 **9. Effective Date.**

169 This standard is effective immediately. Federal departments and agencies shall meet the requirements of  
 170 this standard in accordance with the timetable specified by OMB. OMB has advised NIST that it plans to  
 171 issue guidance regarding the adoption and implementation of this standard.

172 **10. Qualifications.**

173 The security provided by the PIV system is dependent on many factors outside the scope of this standard.  
 174 Upon adopting this standard, organizations must be aware that the overall security of the personal  
 175 identification system relies on—

- 176 + Assurance provided by the issuer of an identity credential that the individual in possession of the  
 177 credential has been correctly identified
- 178 + Protection provided to an identity credential stored within the PIV Card and transmitted between  
 179 the card and the PIV issuance and usage infrastructure
- 180 + Protection provided to the identity verification system infrastructure and components throughout  
 181 the entire life cycle.

182 Although it is the intent of this standard to specify mechanisms and support systems that provide high  
 183 assurance personal identity verification, conformance to this standard does not assure that a particular  
 184 implementation is secure. It is the implementer’s responsibility to ensure that components, interfaces,  
 185 communications, storage media, managerial processes, and services used within the identity verification  
 186 system are designed and built in a secure manner.

187 Similarly, the use of a product that conforms to this standard does not guarantee the security of the overall  
 188 system in which the product is used. The responsible authority in each department and agency shall  
 189 ensure that an overall system provides the acceptable level of security.

190 Because a standard of this nature must be flexible enough to adapt to advancements and innovations in  
 191 science and technology, the NIST has a policy to review this standard within five years to assess its  
 192 adequacy.

193 **11. Waivers.**

194 As per the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002, waivers to Federal Information  
 195 Processing Standards are not allowed.

196

197 **12. Where to Obtain Copies.**

198 This publication is available through the Internet by accessing <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/>.

199 **13. Patents.**

200

201 Aspects of the implementation of this standard may be covered by U.S. or foreign patents.

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## 202 **1. Introduction**

203 Authentication of an individual's identity is a fundamental component of physical and logical access  
 204 control processes. When an individual attempts to access security-sensitive buildings, computer systems,  
 205 or data, an access control decision must be made. An accurate determination of an individual's identity is  
 206 needed to make sound access control decisions.

207 A wide range of mechanisms is employed to authenticate identity, utilizing various classes of identity  
 208 credentials. For physical access, individual identity has traditionally been authenticated by use of paper  
 209 or other non-automated, hand-carried credentials, such as driver's licenses and badges. Access  
 210 authorization to computers and data has traditionally been based on identities authenticated through user-  
 211 selected passwords. More recently, cryptographic mechanisms and biometric techniques have been used  
 212 in physical and logical security applications, replacing or supplementing the traditional identity  
 213 credentials.

214 The strength of the authentication that is achieved varies, depending upon the type of credential, the  
 215 process used to issue the credential, and the authentication mechanism used to validate the credential.  
 216 This document establishes a standard for a Personal Identity Verification (PIV) system based on secure  
 217 and reliable forms of identity credentials issued by the Federal government to its employees and  
 218 contractors. These credentials are intended to authenticate individuals who require access to Federally  
 219 controlled facilities, information systems, and applications. This standard addresses requirements for  
 220 initial identity proofing, infrastructures to support interoperability of identity credentials, and  
 221 accreditation of organizations and processes issuing PIV credentials.

### 222 **1.1 Purpose**

223 This standard defines a reliable, government-wide identity credential for use in applications such as  
 224 access to Federally controlled facilities and information systems. This standard has been developed  
 225 within the context and constraints of Federal law, regulations, and policy based on information processing  
 226 technology currently available and evolving.

227 This standard specifies a PIV system within which a common identity credential can be created and later  
 228 used to verify a claimed identity. The standard also identifies Federal government-wide requirements for  
 229 security levels that are dependent on risks to the facility or information being protected.

### 230 **1.2 Scope**

231 Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 [HSPD-12], signed by the President on August 27, 2004,  
 232 established the requirements for a common identification standard for identity credentials issued by  
 233 Federal departments and agencies to Federal employees and contractors (including contractor employees)  
 234 for gaining physical access to Federally controlled facilities and logical access to Federally controlled  
 235 information systems. HSPD-12 directs the Department of Commerce to develop a Federal Information  
 236 Processing Standards (FIPS) publication to define such a common identity credential. In accordance with  
 237 HSPD-12, this standard defines the technical requirements for the identity credential that—

- 238 + Is issued based on sound criteria for verifying an individual employee's identity
- 239 + Is strongly resistant to identity fraud, tampering, counterfeiting, and terrorist exploitation
- 240 + Can be rapidly authenticated electronically

241 + Is issued only by providers whose reliability has been established by an official accreditation  
242 process.

243 This standard defines authentication mechanisms offering varying degrees of security. Federal  
244 departments and agencies will determine the level of security and authentication mechanisms appropriate  
245 for their applications. This standard does not specify access control policies or requirements for Federal  
246 departments and agencies. Therefore, the scope of this standard is limited to authentication of an  
247 individual's identity. Authorization and access control decisions are outside the scope of this standard.  
248 Moreover, requirements for a temporary card used until the new PIV Card arrives are out of scope of this  
249 standard.

## 250 **1.3 Change Management**

251 Every new revision of this standard introduces refinements and changes that may impact existing  
252 implementations. FIPS 201 and its normative specifications encourage implementation approaches that  
253 reduce the high cost of configuration and change management by architecting resilience to change into  
254 system processes and components. Nevertheless, changes and modifications are introduced. Because of  
255 the importance of this issue, the Change Management section has been added to the standard.

256 This section provides change management principles and guidance to manage newly introduced changes  
257 and modifications to the previous version of this standard. Specifically, this section provides a  
258 description of the types of changes expected in FIPS 201 revisions.

### 259 **1.3.1 Backward compatible change**

260 A backward compatible change is a change or modification to an existing feature that does not break the  
261 systems using this feature. For example, changing the NACI indicator from mandatory to optional in the  
262 PIV Authentication certificate does not affect the systems using the PIV Authentication certificate for PIV  
263 authentication (i.e., using the PKI-PIV mechanism).

### 264 **1.3.2 Non-backward compatible change**

265 A non-backward compatible change is a change or modification to an existing feature such that the  
266 modified feature cannot be used with existing systems. For example, changing the format of the  
267 biometric data would not be compatible with the existing system, because a biometric authentication  
268 attempt with the modified format would fail. Similarly, changing the PIV Card Application Identifier  
269 (AID) would introduce a non-backward compatible change. As a result, all systems interacting with the  
270 PIV card would need to be changed to accept the new PIV AID.

### 271 **1.3.3 New Features**

272 New features are optional or mandatory features that are added to the standard. New features do not  
273 interfere with backward compatibility because they are not part of the existing systems. For example, the  
274 addition of an optional On-Card Biometric comparison (OCC) authentication mechanism is a new feature  
275 that does not affect the features in the current systems. The systems will need to be updated if an agency  
276 decides to support the OCC authentication mechanism.

### 277 **1.3.4 Deprecated and removed**

278 When a feature is discontinued or no longer needed, it is deprecated. Such a feature remains in the  
279 current standard as an optional feature but its use is strongly discouraged. A deprecated feature does not

280 affect existing systems but should be phased out in future systems, because the feature will be removed in  
 281 the next revision of the standard. For example, existing PIV Cards with deprecated data elements remain  
 282 valid until they naturally expire. Replacement PIV Cards, however, should not re-use the deprecated  
 283 features because the next revision of the standard will remove the support for deprecated data elements.

### 284 1.3.5 FIPS 201 Version Management

285 Subsequent revisions of this standard may necessitate FIPS 201 version management that introduces new  
 286 version numbers for FIPS 201 products. Components that may be affected by version management  
 287 include, for example, PIV Cards, PIV middleware software, and card issuance systems.

288 New version numbers may be assigned in [SP 800-73] depending on the nature of the change. For  
 289 example, new mandatory features introduced in a revision of this standard, may necessitate a new PIV  
 290 card application version number so that systems can quickly discover the new mandatory features.  
 291 Optional features, on the other hand, may be discoverable by an on-card discovery mechanism.

## 292 1.4 Document Organization

293 This standard describes the minimum requirements for a Federal personal identification system that meets  
 294 the control and security objectives of HSPD-12, including identity proofing, registration, and issuance. It  
 295 provides detailed technical specifications to support the control and security objectives of HSPD-12 as  
 296 well as interoperability among Federal departments and agencies. This standard describes the policies  
 297 and minimum requirements of a PIV Card that allows interoperability of credentials for physical and  
 298 logical access. The physical card characteristics, storage media, and data elements that make up identity  
 299 credentials are specified in this standard. The interfaces and card architecture for storing and retrieving  
 300 identity credentials from a smart card are specified in NIST Special Publication 800-73 [SP 800-73],  
 301 *Interfaces for Personal Identity Verification*. Similarly, the requirements for collection and formatting of  
 302 biometric information are specified in NIST Special Publication 800-76 [SP 800-76], *Biometric Data  
 303 Specification for Personal Identity Verification*. The requirements for cryptographic algorithms are  
 304 specified in the Special Publication 800-78 [SP 800-78], *Cryptographic Algorithms and Key Sizes for  
 305 Personal Identity Verification*. The requirements for the accreditation of PIV Card issuers are specified in  
 306 the Special Publication 800-79 [SP 800-79], *Guidelines for the Accreditation of Personal Identity  
 307 Verification Card Issuers (PCI's)*. The unique organizational codes for Federal agencies are assigned in  
 308 the Special Publication 800-87 [SP 800-87], *Codes for the Identification of Federal and Federally-  
 309 Assisted Organizations*. The requirements for the PIV Card reader are provided in Special Publication  
 310 800-96 [SP 800-96], *PIV Card to Reader Interoperability Guidelines*.

311 All sections in this document are *normative* (i.e., mandatory for compliance) unless specified as  
 312 *informative* (i.e., non-mandatory). Following is the structure of this document:

- 313 + Section 1, Introduction, provides background information for understanding the scope of this  
 314 standard. This section is *informative*.
- 315 + Section 2, Common Identification, Security, and Privacy Requirements, outlines the requirements  
 316 for identity proofing, registration, and issuance, by establishing the control and security  
 317 objectives for compliance with HSPD-12. This section is *normative*.
- 318 + Section 3, PIV System Overview, serves to provide a PIV system overview. This section is  
 319 *informative*.

- 320 + Section 4, PIV Front-End Subsystem, provides the requirements for the components of the PIV  
321 front-end subsystem. Specifically, this section defines requirements for the PIV Card, logical  
322 data elements, biometrics, cryptography, and card readers. This section is *normative*.
- 323 + Section 5, PIV Key Management Requirements, defines the processes and components required  
324 for managing PIV Card life cycle. It also provides the requirements and specifications related to  
325 this subsystem. This section is *normative*.
- 326 + Section 6, PIV Cardholder Authentication, defines a suite of identity authentication mechanisms  
327 that are supported by the PIV Card, and their applicability in meeting the requirements of  
328 graduated levels of identity assurance. This section is *normative*.
- 329 + Appendix A, PIV Validation, Certification, and Accreditation, provides additional information  
330 regarding compliance with this document. This appendix is *normative*.
- 331 + Appendix B, Background Check Descriptions, provides the requirements for background checks.  
332 This appendix is *informative*.
- 333 + Appendix C, PIV Card Processes, provides the summary of requirements for PIV card issuance  
334 and maintenance processes. This appendix is *informative*.
- 335 + Appendix D, PIV Object Identifiers and Certificate Extension, provides additional details for the  
336 PIV objects identified in Section 4. This appendix is *normative*.
- 337 + Appendix E, Glossary of Terms, Acronyms, and Notations, describes the vocabulary and textual  
338 representations used in the document. This appendix is *informative*.
- 339 + Appendix F, References, lists the specifications and standards referred to in this document. This  
340 appendix is *informative*.
- 341 + Appendix G, Revision History, lists changes made to this standard from its inception. This  
342 appendix is *informative*.
- 343
- 344

## 345 **2. Common Identification, Security, and Privacy Requirements**

346 This section addresses the fundamental control and security objectives outlined in HSPD-12, including the  
347 identity proofing requirements for Federal employees and contractors.

### 348 **2.1 Control Objectives**

349 [HSPD-12] established control objectives for secure and reliable identification of Federal employees and  
350 contractors. These control objectives, provided in paragraph 3 of the directive, are quoted here:

351 (3) "Secure and reliable forms of identification" for purposes of this directive means identification that (a)  
352 is issued based on sound criteria for verifying an individual employee's identity; (b) is strongly resistant to  
353 identity fraud, tampering, counterfeiting, and terrorist exploitation; (c) can be rapidly authenticated  
354 electronically; and (d) is issued only by providers whose reliability has been established by an official  
355 accreditation process.

356 Each agency's PIV implementation shall meet the four control objectives (a) through (d) listed above  
357 such that—

- 358 + Credentials are issued 1) to individuals whose true identity has been verified and 2) after a proper  
359 authority has authorized issuance of the credential;
- 360 + A credential is issued only after National Agency Check with Written Inquiries (NACI) or  
361 equivalent is initiated and the FBI National Criminal History Check (NCHC) is completed;
- 362 + An individual is issued a credential only after presenting two identity source documents, at least  
363 one of which is a Federal or State government issued picture ID;
- 364 + Fraudulent identity source documents are not accepted as genuine and unaltered;
- 365 + A person suspected or known to the government as being a terrorist is not issued a credential;
- 366 + No substitution occurs in the identity proofing process. More specifically, the individual who  
367 appears for identity proofing, and whose fingerprints are checked against databases, is the person  
368 to whom the credential is issued;
- 369 + No credential is issued unless requested by proper authority;
- 370 + A credential remains serviceable only up to its expiration date. More precisely, a revocation  
371 process exists such that expired or invalidated credentials are swiftly revoked;
- 372 + A single corrupt official in the process may not issue a credential with an incorrect identity or to a  
373 person not entitled to the credential;
- 374 + An issued credential is not modified, duplicated, or forged.

375

376 **2.2 Credentialing Requirements**

377 Federal departments and agencies shall use the Credentialing guidance as contained in a memorandum  
378 dated July 31, 2008, from Linda M. Springer, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, to  
379 Heads of Departments and Agencies when determining whether to issue or revoke PIV Cards.  
380 [SPRINGER MEMO]

381 **2.3 PIV Identity Proofing and Registration Requirements**

382 Departments and agencies shall follow an identity proofing and registration process that meets the  
383 requirements defined below when issuing PIV Cards.

384 + The organization shall adopt and use an approved identity proofing and registration process in  
385 accordance with [SP 800-79].

386 + The process shall begin with initiation of a NACI or equivalent. This requirement may also be satisfied  
387 by locating and referencing a completed and successfully adjudicated NACI. Also, the FBI NCHC  
388 (fingerprint check) shall be completed before credential issuance. Appendix B, Background Check  
389 Descriptions, provides further details on NACI.

390 + The applicant shall appear in-person at least once before the issuance of a PIV credential.

391 + During identity proofing, the applicant shall be required to provide two forms of identity source  
392 documents in original form. The primary identity source document shall be neither expired nor  
393 cancelled, shall be one of the following forms of identification:

394 – A U.S. Passport or a U.S. Passport Card;

395 – Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)

396 – Foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp or temporary I-551 printed notation  
397 on a machine-readable immigrant visa

398 – Employment Authorization document that contains a photograph (Form I-766)

399 – In the case of a nonimmigrant alien authorized to work for a specific employer incident to  
400 status, a foreign passport with Form I-94 or Form I-94A bearing the same name as the  
401 passport and containing an endorsement has not yet expired and the proposed employment is  
402 not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form

403 – Passport from the Federal States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands  
404 (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact  
405 of Free Association Between the US and the FSM or RMI

406 – A Driver's license or an ID card issued by a state or possession of the United States provided  
407 it contains a photograph;

408 – A U.S. Military ID card;

409 – A U.S. Military dependent's ID card; or

410 – A Department of Defense Common Access Card.



411 The secondary identity source document may be from the list above, but cannot be of the same  
 412 type as the primary identity source document. The secondary identity source document may also  
 413 be any of the following:

- 414 – A U.S. Social Security Card issued by the Social Security Administration;
- 415 – An original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state, county, municipal  
 416 authority, possession, or outlying possession of the United States bearing an official seal;
- 417 – An ID card issued by a Federal, state, or local government agency or entity, provided it  
 418 contains a photograph;
- 419 – A School ID with photograph;
- 420 – A Voter's registration card;
- 421 – A U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner card;
- 422 – A Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (Form N-560 or N-561);
- 423 – A Certificate of Naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570);
- 424 – A U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197);
- 425 – An ID Card for use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179);
- 426 – A Certification of Birth or Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State  
 427 (Form FS-545 or Form DS-1350);
- 428 – Unexpired Temporary Resident Card (Form I-688);
- 429 – Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (Form I-688A);
- 430 – Unexpired Reentry Permit (Form I-327);
- 431 – Unexpired Refugee Travel Document (Form I-571);
- 432 – Unexpired employment authorization document issued by Department of Homeland Security  
 433 (DHS);
- 434 – Unexpired Employment Authorization Document issued by DHS with photograph (Form I-  
 435 688B);
- 436 – A driver's license issued by a Canadian government entity; or
- 437 – A Native American tribal document.

438 + The PIV identity proofing, registration, and issuance process shall adhere to the principle of  
 439 separation of duties to ensure that no single individual has the capability to issue a PIV credential  
 440 without the cooperation of another authorized person.

441 + A new chain-of-trust record shall be created in accordance with Section 4.4.1 for the applicant.

442 The identity proofing and registration process used when verifying the identity of the applicant shall be  
 443 accredited by the department or agency as satisfying the requirements above and approved in writing by  
 444 the head of the Federal department or agency.

445 These identity proofing requirements also apply to citizens of foreign countries who are working for the  
 446 Federal government overseas. However, a process for registration and approval must be established using  
 447 a method approved by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Diplomatic Security, except for  
 448 employees under the command of a U.S. area military commander. These procedures may vary  
 449 depending on the country.

450 **2.4 PIV Card Issuance Requirements**

451 Departments and agencies shall meet the requirements defined below when issuing identity credentials.  
 452 The issuance process used when issuing credentials shall be accredited by the department as satisfying the  
 453 requirements below and approved in writing by the head of the Federal department or agency.

- 454 + Credentials are issued after a proper authority has authorized issuance of the credential.
- 455 + The organization shall use an approved PIV credential issuance process in accordance with  
 456 [SP 800-79].
- 457 + The process shall ensure the initiation of a NACI or equivalent or the location of a completed and  
 458 successfully adjudicated NACI or equivalent. The process shall also ensure the FBI NCHC is  
 459 completed before issuing an identity credential. The PIV credential shall be revoked if the results  
 460 of the investigation so justify.
- 461 + Biometrics used to personalize the PIV Card must be taken from the card issuer’s chain-of-trust  
 462 for the applicant.
- 463 + During the issuance process, the issuer shall verify that the individual to whom the credential is to  
 464 be issued is the same as the intended applicant/recipient as approved by the appropriate authority.
- 465 + Before the card is provided to the applicant, the issuer shall perform a 1:1 biometric match of the  
 466 applicant against the biometric included in the PIV Card. The 1:1 biometric match requires either  
 467 a match of fingerprint(s) or a match of iris image(s). Minimum accuracy requirements for the  
 468 biometric match are specified in [SP 800-76]. On successful match, the PIV Card shall be  
 469 released to the applicant.
- 470 + The organization shall issue PIV credentials only through systems and providers whose reliability  
 471 has been established by the agency and so documented and approved in writing (i.e., accredited).
- 472 + The PIV Card shall be valid for no more than six years.

473 Cards that contain topographical defects (e.g., scratches, poor color, fading, etc), contain errors in  
 474 optional fields, are not properly printed, or are not delivered to the cardholder are not considered PIV  
 475 Issued Cards. PIV Card issuer is responsible for the card stock, its management, and its integrity. This  
 476 standard does not place any requirements on these cards. Agencies may reuse them or discard them, as  
 477 they deem appropriate.

478 **2.4.1 Special Rule for Pseudonyms**

479 In limited circumstances Federal employees are permitted to use pseudonyms during the performance of  
 480 their official duties with the approval of their employing agency. (See, for example, Section 1.2.4 of the  
 481 Internal Revenue Service Manual, which authorizes approval by an employee's supervisors of the use of a  
 482 pseudonym to protect the employee's personal safety. Section 1.2.4.6.6 of the Manual provides that

483 employees authorized to use a pseudonym in the course of their official duties will be "given a new ID  
 484 Card with a new ID number", which will also serve as the employee's building pass.) In instances where  
 485 an agency has formally authorized the use of a pseudonym, the card issuer shall issue a PIV Card to the  
 486 employee using the agency-approved employee pseudonym. The issuance of a PIV Card using a  
 487 pseudonym shall follow the procedures in PIV Card Issuance Requirements for employee name changes  
 488 except that the employee must provide evidence satisfactory to the card issuer that the pseudonym is  
 489 authorized by the employee's agency.

#### 490 **2.4.2 Grace Period**

492 In some instances an individual's status as a Federal employee or contractor will lapse for a brief time  
 493 period. In instances where such an interregnum does not exceed 60 days, a card issuer shall issue the  
 494 employee or contractor a new PIV Card in a manner consistent with PIV Card Issuance.

### 495 **2.5 PIV Card Maintenance Requirements**

496 The PIV Card shall be maintained using processes that comply with this section.

497 The data and credentials held by the PIV Card may need to be updated or invalidated prior to the  
 498 expiration date of the card. The cardholder may change his or her name, retire, or change jobs; or the  
 499 employment may be terminated, thus requiring invalidation of a previously issued card. The PIV system  
 500 should ensure that this information is distributed effectively within the PIV management infrastructure.  
 501 Background Investigation status information shall be made available to authenticating parties,  
 502 government-wide, through the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Central Verification System,  
 503 Backend Attribute Exchange, or other operational system approved by OMB. In this regard, procedures  
 504 for PIV Card maintenance must be integrated into department and agency procedures to ensure effective  
 505 card maintenance.

#### 506 **2.5.1 PIV Card Renewal Requirements**

507 Renewal is the process by which a valid PIV Card is replaced without the need to repeat the entire  
 508 identity proofing and registration procedure. The original PIV Card must be surrendered when requesting  
 509 a renewal. The PIV Card is renewed only after a proper authority has authorized renewal of the  
 510 credential. The issuer shall verify that the employee remains in good standing and personnel records are  
 511 current before renewing the card and associated credentials. When renewing identity credentials for  
 512 current employees, the NACI check shall be followed in accordance with OPM guidance. The issuer  
 513 shall perform a 1:1 biometric match of the applicant to reconnect to the chain-of-trust. The 1:1 biometric  
 514 match requires either a match of fingerprint(s) or a match of iris image(s). Minimum accuracy  
 515 requirements for the biometric match are specified in [SP 800-76]. The entire identity proofing and  
 516 registration is required if a cardholder's chain-of-trust record is not available.

517 A cardholder shall be allowed to apply for a renewal starting twelve weeks prior to the expiration of a  
 518 valid PIV Card and until the actual expiration of the card. The cardholder will not be allowed to start the  
 519 renewal process if the original PIV Card is expired. The original PIV Card must be collected and  
 520 destroyed. If there is any data change about the cardholder, the issuer will record this in the chain-of-trust  
 521 and distribute the changed data within the PIV management infrastructure. If the changed data is the  
 522 cardholder's name, then the issuer shall meet the requirements in Section 2.5.2.1, Special Rule for Name  
 523 Change by Cardholder.

524 The same biometric data may be reused with the new PIV Card if the expiration date of the new PIV Card  
 525 is no later than twelve years after the date that the biometric data was obtained. The digital signature  
 526 must be recomputed with the new FASC-N.

527 The expiration date of the PIV Authentication Key certificate, Card Authentication Key certificate, and  
 528 optional Digital Signature Key certificate shall not be later than the expiration date of the PIV Card.  
 529 Hence, a new PIV Authentication Key and certificate and a new asymmetric Card Authentication Key and  
 530 certificate shall be generated. Key Management key(s) and certificate(s) may be imported to the new PIV  
 531 Card.

## 532 **2.5.2 PIV Card Reissuance Requirements**

533 A cardholder shall apply for reissuance of a new PIV Card if the old PIV Card has been compromised,  
 534 lost, stolen, or damaged. The cardholder can also apply for reissuance of a valid PIV Card in the event of  
 535 an employee status or attribute change or if one or more logical credentials have been compromised.

536 In case of reissuance, the complete registration and issuance process is not required if the applicant for  
 537 reissuance can be reconnected to the chain-of-trust record. Reconnecting to the chain-of-trust requires a  
 538 1:1 biometric match against the biometric reference data held in a chain-of-trust (see Section 4.4.1). The  
 539 1:1 biometric match requires either a match of fingerprint(s) or a match of iris image(s). Minimum  
 540 accuracy requirements for the biometric match are specified in [SP 800-76]. The card issuer shall verify  
 541 that the employee remains in good standing and personnel records are current before reissuing the card  
 542 and associated credentials. The entire identity proofing and registration is required if a cardholder's  
 543 chain-of-trust record is not available.

544 When reissuing a PIV Card, normal operational procedures must be in place to ensure the following:

- 545 + The PIV Card itself is revoked. Any local databases that contain FASC-N values must be  
 546 updated to reflect the change in status.
- 547 + The CA shall be informed and the certificates corresponding to the PIV Authentication Key and  
 548 asymmetric Card Authentication Key on the PIV Card shall be revoked. Revocation of the  
 549 Digital Signature Key certificate is only optional if the PIV Card has been collected and zeroized  
 550 or destroyed. Similarly, the Key Management Key certificate should also be revoked if there is  
 551 risk that the private key was compromised. Certificate revocation lists (CRL) issued shall include  
 552 the appropriate certificate serial numbers.
- 553 + Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) responders shall be updated so that queries with  
 554 respect to certificates on the PIV Card are answered appropriately. This may be performed  
 555 indirectly (by publishing the CRL above) or directly (by updating the OCSP server's internal  
 556 revocation records).

557 The PIV Card shall be collected and destroyed if possible. If the card cannot be collected, normal  
 558 operational procedures shall be completed within 18 hours of notification. In certain cases, 18 hours is an  
 559 unacceptable delay and in those cases emergency procedures must be executed to disseminate the  
 560 information as rapidly as possible. Departments and agencies are required to have procedures in place to  
 561 issue emergency notifications in such cases.

562 If the expiration date of the reissued PIV Card is later than the expiration date of the old card, the card  
 563 issuer shall ensure a proper authority has authorized reissuance of the credential and the NACI check is  
 564 followed in accordance with OPM guidance. The same biometric data may be reused with the new PIV

565 Card if the expiration date of the new PIV Card is no later than twelve years after the date that the  
566 biometric data was obtained.

### 567 **2.5.2.1 Special Rule for Name Change by Cardholder**

568 Name changes are a frequent occurrence. People's names often change as a result of marriage or divorce.  
569 Less frequently, people change their names as a matter of personal preference. In the event that a  
570 cardholder notifies a card issuer that his or her name has changed, and presents the card issuer with  
571 evidence of a formal name change, such as a marriage certificate, a divorce decree, judicial recognition of  
572 a name change, or other mechanism permitted by State law or regulation, the card issuer shall issue the  
573 cardholder a new card following the procedures set out in Section 2.5.2, PIV Card Reissuance. Also, the  
574 card issuer shall update the chain-of-trust record to include the evidence of a formal name change.  
575

### 576 **2.5.3 PIV Card Re-Key Requirements**

577 There may be instances where keys on the PIV Card or in the PIV System are compromised and the issuer  
578 is required to replace the keys on the PIV Card with new ones. The cardholder data and any other related  
579 data on the card shall not be changed. Only the keys and certificates shall be updated.

### 580 **2.5.4 PIV Card Post Issuance Update Requirements**

581 A PIV Card post issuance update may be performed without replacing the PIV Card in cases where none  
582 of the printed information on the surface of the card is changed. The Post Issuance update applies to  
583 cases where one or more certificates, keys, biometric data objects, or signed data objects are updated.  
584 The PIV Card expiration date or the FASC-N shall not be modified by a Post Issuance update.

585 A PIV Card post issuance update may be done locally (performed with the issuer in physical custody of  
586 the PIV Card) or remotely (performed with the PIV Card at a remote location). Post issuance updates  
587 shall be performed with issuer security controls equivalent to those applied during PIV Card reissuance.  
588 For remote post issuance updates, the following shall apply:

- 589 + Communication between the PIV Card issuer and the PIV Card shall occur only over mutually  
590 authenticated secure sessions between tested and validated cryptographic modules (one being the  
591 PIV Card).
- 592 + Data transmitted between the PIV Card issuer and PIV Card shall be encrypted and contain data  
593 integrity checks.
- 594 + The PIV Card will communicate with no end point entity other than the PIV Card issuer during  
595 the remote post issuance update.
- 596 + If the PIV Card post issuance update begins<sup>2</sup> but fails for any reason, the PIV Card issuer shall  
597 immediately terminate the PIV Card as described in Section 2.5.6, and a diligent attempt shall be  
598 made to collect and destroy the PIV Card.  
599

600 Post issuance updates to biometric data objects, other than to the digital signature blocks within the  
601 biometric data objects, shall satisfy the requirements for verification data reset specified in Section 2.5.5.  
602

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<sup>2</sup> A post issuance update has “begun” if the PIV Card Issuer has established the mutually authenticated session to the PIV Card and the PIV Card Issuer has sent any command to the PIV Card that could modify the persistent state of the PIV Card.

### 603 **2.5.5 PIV Card Verification Data Reset**

604 The PIN on a PIV Card may need to be reset if the cardholder wants to change their PIN, if the cardholder  
 605 has forgotten the PIN, or if PIN-based cardholder authentication has been disabled from the usage of an  
 606 invalid PIN more than the allowed number of retries stipulated by the department or agency. PIN resets  
 607 may be performed by the card issuer. Before the reset PIV Card is provided back to the cardholder, the  
 608 card issuer shall ensure that the cardholder's biometric matches the stored biometric on the reset PIV  
 609 Card.<sup>3</sup> Departments and agencies may adopt more stringent procedures for PIN reset (including requiring  
 610 in-person appearance or disallowing PIN reset, and requiring the termination of PIV Cards that have been  
 611 locked); such procedures shall be formally documented by each department and agency.

612 Verification data other than the PIN may also be reset (i.e., re-enrollment) by the card issuer. Before the  
 613 reset PIV Card is provided back to the cardholder, the card issuer shall either ensure that the cardholder's  
 614 biometric matches the stored biometric on the reset PIV Card or the biometric in the cardholder's chain-  
 615 of-trust (see Section 4.4.1), or require the cardholder to provide a primary identity source document (see  
 616 Section 2.3). If a biometric match is performed, then the type of biometric used for the match shall not be  
 617 the same as the type of biometric data that is being reset. Departments and agencies may adopt more  
 618 stringent procedures for verification data reset (including disallowing verification data reset, and requiring  
 619 the termination of PIV Cards that have been locked); such procedures shall be formally documented by  
 620 each department and agency.  
 621

### 622 **2.5.6 PIV Card Termination Requirements**

623 The termination process is used to permanently destroy or invalidate the use of a card, including the data  
 624 and the keys on it, such that it cannot be used again. The PIV Card shall be terminated under the  
 625 following circumstances:

- 626 + A Federal employee separates (voluntarily or involuntarily) from Federal service
- 627 + An employee of a Federal contractor separates (voluntarily or involuntarily) from their employer
- 628 + A contractor changes positions and no longer needs access to Federal buildings or systems
- 629 + A cardholder is determined to hold a fraudulent identity
- 630 + A cardholder passes away.

631 Similar to the situation in which the card or a credential is compromised, normal termination procedures  
 632 must be in place as to ensure the following:

- 633 + The PIV Card is collected and destroyed.
- 634 + The PIV Card itself is revoked. Any local databases that indicate current valid (or invalid)  
 635 FASC-N values must be updated to reflect the change in status.
- 636 + The CA shall be informed and the certificates corresponding to PIV Authentication Key and the  
 637 asymmetric Card Authentication Key on the PIV Card must be revoked. Departments and

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<sup>3</sup> If no biometric data could be collected from the cardholder then the cardholder may instead provide a primary identity source document (see Section 2.3).

638 agencies may revoke certificates corresponding to the optional Digital Signature and Key  
639 Management keys. CRLs issued shall include the appropriate certificate serial numbers.

640 + OCSP responders shall be updated so that queries with respect to certificates on the PIV Card are  
641 answered appropriately. This may be performed indirectly (by publishing the CRL above) or  
642 directly (by updating the OCSP server’s internal revocation records).

643 + The IIF collected from the cardholder is disposed of in accordance with the stated privacy and  
644 data retention policies of the department or agency.

645 A summary of PIV Card Issuance and PIV Card Maintenance requirements is provided in Appendix C.

646 **2.6 PIV Privacy Requirements**

647 HSPD-12 explicitly states that “protect[ing] personal privacy” is a requirement of the PIV system. As  
648 such, all departments and agencies shall implement the PIV system in accordance with the spirit and letter  
649 of all privacy controls specified in this standard, as well as those specified in Federal privacy laws and  
650 policies including but not limited to the E-Government Act of 2002 [E-Gov], the Privacy Act of 1974  
651 [PRIVACY], and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-03-22 [OMB322], as  
652 applicable.

653 Departments and agencies may have a wide variety of uses of the PIV system and its components that  
654 were not intended or anticipated by the President in issuing [HSPD-12]. In considering whether a  
655 proposed use of the PIV system is appropriate, departments and agencies shall consider the  
656 aforementioned control objectives and the purpose of the PIV standard, namely “to enhance security,  
657 increase Government efficiency, reduce identity fraud, and protect personal privacy.” [HSPD-12] No  
658 department or agency shall implement a use of the identity credential inconsistent with these control  
659 objectives.

660 To ensure the privacy throughout PIV life cycle:

661 + Assign an individual to the role of senior agency official for privacy. The senior agency official  
662 for privacy is the individual who oversees privacy-related matters in the PIV system and is  
663 responsible for implementing the privacy requirements in the standard. The individual serving in  
664 this role shall not assume any other operational role in the PIV system.

665 + Conduct a comprehensive Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) on systems containing personal  
666 information in identifiable form for the purpose of implementing PIV, consistent with  
667 methodology of [E-Gov] and the requirements of [OMB322]. Consult with appropriate personnel  
668 responsible for privacy issues at the department or agency (e.g., Chief Information Officer)  
669 implementing the PIV system.

670 + Write, publish, and maintain a clear and comprehensive document listing the types of information  
671 that will be collected (e.g., transactional information, personally identifiable information (PII), the  
672 purpose of collection, what information may be disclosed to whom during the life of the  
673 credential, how the information will be protected, and the complete set of uses of the credential  
674 and related information at the department or agency).

675 + PIV applicants shall be provided full disclosure of the intended uses of the PIV credential and the  
676 related privacy implications.

- 677 + Assure that systems that contain PII for the purpose of enabling the implementation of PIV are  
678 handled in full compliance with fair information practices as defined in [PRIVACY].
- 679 + Maintain appeals procedures for those who are denied a credential or whose credentials are  
680 revoked.
- 681 + Ensure that only personnel with a legitimate need for access to PII in the PIV system are  
682 authorized to access the PII, including but not limited to information and databases maintained  
683 for registration and credential issuance.<sup>4</sup>
- 684 + Coordinate with appropriate department or agency officials to define consequences for violating  
685 privacy policies of the PIV system.
- 686 + Assure that the technologies used in the department or agency's implementation of the PIV  
687 system allow for continuous auditing of compliance with stated privacy policies and practices  
688 governing the collection, use, and distribution of information in the operation of the program.
- 689 + Utilize security controls described in NIST SP 800-53 [SP 800-53], *Recommended Security*  
690 *Controls for Federal Information Systems*, to accomplish privacy goals, where applicable.
- 691 + Ensure that the technologies used to implement PIV sustain and do not erode privacy protections  
692 relating to the use, collection, and disclosure of information in identifiable form. Specifically,  
693 employ an electromagnetically opaque sleeve or other technology to protect against any  
694 unauthorized contactless access to information stored on a PIV Card.
- 695
- 696

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<sup>4</sup> Agencies may refer to NIST SP 800-122, Guide to Protecting the Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information (PII), for a best practice guideline on protection of PII.



### 697 3. PIV System Overview

698 A notional PIV system architecture is presented in this section. The PIV system is composed of  
 699 components and processes that support a common (smart card-based) platform for identity authentication  
 700 across Federal departments and agencies for access to multiple types of physical and logical access  
 701 environments. The specifications for the PIV components in this standard promote uniformity and  
 702 interoperability among the various PIV system components, across departments and agencies, and across  
 703 installations. The specifications for processes in this standard are a set of minimum requirements for the  
 704 various activities that need to be performed within an operational PIV system. When implemented in  
 705 accordance with this standard, the PIV Card supports a suite of identity authentication mechanisms that  
 706 can be used consistently across departments and agencies. The authenticated identity information can  
 707 then be used as a basis for access control in various Federal physical and logical access environments.  
 708 The following sections briefly discuss the functional components of the PIV system and the life cycle  
 709 activities of the PIV Card.

#### 710 3.1 Functional Components

711 An operational PIV system can be logically divided into the following three major subsystems:

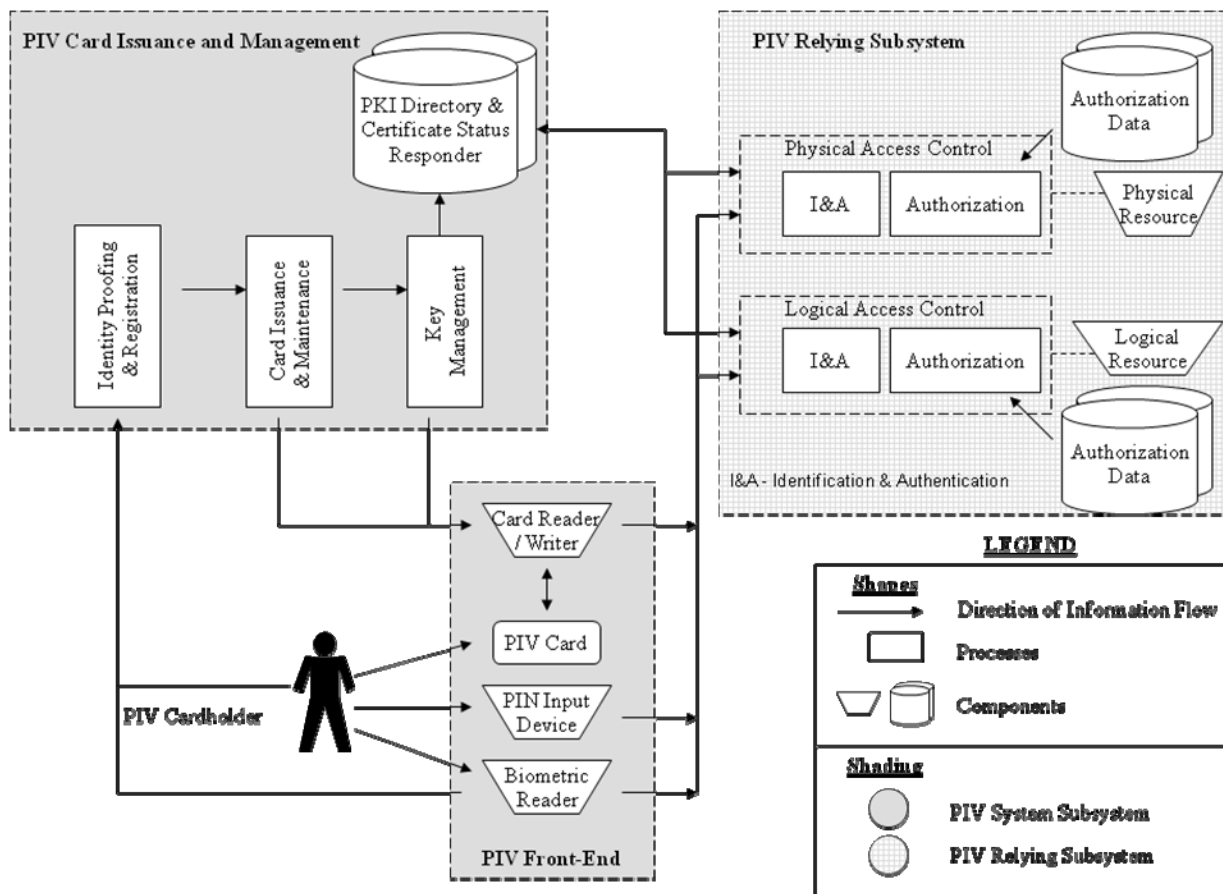
- 712 + **PIV Front-End Subsystem**—PIV Card, card and biometric readers, and personal identification  
 713 number (PIN) input device. The PIV cardholder interacts with these components to gain physical  
 714 or logical access to the desired Federal resource.
- 715 + **PIV Card Issuance and Management Subsystem**—the components responsible for identity  
 716 proofing and registration, card and key issuance and management, and the various repositories  
 717 and services (e.g., public key infrastructure (PKI) directory, certificate status servers) required as  
 718 part of the verification infrastructure.
- 719 + **PIV Relying Subsystem**—the physical and logical access control systems, the protected  
 720 resources, and the authorization data.

721 The PIV Relying subsystem becomes relevant when the PIV Card is used to authenticate a cardholder  
 722 who is seeking access to a physical or logical resource. Although this standard does not provide technical  
 723 specifications for this subsystem, various mechanisms for identification and authentication are defined in  
 724 Section 6 to provide consistent and secure means for performing the authentication function preceding an  
 725 access control decision.

726 Figure 3-1 illustrates a notional model for the operational PIV system, identifying the various system  
 727 components and the direction of data flow between these components. The boundary shown in the figure  
 728 is not meant to preclude FIPS 201 requirements on systems outside these boundaries.

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Figure 3-1. PIV System Notional Model

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744

### 3.1.1 PIV Front-End Subsystem

745 The PIV Card will be issued to the applicant when all identity proofing, registration, and issuance  
746 processes have been completed. The PIV Card has a credit card-size form factor, with one or more  
747 embedded integrated circuit chips (ICC) that provide memory capacity and computational capability. The  
748 PIV Card is the primary component of the PIV system. The holder uses the PIV Card for authentication  
749 to various physical and logical resources.

750 Card readers are located at access points for controlled resources where a cardholder may wish to gain  
751 access (physical and logical) by using the PIV Card. The reader communicates with the PIV Card to  
752 retrieve the appropriate information, located in the card's memory, to relay it to the access control  
753 systems for granting or denying access.

754 Card writers that are very similar to the card readers personalize and initialize the information stored on  
755 PIV Cards. The data to be stored on PIV Cards includes personal information, certificates, cryptographic  
756 keys, the PIN, and biometric data, and is discussed in further detail in subsequent sections.

757 Biometric readers may be located at secure locations where a cardholder may want to gain access. These  
758 readers depend upon the use of biometric data of the cardholder, stored in the memory of the card, and its

759 comparison with a real-time biometric sample. The use of biometrics provides an additional factor of  
760 authentication (“something you are”) in addition to providing the card (“something you have”).<sup>5</sup>

761 PIN input devices can also be used along with card readers when a higher level of authentication  
762 assurance is required. The cardholder presenting the PIV Card must type in his or her PIN into the PIN  
763 input device. For physical access, the PIN is typically entered using a PIN pad device; a keyboard is  
764 generally used for logical access. The input of a PIN introduces the use of an additional factor of  
765 authentication (“something you know”) to control access to information resident on the card (“something  
766 you have”). This provides for a higher level of authentication assurance.

### 767 **3.1.2 PIV Card Issuance and Management Subsystem**

768 The identity proofing and registration component in Figure 3-1 refers to the process of collecting, storing,  
769 and maintaining all information and documentation that is required for verifying and assuring the  
770 applicant’s identity. Various types of information are collected from the applicant at the time of  
771 registration.

772 The card issuance and maintenance component deals with the personalization of the physical (visual  
773 surface) and logical (contents of the ICC) aspects of the card at the time of issuance and maintenance  
774 thereafter. This includes printing photographs, names, and other information on the card and loading the  
775 relevant card applications, biometrics, and other data.

776 The key management component is responsible for the generation of key pairs, the issuance and  
777 distribution of digital certificates containing the public keys of the cardholder, and management and  
778 dissemination of certificate status information. The key management component is used throughout the  
779 life cycle of PIV Cards—from generation and loading of authentication keys and PKI credentials, to  
780 usage of these keys for secure operations, to eventual renewal, reissuance, or termination of the card. The  
781 key management component is also responsible for the provisioning of publicly accessible repositories  
782 and services (such as PKI directories and certificate status responders) that provide information to the  
783 requesting application about the status of the PKI credentials.

### 784 **3.1.3 PIV Relying Subsystem**

785 The PIV Relying subsystem includes components responsible for determining a particular PIV  
786 cardholder’s access to a physical or logical resource. A physical resource is the secured facility (e.g.,  
787 building, room, parking garage) that the cardholder wishes to access. The logical resource is typically a  
788 network or a location on the network (e.g., computer workstation, folder, file, database record, software  
789 program) to which the cardholder wants to gain access.

790 The authorization data component comprises information that defines the privileges (authorizations)  
791 possessed by entities requesting to access a particular logical or physical resource. An example of this is  
792 an access control list (ACL) associated with a file on a computer system.

793 The physical and logical access control system grants or denies access to a particular resource and  
794 includes an identification and authentication (I&A) component as well as an authorization component.  
795 The I&A component interacts with the PIV Card and uses mechanisms discussed in Section 6 to identify  
796 and authenticate cardholders. Once authenticated, the authorization component interacts with the  
797 authorization data component to match the cardholder-provided information to the information on record.

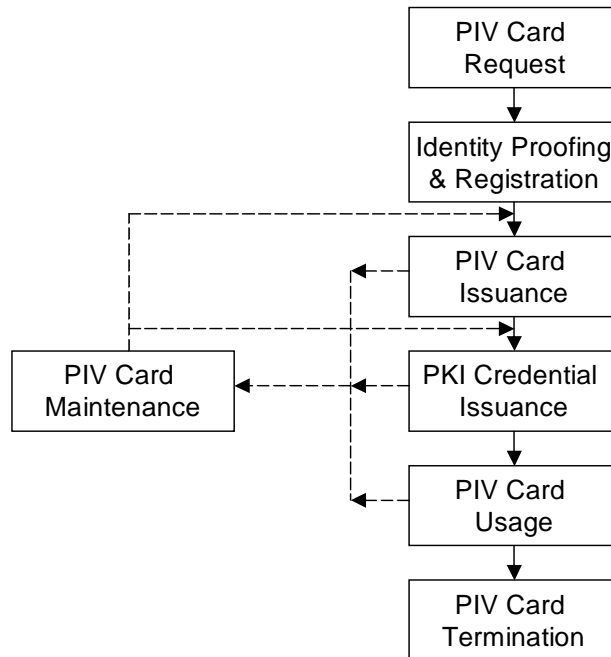
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<sup>5</sup> For more information on the terms “something you know,” “something you have,” and “something you are,” see [SP800-63].

798 The access control components typically interface with the card reader, the authorization component, the  
 799 PIN input device, the biometric reader, and any certificate status service (if available).

800 **3.2 PIV Card Life Cycle Activities**

801 The PIV Card life cycle consists of seven activities. The activities that take place during fabrication and  
 802 pre-personalization of the card at the manufacturer are not considered a part of this life cycle model.  
 803 Figure 3-2 presents these PIV activities and depicts the PIV Card request as the initial activity and PIV  
 804 Card termination as the end of life.



805

806  
807

**Figure 3-2. PIV Card Life Cycle Activities**

808 Descriptions of the seven card life cycle activities are as follows:

- 809 + **PIV Card Request.** This activity applies to the initiation of a request for the issuance of a PIV  
 810 Card to an applicant and the validation of this request.
- 811 + **Identity Proofing and Registration.** The goal of this activity is to verify the claimed identity of  
 812 the applicant and that the entire set of identity source documents presented at the time of  
 813 registration is valid.
- 814 + **PIV Card Issuance.** This activity deals with the personalization (physical and logical) of the  
 815 card and the issuance of the card to the intended applicant.
- 816 + **PKI Credential Issuance.** This activity deals with generating logical credentials and loading  
 817 them onto the PIV Card.

- 818 + **PIV Card Usage.** During this activity, the PIV Card is used to perform cardholder authentication  
819 for access to a physical or logical resource. Access authorization decisions are made after  
820 successful cardholder identification and authentication.
  
- 821 + **PIV Card Maintenance.** This activity deals with the maintenance or update of the physical card  
822 and the data stored thereon. Such data includes various card applications, PIN, PKI credentials,  
823 and biometrics.
  
- 824 + **PIV Card Termination.** The termination process is used to permanently destroy or invalidate  
825 the PIV Card and the data and keys needed for authentication so as to prevent any future use of  
826 the card for authentication.

## 827 **4. PIV Front-End Subsystem**

828 This section identifies the requirements for the components of the PIV front-end subsystem. Section 4.1  
 829 provides the physical and logical card specifications. The logical PIV Cardholder Unique Identifier  
 830 (CHUID) object is described in Section 4.2. Cryptographic keys associated with the cardholder are  
 831 described in Section 4.3. Formats for mandatory biometric information are defined in Section 4.4.  
 832 Section 4.5 discusses card readers.

### 833 **4.1 Physical PIV Card Characteristics**

834 References to the PIV Card in this section and Sections 4.1.1 through 4.1.5 pertain to the physical  
 835 characteristics only. References to the front of the card apply to the side of the card that contains the  
 836 electronic contacts; references to the back of the card apply to the opposite side from the front side.

837 The PIV Card's physical appearance and other characteristics should balance the need to have the PIV  
 838 Card commonly recognized as a Federal identification card while providing the flexibility to support  
 839 individual department and agency requirements. Having a common look for PIV Cards is important in  
 840 meeting the objectives of improved security and interoperability. In support of these objectives,  
 841 consistent placement of printed components and technology is generally necessary.

842 The PIV Card shall comply with physical characteristics as described in International Organization for  
 843 Standardization (ISO)/International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) 7810 [ISO7810], ISO/IEC 10373  
 844 [ISO10373], ISO/IEC 7816 for contact cards [ISO7816], and ISO/IEC 14443 for contactless cards  
 845 [ISO14443].

#### 846 **4.1.1 Printed Material**

847 The printed material shall not rub off during the life of the PIV Card, nor shall the printing process  
 848 deposit debris on the printer rollers during printing and laminating. Printed material shall not interfere  
 849 with the contact and contactless ICC(s) and related components, nor shall it obstruct access to machine-  
 850 readable information.

#### 851 **4.1.2 Tamper Proofing and Resistance**

852 The PIV Card shall contain security features that aid in reducing counterfeiting, are resistant to tampering,  
 853 and provide visual evidence of tampering attempts. At a minimum, a PIV Card shall incorporate one such  
 854 security feature. Examples of these security features include the following:

- 855 + Optical varying structures
- 856 + Optical varying inks
- 857 + Laser etching and engraving
- 858 + Holograms
- 859 + Holographic images
- 860 + Watermarks.

861 Incorporation of security features shall—

862 + Be in accordance with durability requirements [ISO7810]

863 + Be free of defects, such as fading and discoloration

864 + Not obscure printed information

865 + Not impede access to machine-readable information.

866 Departments and agencies may incorporate additional tamper-resistance and anti-counterfeiting methods.  
 867 As a generally accepted security procedure, Federal departments and agencies are strongly encouraged to  
 868 periodically review the viability, effectiveness, and currency of employed tamper resistance and anti-  
 869 counterfeiting methods.

870 **4.1.3 Physical Characteristics and Durability**

871 The following list describes the physical requirements for the PIV Card.

872 + The PIV Card shall contain a contact and a contactless ICC interface.

873 + The card body shall be white in accordance with color representation in Section 4.1.5. Only a  
 874 security feature, as in Section 4.1.2, may modify the perceived color slightly. Presence of a  
 875 security feature shall not prevent the recognition of white as the principal card body color by a  
 876 person with normal vision (corrected or uncorrected) at a working distance of 50 cm to 200 cm.

877 + The card body structure shall consist of card material(s) that satisfy the card characteristics in  
 878 [ISO7810] and test methods in American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 322. [ANSI322]  
 879 Although the [ANSI322] test methods do not currently specify compliance requirements, the tests  
 880 shall be used to evaluate card material durability and performance. The [ANSI322] tests  
 881 minimally shall include card flexure, static stress, plasticizer exposure, impact resistance, card  
 882 structural integrity, surface abrasion, temperature and humidity-induced dye migration, ultraviolet  
 883 light exposure, and a laundry test. Cards shall not malfunction or delaminate after hand cleaning  
 884 with a mild soap and water mixture. The reagents called out in Section 5.4.1.1 of [ISO10373]  
 885 shall be modified to include a two percent soap solution.

886 + The card shall be subjected to actual, concentrated, or artificial sunlight to appropriately reflect  
 887 2000 hours of southwestern United States' sunlight exposure in accordance with [ISO10373],  
 888 Section 5.12. Concentrated sunlight exposure shall be performed in accordance with [G90-98]  
 889 and accelerated exposure in accordance with [G155-00]. After exposure, the card shall be  
 890 subjected to the [ISO10373] dynamic bending test and shall have no visible cracks or failures.  
 891 Alternatively, the card may be subjected to the [ANSI322] tests for ultraviolet and daylight fading  
 892 resistance and subjected to the same [ISO10373] dynamic bending test.

893 + Departments and agencies shall ensure that the card meets the requirements of Section 508 of the  
 894 Rehabilitation Act. There are methods by which proper card orientation can be correctly detected  
 895 by touch. One method is adherence of a raised surface (for example, an adhesive Braille letter).  
 896 Section 4.1.4.3 defines Zone 21F, where raised surface may be placed.

897 + The card shall be 27- to 33-mil thick (before lamination) in accordance with [ISO7810].

898 + The PIV Card shall not be embossed.

- 899 + Decals shall not be adhered to the card except as described in support of the Section 508  
900 requirement.
- 901 + Departments and agencies may choose to punch an opening in the card body to enable the card to  
902 be oriented by touch or to be worn on a lanyard. Departments and agencies should ensure such  
903 alterations are closely coordinated with the card vendor and/or manufacturer to ensure the card  
904 material integrity and printing process is not adversely impacted. Departments and agencies are  
905 strongly encouraged to ensure such alterations do not—
  - 906 – Compromise card body durability requirements and characteristics
  - 907 – Invalidate card manufacturer warranties or other product claims
  - 908 – Alter or interfere with printed information, including the photo
  - 909 – Damage or interfere with machine-readable technology, such as the embedded antenna.
- 910 + The card material shall withstand the effects of temperatures required by the application of a  
911 polyester laminate on one or both sides of the card by commercial off-the-shelf (COTS)  
912 equipment. The thickness added due to a laminate layer shall not interfere with the smart card  
913 reader operation. The card material shall allow production of a flat card in accordance with  
914 [ISO7810] after lamination of one or both sides of the card.

915 The PIV Card may be subjected to additional testing.

916 **4.1.4 Visual Card Topography**

917 The information on a PIV Card shall be in visual printed and electronic form. This section covers the  
918 placement of visual and printed information. It does not cover information stored in electronic form, such  
919 as stored data elements, and other possible machine-readable technologies. Logically stored data  
920 elements are discussed in Section 4.1.6.

921 As noted in Section 4.1.3, the PIV Card shall contain a contact and a contactless ICC interface. This  
922 standard does not specify whether a single chip is used or multiple chips are used to support the mandated  
923 contact and contactless interfaces.

924 To achieve a common PIV Card appearance, yet provide departments and agencies the flexibility to  
925 augment the card with department or agency-specific requirements, the card shall contain mandated and  
926 optional printed information and mandated and optional machine-readable technologies. Mandated and  
927 optional items shall generally be placed as described and depicted. Printed data shall not interfere with  
928 machine-readable technology.

929 Areas that are marked as reserved should not be used for printing. The reason for the recommended  
930 reserved areas is that placement of the embedded contactless ICC module may vary from manufacturer to  
931 manufacturer, and there are constraints that prohibit printing over the embedded contactless module. The  
932 PIV Card topography provides flexibility for placement of the embedded module, either in the upper  
933 right-hand corner or in the lower bottom portion. Printing restrictions apply only to the area where the  
934 embedded module is located (i.e., upper right-hand corner, lower bottom portion).

935 Because technological developments may obviate the need to have a restricted area, or change the size of  
936 the restricted area, departments and agencies are encouraged to work closely with card vendors and








937 manufacturers to ensure current printing procedures and methods are applied as well as potential  
 938 integration of features that may improve tamper resistance and anti-counterfeiting of the PIV Card.

939 **4.1.4.1 Mandatory Items on the Front of the PIV Card**

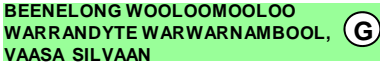
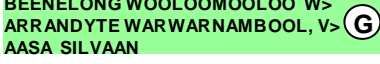
940 *Zone 1F—Photograph.* The photograph shall be placed in the upper left corner, as depicted in Figure 4-1,  
 941 and be a full frontal pose from top of the head to shoulder. A minimum of 300 dots per inch (dpi)  
 942 resolution shall be used. The background should follow recommendations set forth in SP 800-76.

943 *Zone 2F—Name.* The full name<sup>6</sup> shall be printed directly under the photograph in capital letters. The full  
 944 name shall be composed of a Primary Identifier (i.e., surnames or family names) and a Secondary  
 945 Identifier (i.e., pre-names or given names). The full name shall be printed in the <Primary Identifier>,  
 946 <Secondary Identifier> format. The entire full name should be printed on available lines of Zone 2F and  
 947 either identifier could be wrapped. The wrapped identifier shall be indicated with “>” character at the end  
 948 of the line. The identifiers may be confined to their lines if each fits on one line. Table 4-1 provides  
 949 examples of separate Primary and Secondary Identifier lines, single line with identifiers, wrapped full  
 950 names, and full name in three lines. Note that the truncation should only occur if the full name cannot be  
 951 printed in 7 point font.

952 **Table 4-1. Name Examples**

<p>Name: Anna Maria Eriksson</p> <p>Characteristics: simple full name, two lines sufficient with 10 points.</p>	<p><b>ERIKSSON, ANNA MARIA</b> </p>
<p>Name: Anna Maria Eriksson</p> <p>Characteristics: simple full name, one line sufficient for full name with 10 points.</p>	<p><b>ERIKSSON, ANNA MARIA</b> </p>
<p>Name: Susie Margaret Smith-Jones</p> <p>Characteristics: longer full name in two lines, sufficient space in 10 points.</p>	<p><b>SMITH-JONES, SUSIE MARGARET</b> </p>
<p>Name: Susie Margaret Smith-Jones</p> <p>Characteristics: longer full name wrapped, two lines sufficient with 10 points.</p>	<p><b>SMITH-JONES, SUSIE MA&gt; RGARET</b> </p>
<p>Name: Chayapa Dejthamrong Krusuang Nilavadhanananda</p> <p>Characteristics: longer full name wrapped, two lines NOT sufficient with 10 points. Reduce the font size to 8 points.</p>	<p><b>NILAVADHANANANDA, CHAYA&gt; PA DEJTHAMRONG KRUSUANG</b> </p>

<sup>6</sup> Alternatively, pseudonyms as provided under the law as discussed in Section 2.6.4.

<p>Name: Vaasa Silvaan Bennelong Woolloomooloo Warrandyte Warnambool</p> <p>Characteristics: longer full name, two lines NOT sufficient with 8 point, 7 point allows sufficient space for three lines in Zone 2F.</p>	
<p>Name: Vaasa Silvaan Bennelong Woolloomooloo Warrandyte Warnambool</p> <p>Characteristics: same as previous but full name is wrapped.</p>	

953

954 Names in the Primary Identifier and the first name in the Secondary Identifier shall not be abbreviated.  
 955 Other names and conventional prefixes and suffixes may be abbreviated. The special character “.”  
 956 (period) shall indicate such abbreviations, as shown in Figure 4-2. Other uses of special symbols (e.g.,  
 957 “O’BRIEN”) are at the discretion of the issuer.

958 Departments and agencies shall use the largest font size of 8 to 10 points that allows the full name to be  
 959 printed. The font size 7 point allows space for 3 lines and shall only be used if the full name is greater  
 960 than 45 characters.

961 *Zone 8F—Employee Affiliation.* An employee affiliation shall be printed on the card. Some examples of  
 962 employee affiliation are “Employee”, “Contractor,” “Active Duty,” and “Civilian.”

963 *Zone 10F—Agency, Department, or Organization.* The Organizational Affiliation shall be printed as  
 964 depicted in Figure 4-1.

965 *Zone 14F—Expiration Date.* The card expiration date shall be printed in a YYYYMMDD format.

966 **4.1.4.2 Mandatory Items on the Back of the Card**

967 *Zone 1B—Agency Card Serial Number.* This item shall be printed as depicted in Figure 4-6 and contain  
 968 the unique serial number from the issuing department or agency. The format shall be at the discretion of  
 969 the issuing department or agency.

970 *Zone 2B—Issuer Identification Number.* This item shall be printed as depicted in Figure 4-6 and consist  
 971 of six characters for the department code and four characters for the agency code that uniquely identifies  
 972 the department or agency.

973 **4.1.4.3 Optional Items on the Front of the Card**

974 This section contains a description of the optional information and machine-readable technologies that  
 975 may be used and their respective placement. The storage capacity of all optional technologies is as  
 976 prescribed by individual departments and agencies and is not addressed in this standard. Although the  
 977 items discussed in this section are optional, if used they shall be placed on the card as designated in the  
 978 examples provided and as noted.

979 *Zone 3F—Signature.* If used, the department or agency shall place the cardholder signature below the  
 980 photograph and cardholder name as depicted in Figure 4-3. The space for the signature shall not interfere  
 981 with the contact and contactless placement. Because of card surface space constraints, placement of a  
 982 signature may limit the size of the optional two-dimensional bar code.

983 *Zone 4F—Agency Specific Text Area.* If used, this area can be used for printing agency specific  
 984 requirements, such as employee status.

985 *Zone 5F—Rank.* If used, the cardholder’s rank shall be printed in the area as illustrated. Data format is at  
 986 the department or agency’s discretion.

987 *Zone 6F—Portable Data File (PDF) Two-Dimensional Bar Code.* If used, the PDF bar code placement  
 988 shall be as depicted in Figure 4-2 (i.e., left side of the card). If Zone 3F (a cardholder signature) is used,  
 989 the size of the PDF bar code may be affected. The card issuer should confirm that a PDF used in  
 990 conjunction with a PIV Card containing a cardholder signature will satisfy the anticipated PDF data  
 991 storage requirements.

992 *Zone 9F—Header.* If used, the text “*United States Government*” shall be placed as depicted in Figure 4-  
 993 1. Departments and agencies may also choose to use this zone for other department or agency-specific  
 994 information, such as identifying a Federal emergency responder role, as depicted in Figure 4-2.

995 *Zone 11F—Agency Seal.* If used, the seal selected by the issuing department, agency, or organization  
 996 shall be printed in the area depicted. It shall be printed using the guidelines provided in Figure 4-2 to  
 997 ensure information printed on the seal is legible and clearly visible.

998 *Zone 12F—Footer.* The footer is the preferred location for the *Emergency Response Official*  
 999 *Identification* label. If used, a department or agency may print “Emergency Response Official” as  
 1000 depicted in Figure 4-2, preferably in white lettering on a red background. Departments and agencies may  
 1001 also use Zone 9F to further identify the Federal emergency respondent’s official role. Some examples of  
 1002 official roles are “Law Enforcement”, “Fire Fighter”, and “Emergency Response Team (ERT)”.

1003 *Zone 13F—Issue Date.* If used, the card issuance date shall be printed above the expiration date in  
 1004 YYYYMMDD format as depicted in Figure 4-2.

1005 *Zone 15F—Color-Coding for Employee Affiliation.* Color-coding may be used for additional  
 1006 identification of employee affiliation (see Section 4.1.5 for Color Representation). If color-coding is  
 1007 used, it shall be used as a background color for Zone 2F (name) as depicted in Figure 4-4. The following  
 1008 color scheme shall be used for the noted categories:

- 1009 + Blue—foreign nationals
- 1010 + Red—emergency response officials
- 1011 + Green—contractors.

1012 These colors shall be reserved and shall not be employed for other purposes. Also, these colors shall be  
 1013 printed in accordance to the color specifications provided in Section 4.1.5. Zone 15F may be a solid or  
 1014 patterned line at the department or agency’s discretion.

1015 *Zone 16F—Photo Border for Employee Affiliation.* A border may be used with the photo to further  
 1016 identify employee affiliation, as depicted in Figure 4-3. This border may be used in conjunction with

1017 Zone 15F to enable departments and agencies to develop various employee categories. The photo border  
 1018 shall not obscure the photo. The border may be a solid or patterned line. For solid and patterned lines, red  
 1019 shall be reserved for emergency response officials, blue for foreign nationals, and green for contractors.  
 1020 All other colors may be used at the department or agency’s discretion.

1021 *Zone 17F—Agency Specific Data.* In cases in which other defined optional elements are not used, Zone  
 1022 17F may be used for other department or agency-specific information, as depicted in Figure 4-5.

1023 *Zone 18F—Affiliation Color Code.* The affiliation color code “B” for Blue, “G” for Green, or “R” for  
 1024 Red shall be printed in a white circle in Zone 15F. The diameter of the circle shall not be more than 5  
 1025 mm. Note that the lettering shall correspond to the printed color in Zone 15F. If Zone 16F photo border  
 1026 coloring is used to identify employee affiliation of emergency response officials, foreign nationals, or  
 1027 contractors, the lettering shall correspond to the printed color.

1028 *Zone 19F—Expiration Date.* If used, the card expiration date shall be printed in a MMMYYYY format in  
 1029 the upper right hand corner. The Zone 19F expiration date shall be printed in Arial 12pt Bold.

1030 *Zone 20F—Organizational Affiliation Abbreviation.* The organizational affiliation abbreviation may be  
 1031 printed in the upper right hand corner below the Zone 19F expiration date as shown in Figure 4-1. If  
 1032 printed, the organizational affiliation abbreviation shall be printed in Arial 12pt Bold.

1033 *Zone 21F—Section 508 Compliance.* A raised surface may be created so a card orientation can be  
 1034 determined by touch. The thickness of the PIV Card after the raised surface is applied shall not exceed 54  
 1035 mil. See Figure 4-2 for the placement of the raised surface.

#### 1036 **4.1.4.4 Optional Items on the Back of the Card**

1037 *Zone 3B—Magnetic Stripe.* If used, the magnetic stripe shall be high coercivity and placed in accordance  
 1038 with [ISO7811], as illustrated in Figure 4-7.

1039 *Zone 4B—Return Address.* If used, the “return if lost” language shall be generally placed on the back of  
 1040 the card as depicted in Figure 4-7.

1041 *Zone 5B—Physical Characteristics of Cardholder.* If used, the cardholder physical characteristics (e.g.,  
 1042 height, eye color, hair color) shall be printed in the general area illustrated in Figure 4-7. Additional  
 1043 information such as Gender and Date of Birth required for Transportation Security Administration (TSA)  
 1044 checkpoint may also be printed as shown in Figure 4-7.

1045 *Zone 6B—Additional Language for Emergency Response Officials.* Departments and agencies may  
 1046 choose to provide additional information to identify emergency response officials or to better identify the  
 1047 cardholder’s authorized access. If used, this additional text shall be in the general area depicted and shall  
 1048 not interfere with other printed text or machine-readable components. An example of a printed statement  
 1049 is provided in Figure 4-7.

1050 *Zone 7B—Standard Section 499, Title 18 Language.* If used, standard Section 499, Title 18, language  
 1051 warning against counterfeiting, altering, or misusing the card shall be printed in the general area depicted  
 1052 in Figure 4-7.

1053 *Zone 8B—Linear 3 of 9 Bar Code.* If used, a linear 3 of 9 bar code shall be generally placed as depicted  
 1054 in Figure 4-7. It shall be in accordance with Association for Automatic Identification and Mobility (AIM)  
 1055 standards. Beginning and end points of the bar code will be dependent on the embedded contactless

1056 module selected. Departments and agencies are encouraged to coordinate placement of the bar code with  
1057 the card vendor.

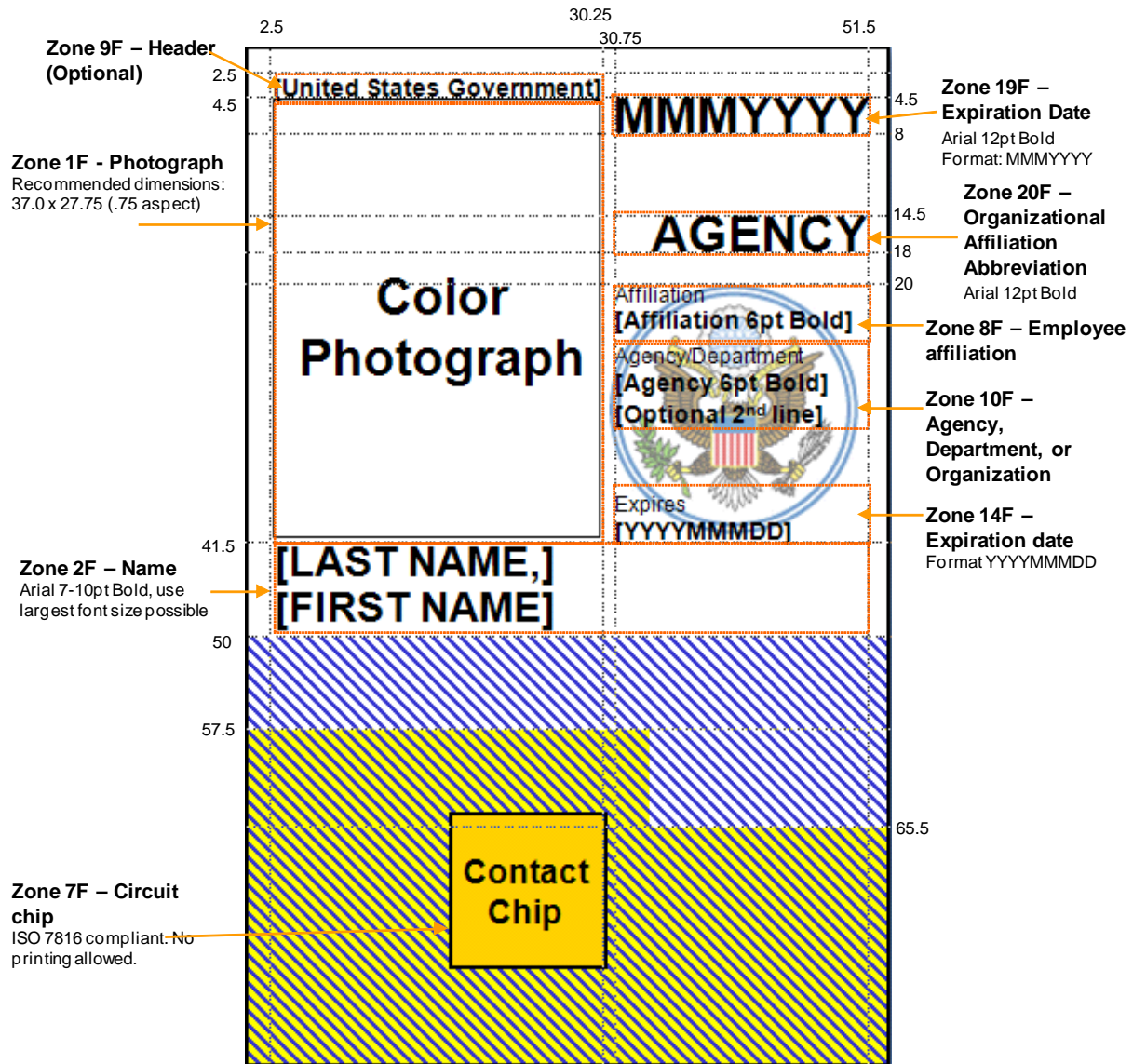
1058 *Zone 9B—Agency-Specific Text.* In cases in which other defined optional elements are not used, Zone 9B  
1059 may be used for other department or agency-specific information, as depicted in Figure 4-8. For example,  
1060 emergency response officials may use this area to provide additional details.

1061 *Zone 10B—Agency-Specific Text.* Zone 10B is similar to Zone 9B in that it is another area for providing  
1062 department or agency-specific information.

1063 For Zones 9B and 10B, departments and agencies are encouraged to use this area prudently and minimize  
1064 printed text to that which is absolutely necessary.

1065 In the case of the Department of Defense, the back of the card will have a distinct appearance. This is  
1066 necessary to display information required by the Geneva Accord and to facilitate legislatively mandated  
1067 medical entitlements.

1068



Area for additional optional data. Agency-specific data may be printed in this area. See other examples for required placement of additional optional data elements.

Area likely to be needed by card manufacturer. Optional data may be printed in this area but may be subject to restrictions imposed by card and/or printer manufacturers.

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Figure 4-1. Card Front—Printable Areas

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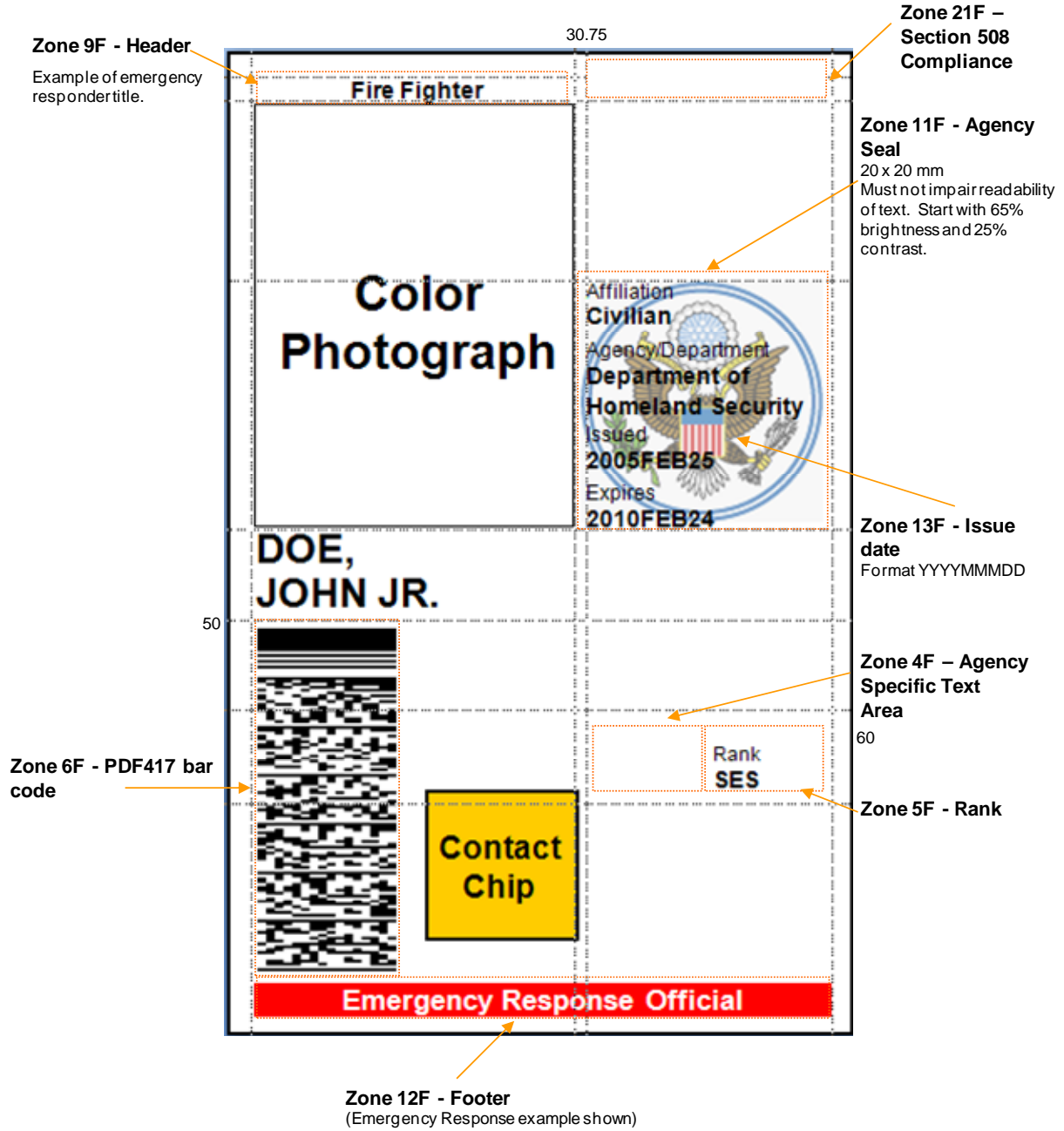


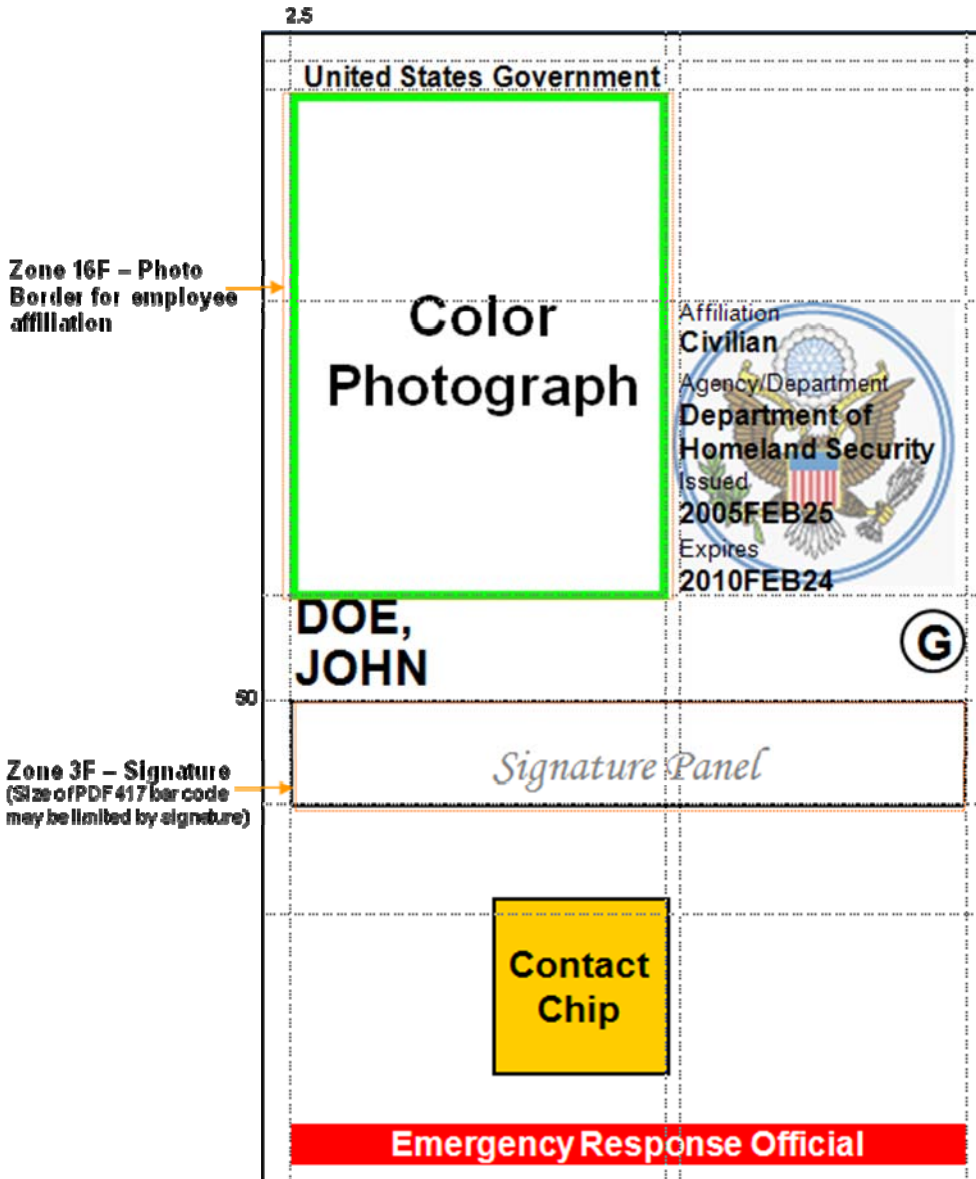
Figure 4-2. Card Front—Optional Data Placement—Example 1

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All measurements around the figure are in millimeters and are from the top-left corner.  
All text is to be printed using the Arial font.  
Unless otherwise specified, the font size should be 5pt normal weight for tags and 6pt bold for data.



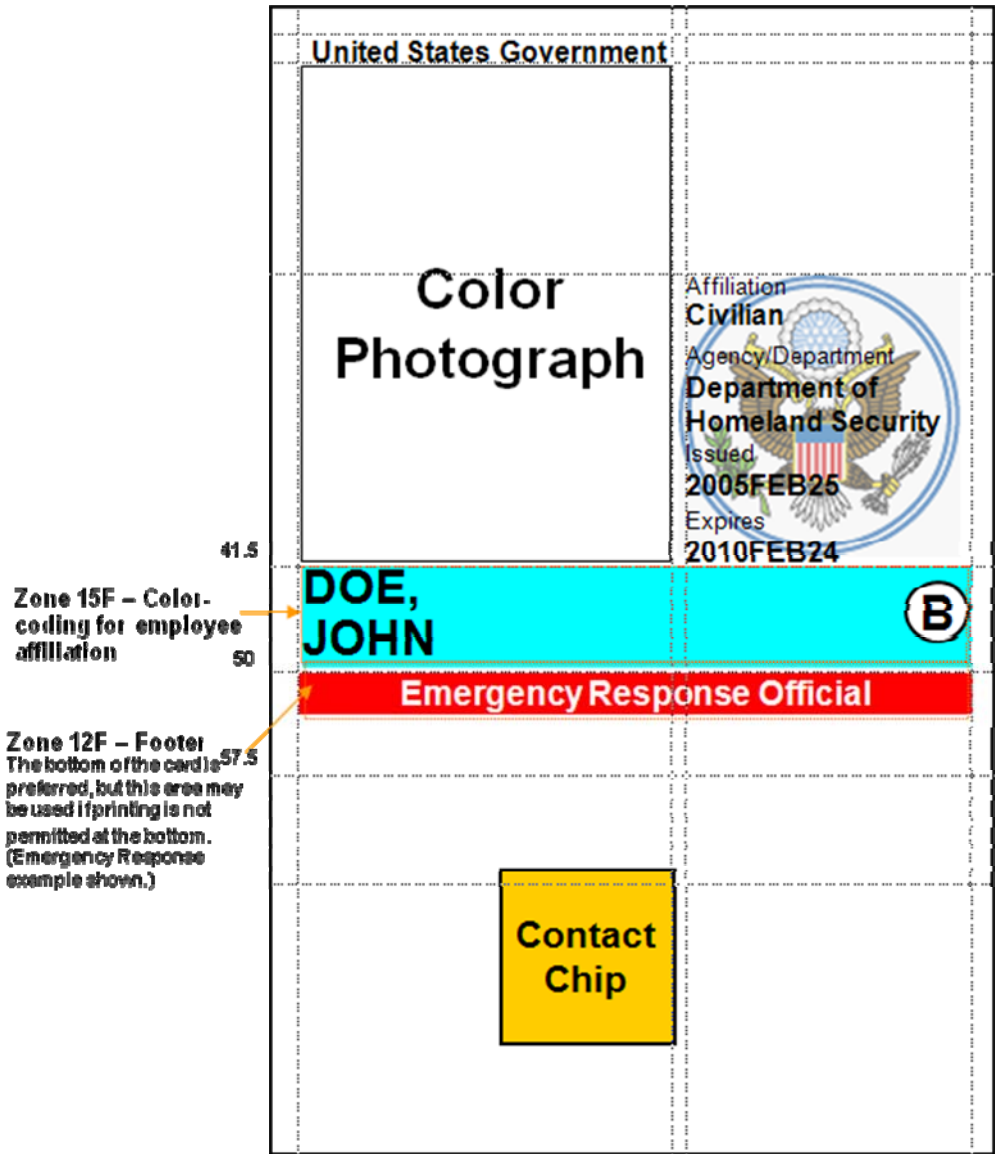
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Figure 4-3. Card Front—Optional Data Placement—Example 2



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All measurements around the figure are in millimeters and are from the top-left corner.  
All text is to be printed using the Arial font.  
Unless otherwise specified, the font size should be 5pt normal weight for tags and 6pt bold for data.



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Figure 4-4. Card Front—Optional Data Placement—Example 3

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All measurements around the figure are in millimeters and are from the top-left corner.  
 All text is to be printed using the Arial font.  
 Unless otherwise specified, the font size should be 5pt normal weight for tags and 6pt bold for data.

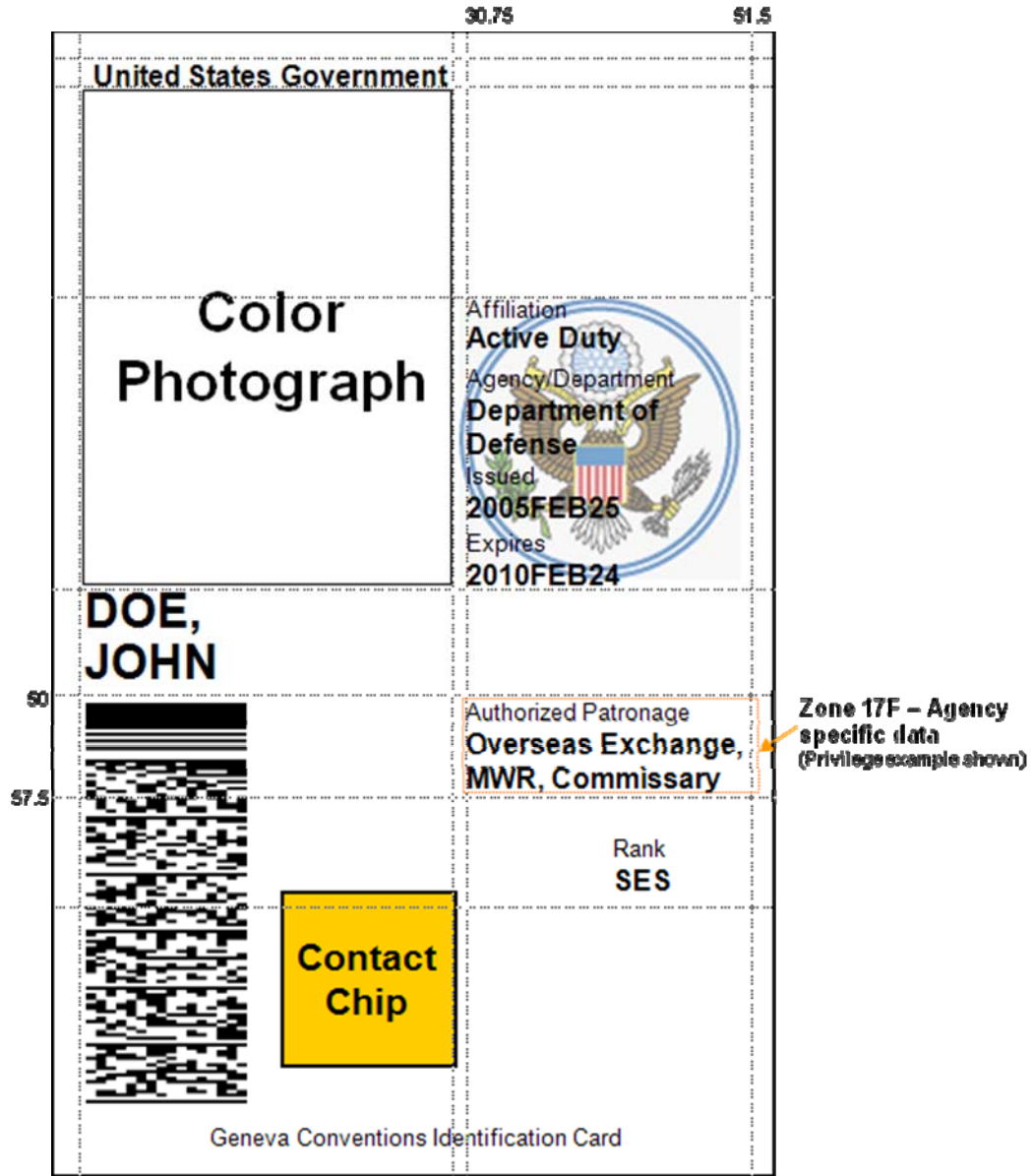


Figure 4-5. Card Front—Optional Data Placement—Example 4

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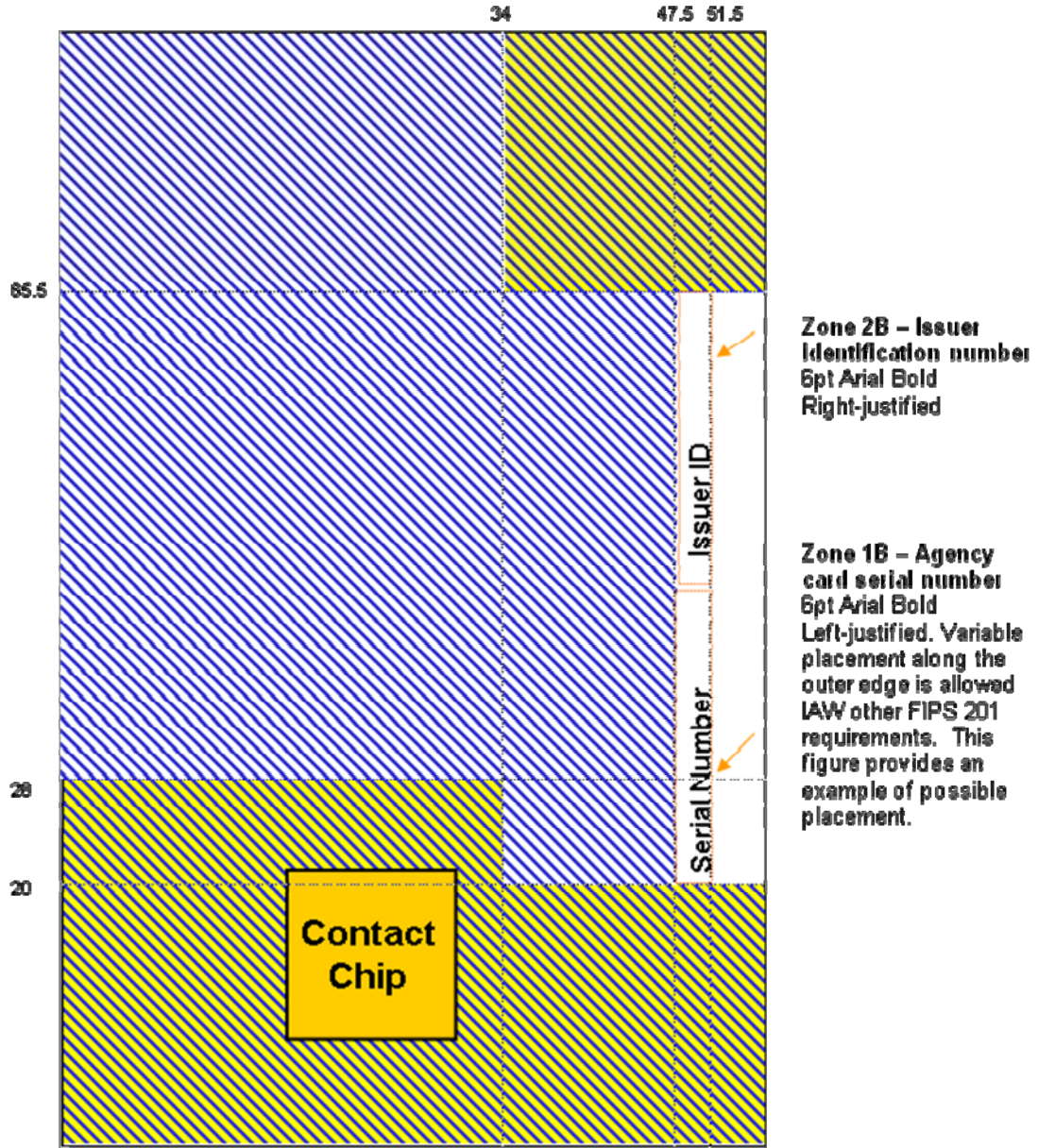
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All measurements are in millimeters and are from the top-left corner.  
 All text is to be printed using the Arial font.  
 Unless otherwise specified, the font size should be 5pt normal weight for tags and 6pt bold for data.



 Optional data area. Agency-specific data may be printed in this area. See examples for required placement of optional data elements.

 Optional data area likely to be needed by card manufacturer. Optional data may be printed in this area, but will likely be subject to restrictions imposed by card and/or printer manufacturers.

1092  
 1093  
 1094

Figure 4-6. Card Back—Printable Areas and Required Data

1095

1096

All measurements are in millimeters and are from the top-left corner.  
 All text is to be printed using the Arial font.  
 Unless otherwise specified, the font size should be 5pt normal weight for tags and 6pt bold for data.

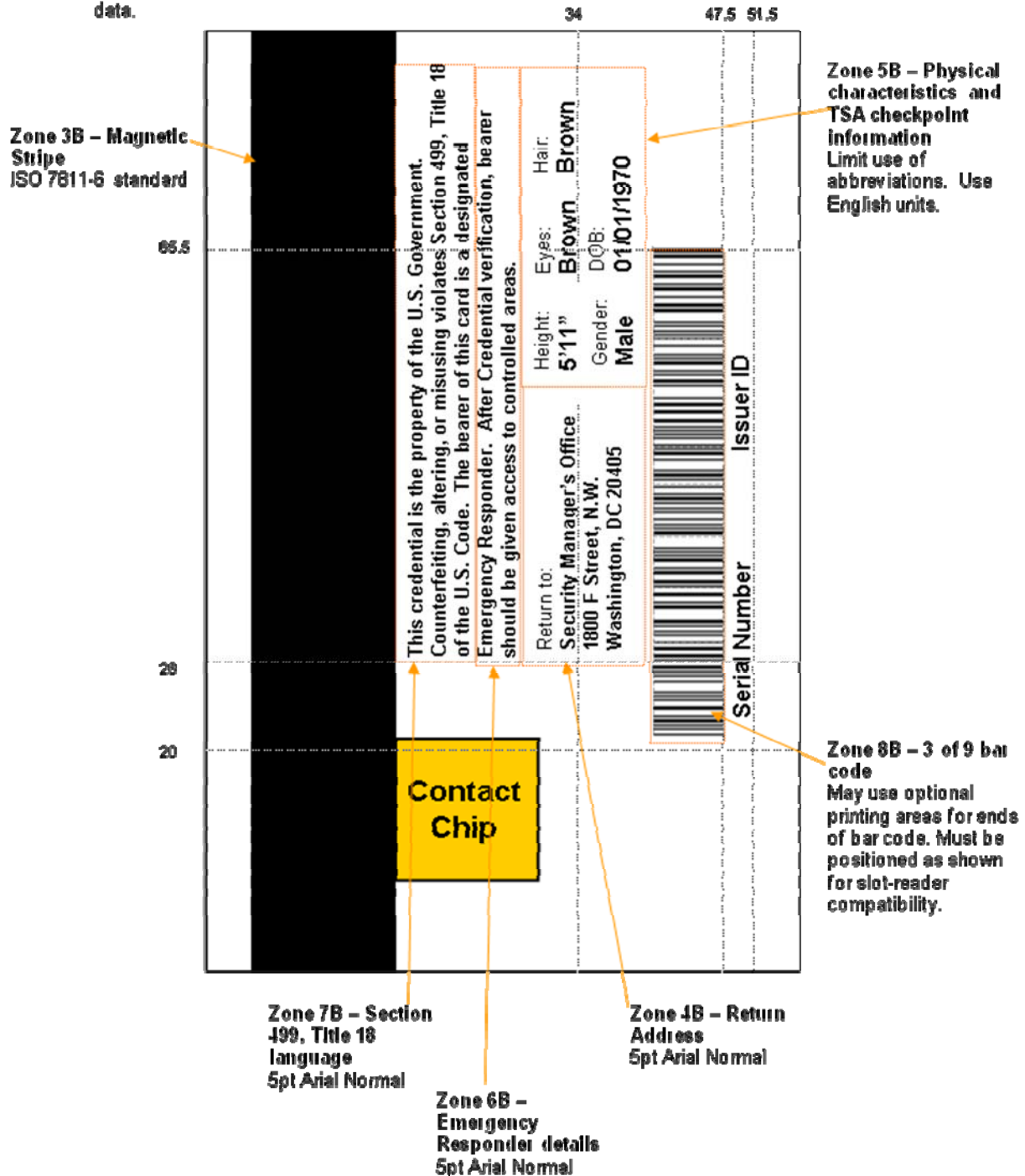
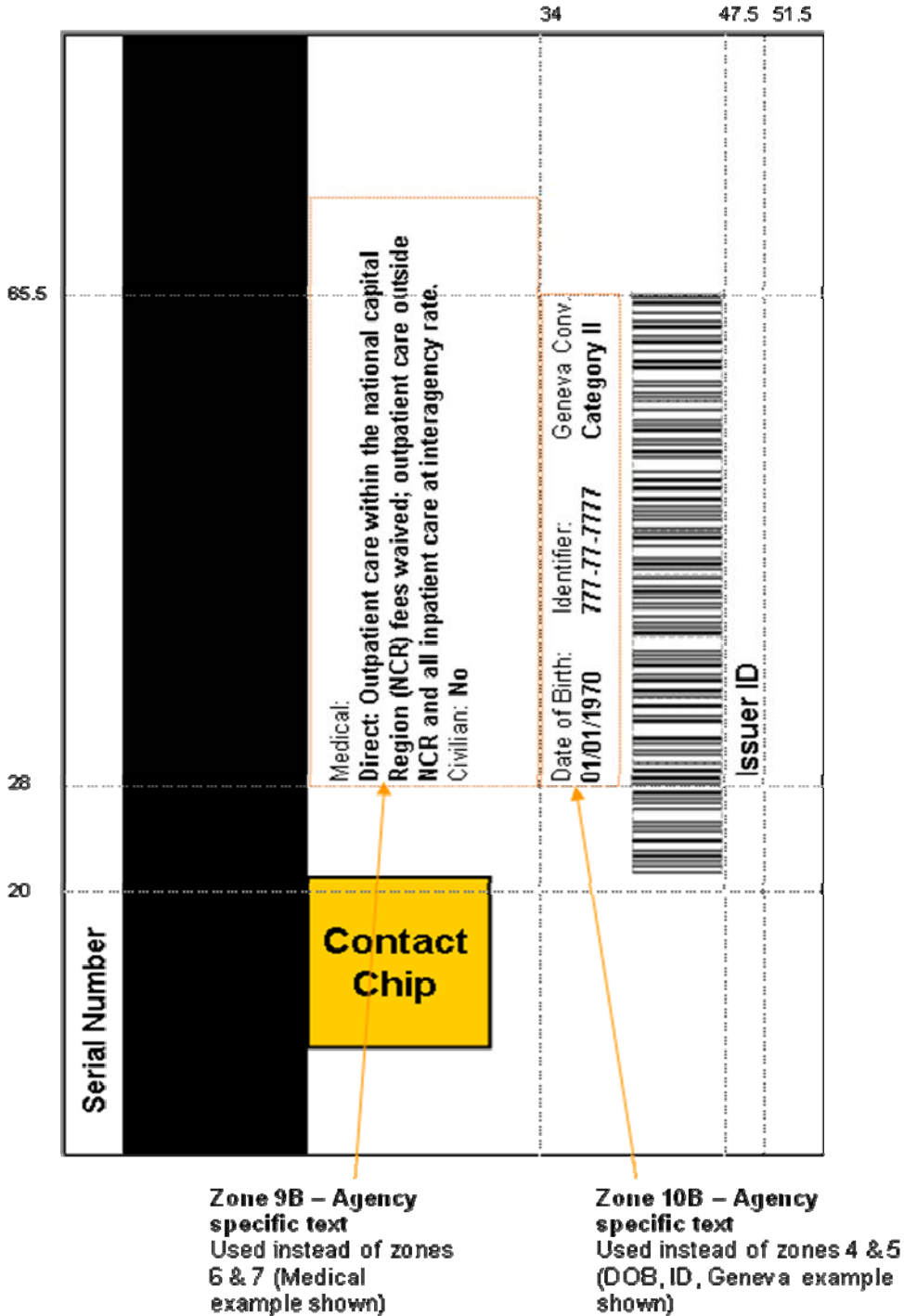


Figure 4-7. Card Back—Optional Data Placement—Example 1

1097  
 1098  
 1099

1100

All measurements are in millimeters and are from the top-left corner.  
 All text is to be printed using the Arial font.  
 Unless otherwise specified, the font size should be 5pt normal weight for tags and 6pt bold for data.



1101  
 1102  
 1103

Figure 4-8. Card Back—Optional Data Placement—Example 2

1104 **4.1.5 Color Representation**

1105 Table 4-1 provides quantitative specifications for colors in three different color systems: sRGB  
 1106 Tristimulus, sRGB ([IEC 61966], Color management – default RGB color space), and CMYK (Cyan,  
 1107 Magenta, Yellow and Key or ‘blacK’). Since the card body is white, the white color-coding is achieved  
 1108 by the absence of printing. Note that presence of the security feature, which may overlap colored or  
 1109 printed regions, may modify the perceived color. In the case of colored regions, the effect of overlap  
 1110 shall not prevent the recognition of the principal color by a person with normal vision (corrected or  
 1111 uncorrected) at a working distance of 50 cm to 200 cm.

1112 **Table 4-2. Color Representation**

Color	Zone	sRGB Tristimulus Value (IEC 61966-2-1)	sRGB Value (IEC 61966-2-1)	CMYK Value {C,M,Y,K}
White	15F	{255, 255, 255}	{255, 255, 255}	{0, 0, 0, 0}
Green	15F	{153, 255, 153}	{203, 255, 203}	{40, 0, 40, 0}
Blue	15F	{0, 255, 255}	{0, 255, 255}	{100, 0, 0, 0}
Red	12F	{253, 27, 20}	{254, 92, 79}	{0, 90, 86, 0}

1113  
 1114 The colors in Table 4-2 can be mapped to the Pantone<sup>7</sup> color cue; however, note that this will not produce  
 1115 an exact match. An agency or department may use the following Pantone mappings in cases where Table  
 1116 4-2 scales are not available.

- 1117
- 1118 + Blue—630C
- 1119 + White—White
- 1120 + Green—359C
- 1121 + Red—032C

1122  
 1123 **4.1.6 Logical Credentials**

1124 This section defines logical identity credentials and the requirements for use of these credentials.

1125 **4.1.6.1 Logical Credential Data Model**

1126 To support a variety of authentication mechanisms, the PIV logical credentials shall contain multiple data  
 1127 elements for the purpose of verifying the cardholder's identity at graduated assurance levels. These  
 1128 mandatory data elements are part of the data model for PIV logical credentials, and include the following:

- 1129 + A PIN
- 1130 + A CHUID
- 1131 + PIV authentication data (one asymmetric key pair and corresponding certificate)
- 1132 + Two biometric fingerprints or if fingerprints are not collectible, two iris images

---

<sup>7</sup> Pantone is a registered name protected by law.

1133 + Card authentication data (one asymmetric key pair and corresponding certificate)

1134 This standard also defines optional data elements for the PIV data model. These optional data elements  
1135 include:

1136 + An asymmetric key pair and corresponding certificate for digital signatures

1137 + An asymmetric key pair and corresponding certificate for key management

1138 + A symmetric card authentication key for supporting physical access applications

1139 + A symmetric key associated with the card management system.

1140 + Facial image

1141 + One or two iris images

1142 + On-card biometric comparison data

1143 In addition to the above, other data elements are specified in [SP 800-73].

1144 PIV logical credentials fall into the following three categories:

1145 1. Credential elements used to prove the identity of the cardholder to the card (CTC authentication)

1146 2. Credential elements used to prove the identity of the card management system to the card (CMTC  
1147 authentication)

1148 3. Credential elements used by the card to prove the identity of the cardholder to an external entity  
1149 (CTE authentication) such as a host computer system.

1150 The PIN falls into the first category, the card management key into the second category, and the CHUID,  
1151 biometric credential, symmetric keys, and asymmetric keys into the third.

#### 1152 **4.1.7 PIV Card Activation**

1153 The PIV Card shall be activated<sup>8</sup> to perform privileged<sup>9</sup> operations such as reading biometric information  
1154 and using the PIV authentication key, digital signature key, and key management key. The PIV Card  
1155 shall be activated for privileged operations only after authenticating the cardholder or the appropriate card  
1156 management system. Cardholder activation is described in Section 4.1.7.1, and card management system  
1157 activation is described in Section 4.1.7.2.

##### 1158 **4.1.7.1 Activation by Cardholder**

1159 PIV Cards shall implement user-based cardholder activation to allow privileged operations using PIV  
1160 credentials held by the card. At a minimum, the PIV Card shall implement PIN-based cardholder  
1161 activation in support of interoperability across departments and agencies. Other card activation  
1162 mechanisms, only as specified in [SP 800-73], may be implemented and shall be discoverable. For PIN-  
1163 based cardholder activation, the cardholder shall supply a numeric PIN. The verification data shall be

<sup>8</sup> Activation in this context refers to the unlocking of the PIV Card application so privileged operations can be performed.

<sup>9</sup> A read of a PIV CHUID or use of the card authentication key is not considered a privileged operation.

1164 transmitted to the PIV Card and checked by the card. If the verification data check is successful, the PIV  
 1165 Card is activated. The PIV Card shall include mechanisms to block activation of the card after a number  
 1166 of consecutive failed activation attempts.

1167 The PIN should not be easily-guessable or otherwise individually-identifiable in nature (e.g., part of a  
 1168 Social Security Number, phone number). The required PIN length shall be a minimum of six digits.

#### 1169 **4.1.7.2 Activation by Card Management System**

1170 PIV Cards may support card activation by the card management system to support card personalization  
 1171 and post-issuance card update. To activate the card for personalization or update, the card management  
 1172 system shall perform a challenge response protocol using cryptographic keys stored on the card in  
 1173 accordance with [SP 800-73]. When cards are personalized, card management keys shall be set to be  
 1174 specific to each PIV Card. That is, each PIV Card shall contain a unique card management key. Card  
 1175 management keys shall meet the algorithm and key size requirements stated in Special Publication 800-  
 1176 78, Cryptographic Algorithms and Key Sizes for Personal Identity Verification. [SP 800-78]

### 1177 **4.2 Cardholder Unique Identifier (CHUID)**

1178 The PIV Card shall include the CHUID as defined in [SP 800-73]. The CHUID includes the Federal  
 1179 Agency Smart Credential Number (FASC-N), which uniquely identifies each card as described in [SP  
 1180 800-73]. CHUID elements specific to this standard are described below in Section 4.2.1. The format of  
 1181 the CHUID signature element is described in Section 4.2.2.

1182 The PIV CHUID shall be accessible from both the contact and contactless interfaces of the PIV Card  
 1183 without card activation. The PIV FASC-N shall not be modified post-issuance.

1184 The CHUID may be read and used by the relying systems, but it should be treated as if it were a password  
 1185 (since the digital signature provides entropy equivalent to a password) for purposes of retention. A stored  
 1186 CHUID presents risks similar to a stored password; it can be copied and used to gain access. It is strongly  
 1187 recommended that a complete CHUID should not be stored in relying systems.

#### 1188 **4.2.1 PIV CHUID Data Elements**

1189 In addition to the mandatory FASC-N that identifies a PIV Card, the CHUID shall include an expiration  
 1190 date data element in machine readable format that specifies when the card expires. The expiration date  
 1191 format and encoding rules are as specified in [SP 800-73]. For PIV Cards, the format of the asymmetric  
 1192 signature field is specified in Section 4.2.2.

#### 1193 **4.2.2 Asymmetric Signature Field in CHUID**

1194 This standard requires inclusion of the asymmetric signature field in the CHUID container. The  
 1195 asymmetric signature data element of the PIV CHUID shall be encoded as a Cryptographic Message  
 1196 Syntax (CMS) external digital signature, as defined in RFC 5652 [RFC5652]. The digital signature shall  
 1197 be computed in accordance with [SP 800-73]. Algorithm and key size requirements for the asymmetric  
 1198 signature are detailed in [SP 800-78].

1199 The issuer asymmetric signature file is implemented as a *SignedData* type, as specified in [RFC5652],  
 1200 and shall include the following information:

1201

1202 + The message shall include a *version* field specifying version v3



- 1203 + The *digestAlgorithms* field shall be as specified in [SP 800-78]
- 1204 + The *encapContentInfo* shall:
- 1205 – Specify an *eContentType* of id-PIV-CHUIDSecurityObject
- 1206 – Omit the *eContent* field
- 1207 + The *certificates* field shall include only a single X.509 certificate, which can be used to verify the  
1208 signature in the *SignerInfo* field
- 1209 + The *crls* field shall be omitted
- 1210 + *signerInfos* shall be present and include only a single *SignerInfo*
- 1211 + The *SignerInfo* shall:
- 1212 – Use the *issuerAndSerialNumber* choice for *SignerIdentifier*
- 1213 – Specify a *digestAlgorithm* in accordance with [SP 800-78]
- 1214 – Include, at a minimum, the following signed attributes:
- 1215 • A *MessageDigest* attribute containing the hash computed in accordance with [SP 800-73]
- 1216 • A *pivSigner-DN* attribute containing the subject name that appears in the PKI certificate  
1217 for the entity that signed the CHUID
- 1218 – Include the digital signature.
- 1219 The public key required to verify the digital signature shall be provided in the *certificates* field in an  
1220 X.509 digital signature certificate issued under the id-fpki-common-devices, id-fpki-common-hardware,  
1221 or id-fpki-common-High policy of [COMMON].<sup>10</sup> The X.509 digital signature certificate issued under  
1222 the id-fpki-common-devices, id-fpki-common-hardware, or id-fpki-common-High policy of [COMMON]  
1223 shall also include an extended key usage (*extKeyUsage*) extension asserting id-PIV-content-signing.  
1224 Additional descriptions for the PIV object identifiers are provided in Appendix D.

### 1225 4.3 Cryptographic Specifications

- 1226 The PIV Card shall implement the cryptographic operations and support functions as defined in [SP 800-  
1227 78] and [SP 800-73].
- 1228 The PIV Card must store private keys and corresponding public key certificates, and perform  
1229 cryptographic operations using the asymmetric private keys. At a minimum, the PIV Card must store two  
1230 asymmetric private keys and the corresponding public key certificates, namely the *PIV authentication key*  
1231 and the *asymmetric card authentication key*. With the exception of the *card authentication key and keys*  
1232 *used to establish a secure messaging*, the cryptographic private key operations shall be performed only  
1233 through the contact interface.

---

<sup>10</sup> For legacy PKIs, as defined in Section 5.4, the certificates may be issued under a department or agency-specific policy that has been cross-certified with the Federal Bridge CA (FBCA) at the Medium Hardware or High Assurance Level.

1234 The PIV Card may include additional asymmetric keys and PKI certificates. This standard defines  
 1235 requirements for digital signature and key management keys. Where digital signature keys are supported,  
 1236 the PIV Card is not required to implement a secure hash algorithm. Message hashing may be performed  
 1237 off card. Symmetric cryptographic operations are not mandated for the contactless interface, but  
 1238 departments and agencies may choose to supplement the basic functionality with storage for a symmetric  
 1239 card authentication key and support for a corresponding set of cryptographic operations. For example, if  
 1240 a department or agency wants to utilize Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) based challenge/response  
 1241 for physical access, the PIV Card must contain storage for the AES key and support AES operations  
 1242 through the contactless interface. Algorithms and key sizes for each PIV key type are specified in [SP  
 1243 800-78].

1244 The PIV Card has both mandatory keys and optional keys:

1245 + The *PIV authentication key* shall be an asymmetric private key that is accessible from the contact  
 1246 interface and supports card authentication for an interoperable environment. This is a mandatory  
 1247 key for each PIV Card.

1248 + The *asymmetric card authentication key* shall be a private key that is accessible over the  
 1249 contactless and contact interface and supports card authentication for an interoperable  
 1250 environment. This is a mandatory key for each PIV Card.

1251 + The *symmetric (secret) card authentication key* supports card authentication for physical access,  
 1252 and it is optional.

1253 + The *digital signature key* is an asymmetric private key supporting document signing, and it is  
 1254 optional.

1255 + The *key management key* is an asymmetric private key supporting key establishment and  
 1256 transport, and it is optional. This can also be used as an encryption key. Optionally, up to twenty  
 1257 retired key management keys may also be stored on the PIV Card.

1258 + The *card management key* is a symmetric key used for personalization and post-issuance  
 1259 activities, and it is optional.

1260 + The PIV Card may include additional key(s) for use with secure messaging to enable protocols  
 1261 such as on-card biometric comparison. These keys are defined in [SP 800-73] or [SP 800-78].

1262 All PIV cryptographic keys shall be generated within a FIPS 140 validated cryptographic module with  
 1263 overall validation at Level 2 or above. In addition to an overall validation of Level 2, the PIV Card shall  
 1264 provide Level 3 physical security to protect the PIV private keys in storage.

1265 Requirements specific to storage and access for each key are detailed below. Where applicable, key  
 1266 management requirements are also specified.

1267 + **PIV Authentication Key.** This key shall be generated on the PIV Card. The PIV Card shall not  
 1268 permit exportation of the PIV authentication key. The PIV authentication key must be available  
 1269 only through the contact interface of the PIV Card. Private key operations may be performed  
 1270 using an activated PIV Card without explicit user action (e.g., the PIN need not be supplied for  
 1271 each operation).

1272 The PIV Card shall store a corresponding X.509 certificate to support validation of the public  
 1273 key. The X.509 certificate shall include the FASC-N in the subject alternative name extension  
 1274 using the pivFASC-N attribute to support physical access procedures. The expiration date of the  
 1275 certificate must be no later than the expiration date of the PIV Card. Issued PIV Authentication  
 1276 certificates shall also include a PIV NACI indicator extension, until such time that OMB  
 1277 approves a government-wide operational system for distribution of Background Investigation  
 1278 status information (see Section 2.5). After OMB approves such an operational system, the  
 1279 inclusion of the PIV NACI indicator extension in issued PIV Authentication certificates is  
 1280 optional and deprecated. Section 5 of this document specifies the certificate format and the key  
 1281 management infrastructure for PIV authentication key.

1282 + **Asymmetric Card Authentication Key.** The asymmetric card authentication key shall be  
 1283 generated on the PIV Card. The PIV Card shall not permit exportation of the card authentication  
 1284 key. The card authentication key shall be available through the contact and the contactless  
 1285 interface of the PIV Card. Private key operations may be performed using this key without card  
 1286 activation (e.g., the PIN need not be supplied for operations with this key).

1287 The PIV Card shall store a corresponding X.509 certificate to support validation of the  
 1288 asymmetric card authentication key. The X.509 certificate shall include the FASC-N in the  
 1289 subject alternative name extension using the pivFASC-N attribute to support physical access  
 1290 procedures. The expiration date of the certificate must be no later than the expiration date of the  
 1291 PIV Card. Section 5 of this document specifies the certificate format and the key management  
 1292 infrastructure for asymmetric PIV Card authentication keys.

1293 + **Symmetric Card Authentication Key.** The symmetric card authentication key is imported onto  
 1294 the card by the issuer. The PIV Card shall not permit exportation of this key. If present,  
 1295 cryptographic operations using this key may be performed without card activation (e.g., the PIN  
 1296 need not be supplied for operations with this key). The card authentication key shall be available  
 1297 through the contact and the contactless interface of the PIV Card. This standard does not specify  
 1298 key management protocols or infrastructure requirements.

1299 + **Digital Signature Key.** The PIV digital signature key shall be generated on the PIV Card. The  
 1300 PIV Card shall not permit exportation of the digital signature key. If present, cryptographic  
 1301 operations using the digital signature key may only be performed using the contact interface of  
 1302 the PIV Card. Private key operations may not be performed without explicit user action.

1303 The PIV Card shall store a corresponding X.509 certificate to support validation of the digital  
 1304 signature key. Section 5 of this document specifies the certificate format and the key  
 1305 management infrastructure for PIV digital signature keys.

1306 + **Key Management Key.** This key may be generated on the PIV Card or imported to the card. If  
 1307 present, the key management key must only be accessible using the contact interface of the PIV  
 1308 Card. Private key operations may be performed using an activated PIV Card without explicit user  
 1309 action (e.g., the PIN need not be supplied for each operation).

1310 The PIV Card shall import and store a corresponding X.509 certificate to support validation of the  
 1311 key management key. Section 5 of this document specifies the certificate format and the key  
 1312 management infrastructure for key management keys.

- 1313 + **Card Management Key.** The card management key is imported onto the card by the issuer. If  
 1314 present, the card management key must only be accessible using the contact interface of the PIV  
 1315 Card.

1316 **4.4 PIV Biometric Data Specifications**

1317 The PIV biometric data shall consist of the following:

- 1318 + A full set of fingerprints used to perform law enforcement checks as part of the identity proofing  
 1319 and registration process.
- 1320 + An electronic facial image used for printing the facial image on the card and for performing  
 1321 visual authentication during card usage. The facial image is not required to be stored on the card.
- 1322 + Two electronic fingerprints to be stored on the card for automated authentication during card  
 1323 usage. If no fingerprints can be collected, two electronic iris images shall be stored on the PIV  
 1324 Card.

1325 The PIV biometric data may optionally include:

- 1326 + One or two iris images
- 1327 + On-card biometric comparison data

1328 All biometric data enumerated above are collected during the identity proofing and registration process.  
 1329 PIV biometric data shall be stored on PIV Cards as specified in [SP 800-76] and [SP 800-73].

1330 The PIV biometric data, except for on-card biometric comparison data, stored on the card shall be only  
 1331 accessible through the contact interface and after the presentation of a valid PIN. No contactless access is  
 1332 permitted for the PIV biometric data, except for on-card biometric comparison data, specified to be stored  
 1333 on the PIV Card under this standard. The on-card biometric comparison data may be available through  
 1334 the contact and the contactless interface of the PIV Card to support card activation (section 4.1.7.1) and  
 1335 cardholder authentication (section 6.2.5). The PIV Card shall not permit exportation of the on-card  
 1336 biometric comparison data. If implemented, PIV on-card biometric comparison data shall be  
 1337 implemented and used in accordance with [SP 800-73] and [SP 800-76].

1338 **4.4.1 Biometric Data Collection and chain-of-trust**

1339 A card issuer shall maintain, for each PIV Card issued, a documentary chain-of-trust for the identification  
 1340 data it collects. The chain-of-trust is a sequence of related enrollment data records, and shall be created  
 1341 and maintained through the methods of contemporaneous acquisition of data within each enrollment data  
 1342 record, and biometric matching of samples between enrollment data records<sup>11</sup>. An enrollment data record  
 1343 shall describe the circumstances of biometric acquisition including the name and role of the acquiring  
 1344 agent, the office and organization, time, place, and acquisition method. An enrollment data record may or  
 1345 may not contain historical biometric data<sup>12</sup>. A card issuer shall retain a biometric record, for example two

---

<sup>11</sup> For example, ten fingerprints for law enforcement checks may be collected at one time and place, and two fingerprints for PIV Card templates may be collected at a later time and different place, provided that the two fingerprints are verified as among the ten original fingerprints.

<sup>12</sup> An enrollment data set will always include biometric data immediately after it is created, but the biometric data itself may be deleted from the enrollment data set when it is no longer needed. The most recent biometric data shall be retained in the chain of trust. This enables extending and reconnecting the chain of trust.

1346 fingerprint templates, from the most recent enrollment to extend the chain-of-trust when necessary.<sup>13</sup> If  
 1347 the card issuer cannot collect and retain two fingerprints templates, two iris images shall be retained as the  
 1348 biometric data for the chain-of-trust and used in 1:1 biometric match to reconnect to the chain-of-trust.  
 1349 The biometric data in the chain-of-trust shall be valid for at most 12 years.

1350 A card issuer shall be able to import and export a chain-of-trust in the manner and representation  
 1351 described in [TBD].

1352 The chain-of-trust will be applied in several situations to include:

1353 + Extended enrollment: a PIV applicant enrolls ten fingerprints for background investigations at  
 1354 one place and time (e.g., at a police station), and two fingerprints for on-card templates at another  
 1355 place and time (e.g., at the PIV enrollment station). The chain-of-trust would contain identifiers  
 1356 and two enrollment data records, one with a ten fingerprint transaction, and one with two  
 1357 fingerprint templates. The two fingerprint templates would be matched against the corresponding  
 1358 fingers in the ten fingerprint data set to link the chain.

1359 + Reissuance: a PIV cardholder loses his/her card. Since the card issuer has biometric enrollment  
 1360 data records, the cardholder can perform a 1:1 biometric match to reconnect to the card issuer's  
 1361 chain-of-trust. The card issuer need not repeat the background investigation. The card issuer  
 1362 proceeds to issue a new card as described in Section 2.5.2.

1363 + Interagency transfer: a Federal employee is transferred from one agency to another. When the  
 1364 employee leaves the old agency, he/she surrenders the PIV Card and it is destroyed. When the  
 1365 employee arrives at new agency and is processed in, the card issuer in the new agency requests  
 1366 the employee's chain-of-trust from the card issuer in the old agency, and receives the chain-of-  
 1367 trust. The employee performs a 1:1 biometric match against the chain-of-trust, and the interaction  
 1368 proceeds as a PIV Card Reissuance as described in Section 2.5.2.

1369 The technical specifications for the collection and formatting of the ten fingerprints and other biometric  
 1370 information are contained in [SP 800-76]. The fingerprints shall be used for one-to-many matching with  
 1371 the database of fingerprints maintained by the FBI. The fingerprints should be captured using FBI-  
 1372 certified scanners and transmitted using FBI standard transactions. This one-to-many matching is called  
 1373 biometric identification. The requirement for ten fingerprints is based on matching accuracy data  
 1374 obtained by NIST in large-scale trials and reported in NISTIR 7123 [NISTIR7123]. Because biometric  
 1375 identification using fingerprints is the primary means for law enforcement checks, agencies shall seek  
 1376 OPM guidance for alternative means for performing law enforcement checks in cases where obtaining ten  
 1377 fingerprints is impossible.

1378 In cases where the collection of fingerprints for the PIV Card is not possible, two iris images shall be  
 1379 collected from the PIV applicant. The technical specifications for the electronic iris images are contained  
 1380 in [SP 800-76]. The electronic iris images may be used for biometric authentication as defined in Section  
 1381 6.2.3. This approach is required when the PIV Card does not contain fingerprint templates because the  
 1382 card issuer could not collect usable fingerprint images from the cardholder.

1383 A facial image shall be collected from all PIV applicants. The technical specifications for an electronic  
 1384 facial image are contained in [SP 800-76]. The electronic facial image may be used for the following  
 1385 purposes:

---

<sup>13</sup> If an agency is unable to collect fingerprint biometric data or iris images biometric data, a circumstance requiring PIV Card reissuance would force a new chain-of-trust to be created, implying a new FBI National Criminal History Check.

- 1386 + For generating the printed image on the card
- 1387 + For generating a visual image on the monitor of a guard workstation for augmenting the visual
- 1388 authentication process defined in Section 6.2.1. This approach may be required in the following
- 1389 situations:
- 1390 – A good live sample of fingerprints or iris cannot be collected from the PIV cardholder due to
- 1391 damage or injury.
- 1392 – Fingerprint or iris matching equipment failure
- 1393 – Authenticating PIV cardholders covered under Section 508.

1394 Two electronic fingerprints shall be collected from all PIV applicants, who can provide them, for storing  
 1395 on the card. Alternatively, these two electronic fingerprints can also be extracted from the ten fingerprints  
 1396 collected earlier for law enforcement checks. The technical specifications for the two electronic  
 1397 fingerprints are contained in [SP 800-76]. The right and left index fingers shall normally be designated as  
 1398 the primary and secondary finger, respectively. However, if those fingers cannot be imaged, the primary  
 1399 and secondary designations shall be taken from the following fingers, in decreasing order of priority:

- 1400 1. Right thumb
- 1401 2. Left thumb
- 1402 3. Right middle finger
- 1403 4. Left middle finger
- 1404 5. Right ring finger
- 1405 6. Left ring finger
- 1406 7. Right little finger
- 1407 8. Left little finger

1408 These fingerprint templates shall be used for 1:1 biometric verification against live samples collected  
 1409 from the PIV cardholder (see Section 6.2.3). Even though two fingerprints are available on the card, a  
 1410 department or agency has the option to use one or both of them for the purpose of PIV cardholder  
 1411 authentication. If only one fingerprint is used for authentication, then the primary finger shall be used  
 1412 first. In cases where there is difficulty in collecting even a single live scan sample fingerprint of  
 1413 acceptable quality, the department or agency shall perform authentication using asymmetric cryptography  
 1414 as described in Section 6.2.4.1.

#### 1415 **4.4.2 Biometric Data Representation and Protection**

1416 Biometric data shall be formatted using the standardized records specified in [SP 800-76]. The integrity  
 1417 of the mandatory fingerprint and optional iris and facial data records shall be protected using digital  
 1418 signatures as follows. The records shall be prepended with a Common Biometric Exchange Formats  
 1419 Framework (CBEFF) header (referred to as CBEFF\_HEADER) and appended with the CBEFF signature  
 1420 block (referred to as the CBEFF\_SIGNATURE\_BLOCK) [CBEFF].

1421 The format for CBEFF\_HEADER is specified in [SP 800-76].

1422 The CBEFF\_SIGNATURE\_BLOCK contains the digital signature of the biometric data and thus  
 1423 facilitates the verification of integrity of the biometric data. The process of generating a  
 1424 CBEFF\_SIGNATURE\_BLOCK is described as follows. The CBEFF\_SIGNATURE\_BLOCK shall be  
 1425 encoded as a CMS external digital signature as defined in [RFC5652]. The digital signature shall be  
 1426 computed over the entire CBEFF structure except the CBEFF\_SIGNATURE\_BLOCK itself (which  
 1427 means that it includes the CBEFF\_HEADER and the biometric records). The algorithm and key size  
 1428 requirements for the digital signature are detailed in [SP 800-78].

1429 The CMS encoding of the CBEFF\_SIGNATURE\_BLOCK is as a *SignedData* type, and shall include the  
 1430 following information:

- 1431 + The message shall include a *version* field specifying version v3
- 1432 + The *digestAlgorithms* field shall be as specified in [SP 800-78]
- 1433 + The *encapcontentInfo* shall
  - 1434 – Specify an *eContentType* of id-PIV-biometricObject
  - 1435 – Omit the *eContent* field
- 1436 + If the signature on the biometric was generated with the same key as the signature on the CHUID,  
 1437 the *certificates* field shall be omitted
- 1438 + If the signature on the biometric was generated with a different key than the signature on the  
 1439 CHUID, the *certificates* field shall include only a single certificate, which can be used to verify  
 1440 the signature in the *SignerInfo* field
- 1441 + The *crls* field shall be omitted
- 1442 + *signerInfos* shall be present and include only a single *SignerInfo*
- 1443 + The *SignerInfo* shall
  - 1444 – Use the *issuerAndSerialNumber* choice for *SignerIdentifier*
  - 1445 – Specify a *digestAlgorithm* in accordance with [SP 800-78]
  - 1446 – Include at a minimum the following signed attributes:
    - 1447 • A *MessageDigest* attribute containing the hash of the concatenated CBEFF\_HEADER +  
 1448 Biometric Record
    - 1449 • A *pivFASC-N* attribute containing the FASC-N of the PIV Card (to link the biometric  
 1450 data and PIV Card)
    - 1451 • A *pivSigner-DN* attribute containing the subject name that appears in the PKI certificate  
 1452 for the entity that signed the biometric data
  - 1453 – Include the digital signature.

1454 The X.509 certificate containing the public key required to verify the digital signature shall be issued  
 1455 under the id-fpki-common-devices, id-fpki-common-hardware, or id-fpki-common-High policy of

1456 [COMMON].<sup>14</sup> The certificate shall also include an extended key usage (*extKeyUsage*) extension  
1457 asserting id-PIV-content-signing. Additional descriptions for the PIV object identifiers are provided in  
1458 Appendix D.

#### 1459 **4.4.3 Biometric Data Content**

1460 Matching accuracy and data interoperability are the driving factors in specifying the biometric data on the  
1461 PIV Card. These data characteristics include the image parameters (e.g., pixel density, pixel depth) in the  
1462 image records as well as the fields in the encapsulating standard biometric record. As already stated, the  
1463 biometric data content collected over the PIV life cycle shall conform to the specifications outlined in [SP  
1464 800-76].

#### 1465 **4.5 Card Reader Requirements**

1466 This section provides minimum requirements for the contact and contactless card readers. Also, this  
1467 section provides requirements for PIN input devices. Further requirements are specified in [SP 800-96].

##### 1468 **4.5.1 Contact Reader Requirements**

1469 Contact card readers shall conform to the [ISO7816] standard for the card-to-reader interface. These  
1470 readers shall conform to the Personal Computer/Smart Card (PC/SC) Specification [PCSC] for the reader-  
1471 to-host system interface in general desktop computing environment. Specifically, the contact card readers  
1472 shall conform to the requirements specified in [SP 800-96]. In physical access control systems where the  
1473 readers are not connected to general purpose desktop computing systems, the reader-to-host system  
1474 interface is not specified in this standard.

##### 1475 **4.5.2 Contactless Reader Requirements**

1476 Contactless card readers shall conform to [ISO14443] standard for the card-to-reader interface and data  
1477 transmitted over the [ISO14443] link shall conform to [ISO7816]. In cases where these readers are  
1478 connected to general purpose desktop computing systems, they shall conform to [PCSC] for the reader-to-  
1479 host system interface. Specifically, the contact card readers shall conform to the requirements specified  
1480 in [SP 800-96]. In physical access control systems where the readers are not connected to general  
1481 purpose desktop computing systems, the reader-to-host system interface is not specified in this standard.  
1482 This is necessary to allow retrofitting of PIV readers into existing physical access control systems that use  
1483 a variety of non-standard card reader communication interfaces.

##### 1484 **4.5.3 Reader Resilience and Flexibility**

1485 The international standard ISO/IEC 24727 [ISOIEC 24727] enables a high degree of interoperability  
1486 between electronic credentials and relying subsystems by means of a firmware-defined adaptation layer.  
1487 To make interoperability among PIV System middleware, card readers, and credentials more resilient and  
1488 flexible, the Department of Commerce will evaluate ISO/IEC 24727 and propose an optional profile of  
1489 ISO/IEC 24727 in [SP 800-73]. The profile will explain how profile-conformant middleware, card  
1490 readers, and PIV Cards can be used interchangeably with middleware, card readers, and PIV Cards  
1491 currently deployed.

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<sup>14</sup> For legacy PKIs, as defined in Section 5.4.4, the certificates may be issued under a department or agency-specific policy that has been cross-certified with the Federal Bridge CA (FBCA) at the Medium Hardware or High Assurance Level.



1492 Specifications of the profile will become effective, as a means to implement PIV System readers and  
1493 middleware, when OMB determines that the profile specifications are complete and ready for  
1494 deployment.

1495 **4.5.4 PIN Input Device Requirements**

1496 PIN input devices shall be used for implementing PIN-based PIV Card activation. When the PIV Card is  
1497 used with a PIN for physical access, the PIN input device shall be integrated with the reader. When the  
1498 PIV Card is used with a PIN for logical access (e.g., to authenticate to a Web site or other server), the PIN  
1499 input device may be integrated with the reader or entered using the computer's keyboard. If the PIN input  
1500 device is not integrated with the reader, the PIN shall be transmitted securely and directly to the PIV Card  
1501 for card activation.

1502

## 1503 **5. PIV Key Management Requirements**

1504 PIV Cards consistent with this specification will have two or more asymmetric private keys. To manage  
 1505 the public keys associated with the asymmetric private keys, departments and agencies shall issue and  
 1506 manage X.509 public key certificates as specified below.

### 1507 **5.1 Architecture**

1508 The CA that issues certificates to support PIV Card authentication shall participate in the hierarchical PKI  
 1509 for the Common Policy managed by the Federal PKI. Self-signed, self-issued, and CA certificates issued  
 1510 by these CAs shall conform to *Worksheet 1: Self-Signed Certificate Profile*, *Worksheet 2: Self-Issued CA*  
 1511 *Certificate Profile*, and *Worksheet 3: Cross Certificate Profile*, respectively, in *X.509 Certificate and*  
 1512 *Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Extensions Profile for the Shared Service Providers (SSP) Program*  
 1513 [PROF]. The requirements for legacy PKIs are defined in Section 5.4.

### 1514 **5.2 PKI Certificate**

1515 All certificates issued to support PIV Card authentication shall be issued under the *X.509 Certificate*  
 1516 *Policy for the U.S. Federal PKI Common Policy Framework* [COMMON]. The requirements in this  
 1517 certificate policy cover identity proofing and the management of CAs and registration authorities. CAs  
 1518 and registration authorities may be operated by departments and agencies, or may be outsourced to PKI  
 1519 service providers. For a list of PKI service providers that have been approved to operate under  
 1520 [COMMON], see <http://www.idmanagement.gov/fpkipa/cpl.cfm>.

1521 [COMMON] requires FIPS 140 Level 2 validation for the subscriber cryptographic module (i.e., the PIV  
 1522 Card). In addition, this standard requires the cardholder to authenticate to the PIV Card each time it  
 1523 performs a private key computation with the digital signature key.

#### 1524 **5.2.1 X.509 Certificate Contents**

1525 The required contents of X.509 certificates associated with PIV private keys are based on [PROF]. The  
 1526 relationship is described below:

1527 + Certificates containing the public key associated with an asymmetric Card Authentication Key  
 1528 shall conform to *Worksheet 8: Card Authentication Certificate Profile* in [PROF].

1529 + Certificates containing the public key associated with a digital signature private key shall  
 1530 conform to *Worksheet 5: End Entity Signature Certificate Profile* in [PROF] and shall specify  
 1531 either the id-fpki-common-hardware or id-fpki-common-High policy in the certificate policies  
 1532 extension.

1533 + Certificates containing the public key associated with a PIV authentication private key shall  
 1534 conform to *Worksheet 9: PIV Authentication Certificate Profile* in [PROF].

1535 + Certificates containing the public key associated with a key management private key shall  
 1536 conform to *Worksheet 6: Key Management Certificate Profile* in [PROF].<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Note that Key Management certificates may assert the id-fpki-common-policy, id-fpki-common-hardware, or id-fpki-common-High policy in the certificate policies extension. Applications / relying systems sensitive to the assurance level may choose not to accept certificates that only assert id-fpki-common-policy.

1537 + Requirements for algorithms and key sizes for each type of PIV asymmetric key are given in [SP  
1538 800-78].

### 1539 1540 **5.3 X.509 CRL Contents**

1541 CAs that issue certificates corresponding to PIV private keys shall issue CRLs every 18 hours, at a  
1542 minimum. The contents of X.509 CRLs shall conform to *Worksheet 4: CRL Profile* in [PROF].

### 1543 **5.4 Migration from Legacy PKIs**

1544 For the purposes of this standard, legacy PKIs are the PKIs of departments and agencies that have cross-  
1545 certified with the Federal Bridge CA (FBCA) at the Medium Hardware or High Assurance Level. PIV  
1546 Authentication Certificates and Card Authentication Certificates issued by legacy PKIs shall meet the  
1547 requirements specified in Section 5.2.1. Departments and agencies may assert department or agency-  
1548 specific policy OIDs in PIV Authentication Certificates and Card Authentication Certificates in addition  
1549 to the id-fpki-common-authentication policy OID and the id-fpki-common-cardAuth OID, respectively.  
1550 This specification imposes no requirements on digital signature or key management certificates issued by  
1551 legacy PKIs.

### 1552 **5.5 PKI Repository and OCSP Responder(s)**

1553 The PIV PKI Repository and Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP) responder provides PIV Card and  
1554 key status information across departments, agencies, and other organizations, to support high-assurance  
1555 interagency PIV Card interoperation. Departments and agencies will be responsible for notifying  
1556 Certification Authorities (CA) when cards or certificates need to be revoked. CAs shall maintain the  
1557 status of servers and responders needed for PIV Card and certificate status checking.

1558 The expiration date of the authentication certificates (PIV authentication certificate and Card  
1559 authentication certificate) shall not be after the expiration date of the PIV Card. If the card is revoked, the  
1560 authentication certificates shall be revoked. However, an authentication certificate (and its associated key  
1561 pair) may be revoked without revoking the PIV Card and may then be replaced. The presence of a valid,  
1562 unexpired, and unrevoked authentication certificate on a card is proof that the card was issued and is not  
1563 revoked.

1564 Because an authentication certificate typically is valid several years, a mechanism to distribute certificate  
1565 status information is necessary. CRL and OCSP are the two commonly used mechanisms. CAs that issue  
1566 authentication certificates shall maintain an LDAP directory server that holds the CRLs for the certificates  
1567 it issues, as well as any CA certificates issued to or by it.

1568 PIV Authentication key certificates and Card Authentication key certificates shall contain the  
1569 *crlDistributionPoints* and *authorityInfoAccess* extensions needed to locate CRLs and the authoritative  
1570 OCSP responder, respectively. In addition, every CA that issues these authentication certificates shall  
1571 operate an OCSP server that provides certificate status for every authentication certificate the CA issues.

#### 1572 **5.5.1 Certificate and CRL Distribution**

1573 This standard requires distribution of CA certificates and CRLs using LDAP and Hypertext Transport  
1574 Protocol (HTTP). Specific requirements are found in the Shared Service Provider Repository Service  
1575 Requirements [SSP REP].

1576 Certificates that contain the FASC-N in the subject alternative name extension, such as PIV  
1577 Authentication certificates and Card Authentication certificates, shall not be distributed publicly (e.g., via  
1578 LDAP or HTTP accessible from the public Internet). Individual departments and agencies can decide  
1579 whether other user certificates (digital signature and key management) can be distributed via LDAP.  
1580 When user certificates are distributed, the requirements in Table IV—End-Entity Certificate Repository  
1581 Service Requirements of [SSP REP] shall be satisfied.

1582 **5.5.2 OCSP Status Responders**

1583 OCSP [RFC2560] status responders shall be implemented as a supplementary certificate status  
1584 mechanism. The OCSP status responders must be updated at least as frequently as CRLs are issued. The  
1585 definitive OCSP responder for each certificate shall be specified in the AIA extension as described in  
1586 [PROF].

## 1587 **6. PIV Cardholder Authentication**

1588 This section defines a suite of identity authentication mechanisms that are supported by all the PIV Cards,  
 1589 and their applicability in meeting the requirements for a set of graduated levels of identity assurance.  
 1590 Specific implementation details of authentication mechanisms identified in this section are provided in  
 1591 [SP 800-73]. Moreover, while a wide range of authentication mechanisms is identified in this section,  
 1592 departments and agencies may adopt additional mechanisms that use the identity credentials on the PIV  
 1593 Card. In the context of the PIV Card Application, identity authentication is defined as the process of  
 1594 establishing confidence in the identity of the cardholder presenting a PIV Card. The authenticated  
 1595 identity can then be used to determine the permissions or authorizations granted to that identity for access  
 1596 to various physical and logical resources.

### 1597 **6.1 Identity Authentication Assurance Levels**

1598 This standard defines three levels of assurance for identity authentication supported by the PIV Card  
 1599 Application. Each assurance level sets a degree of confidence established in the identity of the holder of  
 1600 the PIV Card. The entity performing the authentication establishes confidence in the identity of the PIV  
 1601 cardholder through the following:

- 1602 1) The rigor of the identity proofing process conducted prior to issuing the PIV Card.
- 1603 2) The security of the PIV Card issuance and maintenance processes.
- 1604 3) The strength of the technical mechanisms used to verify that the cardholder is the owner of the  
 1605 PIV Card.

1606 Section 2 of this standard defines requirements for the identity proofing, registration, issuance, and  
 1607 maintenance processes for PIV Cards and establishes a common level of assurance in these processes.  
 1608 The PIV Card contains a number of visual and logical credentials. Depending on the specific PIV data  
 1609 used to authenticate the holder of the PIV Card to an entity that controls access to a resource, varying  
 1610 levels of assurance that the holder of the PIV Card is the owner of the card can be achieved. This is the  
 1611 basis for the following identity authentication assurance levels defined in this standard:

- 1612 + SOME Confidence—A basic degree of assurance in the identity of the cardholder
- 1613 + HIGH Confidence—A strong degree of assurance in the identity of the cardholder
- 1614 + VERY HIGH Confidence—A very strong degree of assurance in the identity of the cardholder.

1615 Parties responsible for controlling access to Federal resources (both physical and logical) shall determine  
 1616 the appropriate level of identity assurance required for access, based on the harm and impact to  
 1617 individuals and organizations as a result of errors in the authentication of the identity of the PIV  
 1618 cardholder. Once the required level of assurance has been determined, the authentication mechanisms  
 1619 specified within this section may be applied to achieve the required degree of confidence in the identity of  
 1620 the PIV cardholder.

#### 1621 **6.1.1 Relationship to OMB's E-Authentication Guidance**

1622 The levels of identity authentication assurance defined within this standard are closely aligned with  
 1623 Section 2 of OMB's E-Authentication Guidance for Federal Agencies, M-04-04 [OMB404]. Specifically,

1624 Table 6-1 shows the notional relationship between the PIV identity authentication assurance levels and  
 1625 the [OMB404] identity authentication assurance levels.

1626 **Table 6-1. Relationship Between PIV and E-Authentication Assurance Levels**

OMB E-Authentication Levels		Comparable PIV Assurance Levels
Level Number	Description	
Level 2	Some confidence in the asserted identity's validity	SOME confidence
Level 3	High confidence in the asserted identity's validity	HIGH confidence
Level 4	Very high confidence in the asserted identity's validity	VERY HIGH confidence

1627

1628 [OMB404] addresses “four levels of identity assurance for electronic transactions requiring  
 1629 authentication” and prescribes a methodology for determining the level of identity assurance required  
 1630 based on the risks and potential impacts of errors in identity authentication. In the context of the PIV  
 1631 Card, owners of logical resources shall apply the methodology defined in [OMB404] to identify the level  
 1632 of identity authentication assurance required for their electronic transaction. Parties that are responsible  
 1633 for access to physical resources may use a methodology similar to that defined in [OMB404] to determine  
 1634 the PIV identity authentication assurance level required for access to their physical resource; they may  
 1635 also use other applicable methodologies to determine the required level of identity assurance for their  
 1636 application.

1637 **6.2 PIV Card Authentication Mechanisms**

1638 The following subsections define the basic types of authentication mechanisms that are supported by the  
 1639 credential set hosted by the PIV Card Application. PIV Cards can be used for identity authentication in  
 1640 environments that are equipped with card readers as well as those that lack card readers. Card readers,  
 1641 when present, can be contact readers or contactless readers. The usage environment affects the PIV  
 1642 identity authentication mechanisms that may be applied to a particular situation.

1643 Each authentication mechanism described in this section is strengthened through the use of a back-end  
 1644 certificate status verification infrastructure. The status of the authentication certificates (i.e., PIV  
 1645 authentication certificate and Card authentication Certificate) is directly tied to the status of all other  
 1646 credential elements held by the card. Sections 6.2.1 through 6.2.4 define the basic types of authentication  
 1647 mechanisms that are supported by the core (mandatory) credential set on the PIV Card and are  
 1648 interoperable across agencies. Section 6.2.5 and section 6.2.6 define the authentication mechanisms that  
 1649 are available if the optional logical credential elements are present on the PIV Card.

1650 **6.2.1 Authentication Using PIV Visual Credentials (VIS)**

1651 Visual authentication of a PIV cardholder shall be used only to support access control to physical  
 1652 facilities and resources.

1653 The PIV Card has several mandatory topographical features on the front and back that support visual  
 1654 identification and authentication, as follows:

- 1655 + Zone 1F – Photograph

- 1656 + Zone 2F – Name
- 1657 + Zone 8F – Employee affiliation
- 1658 + Zone 10F – Agency, Department or Organization
- 1659 + Zone 14F – Expiration date
- 1660 + Zone 1B – Agency card serial number (back of card)
- 1661 + Zone 2B – Issuer identification number (back of card).

1662 The PIV Card may also bear the following optional components:

- 1663 + Zone 11F – Agency seal
- 1664 + Zone 5B – Physical characteristics of cardholder
- 1665 + Zone 3F –Signature.

1666 When a cardholder attempts to pass through an access control point for a Federally controlled facility, a  
 1667 human guard shall perform visual identity verification of the cardholder, and determine whether the  
 1668 identified individual should be allowed through the control point. The series of steps that shall be applied  
 1669 in the visual authentication process are as follows:

- 1670 1. The human guard at the access control entry point determines whether the PIV Card appears to be  
 1671 genuine and has not been altered in any way.
- 1672 2. The guard compares the cardholder’s facial features with the picture on the card to ensure that  
 1673 they match.
- 1674 3. The guard checks the expiration date on the card to ensure that the card has not expired.
- 1675 4. The guard compares the cardholder’s physical characteristic descriptions to those of the  
 1676 cardholder. (Optional)
- 1677 5. The guard collects the cardholder’s signature and compares it with the signature on the card.  
 1678 (Optional)
- 1679 6. One or more of the other data elements on the card (e.g., name, employee affiliation, agency card  
 1680 serial number, issuer identification, agency name) are used to determine whether the cardholder  
 1681 should be granted access.

1682 Some characteristics of the visual authentication mechanism are as follows:

- 1683 + Human inspection of card, which is not amenable for rapid or high volume access control
- 1684 + Resistant to use of unaltered card by non-owner of card
- 1685 + Low resistance to tampering and forgery

1686 + Applicable in environments with and without card readers.

### 1687 **6.2.2 Authentication Using the PIV CHUID**

1688 The PIV Card provides a mandatory logical credential called the CHUID. As described in Section 4.2,  
1689 the CHUID contains numerous data elements.

1690 The CHUID shall be used for PIV cardholder authentication using the following sequence:

- 1691 1. The CHUID is read electronically from the PIV Card.
- 1692 2. The digital signature on the CHUID is checked to ensure the CHUID was signed by a trusted  
1693 source and is unaltered.
- 1694 3. The expiration date on the CHUID is checked to ensure that the card has not expired.
- 1695 4. A unique identifier within the CHUID is used as input to the authorization check to determine  
1696 whether the cardholder should be granted access.

1697 Some characteristics of the CHUID-based authentication mechanism are as follows:

- 1698 + Can be used for rapid authentication for high volume access control
- 1699 + Low resistance to use of unaltered card by non-owner of card
- 1700 + Applicable with contact-based and contactless readers.

### 1701 **6.2.3 Authentication Using PIV Biometric**

1702 The PIV Card Application hosts the signed fingerprint templates and/or the signed iris image templates.  
1703 Either biometric can be read from the card following cardholder-to-card (CTC) authentication using a PIN  
1704 supplied by the cardholder. These PIV biometrics are designed to support a cardholder-to-external  
1705 system (CTE) authentication mechanism through a match-off-card scheme. The following subsections  
1706 define two authentication schemes that make use of the PIV biometrics. As noted in Section 4.4, neither  
1707 the fingerprint template nor the iris images are guaranteed to be present on a PIV Card, since it may not  
1708 be possible to collect fingerprints from some cardholders and iris images are only required to be collected  
1709 from cardholders whom fingerprints could not be collected. In some rare cases, a PIV Card may have  
1710 neither fingerprint templates nor iris images, if neither fingerprints nor iris images could be collected from  
1711 the cardholder.

1712 Some characteristics of the PIV Biometrics authentication mechanisms (described below) are as follows:

- 1713 + Slower mechanism, because it requires two interactions (e.g., presentation of PIN and biometric)  
1714 with the cardholder
- 1715 + Strong resistance to use of unaltered card by non-owner since PIN and cardholder biometric are  
1716 required
- 1717 + Digital signature on biometric, which is checked to further strengthen the mechanism
- 1718 + Applicable only with contact-based card readers.



1719 **6.2.3.1 Unattended Authentication Using PIV Biometric (BIO)**

1720 The following sequence shall be followed for unattended authentication of the PIV biometric:

- 1721 1. The CHUID is read from the card.
- 1722 2. The expiration date in the CHUID is checked to ensure the card has not expired.
- 1723 3. The cardholder is prompted to submit a PIN, activating the PIV Card.
- 1724 4. The PIV biometric is read from the card.
- 1725 5. The signature on the biometric is verified to ensure the biometric is intact and comes from a  
1726 trusted source.
- 1727 6. The cardholder is prompted to submit a live biometric sample.
- 1728 7. If the biometric sample matches the biometric read from the card, the cardholder is authenticated  
1729 to be the owner of the card.
- 1730 8. The FASC-N in the CHUID is compared with the FASC-N in the Signed Attributes field of the  
1731 external digital signature on the biometric.
- 1732 9. FASC-N is used as input to the authorization check to determine whether the cardholder should  
1733 be granted access.

1734 **6.2.3.2 Attended Authentication of PIV Biometric (BIO-A)**

1735 The following sequence shall be followed for attended authentication of the PIV biometrics:

- 1736 1. The CHUID is read from the card.
- 1737 2. The expiration date in the CHUID is checked to ensure that the card has not expired.
- 1738 3. The cardholder is prompted to submit a PIN. The PIN entry is done in the view of an attendant.
- 1739 4. The submitted PIN is used to activate the card. The PIV biometric is read from the card.
- 1740 5. The signature on the biometric is verified to ensure the biometric is intact and comes from a  
1741 trusted source.
- 1742 6. The cardholder is prompted to submit a live biometric sample. The biometric sample is submitted  
1743 in the view of an attendant.
- 1744 7. If the biometric sample matches the biometric read from the card, the cardholder is authenticated  
1745 to be the owner of the card.
- 1746 8. The FASC-N in the CHUID is compared with the FASC-N in the Signed Attributes field of the  
1747 external digital signature on the biometric.
- 1748 9. FASC-N is used as input to the authorization check to determine whether the cardholder should  
1749 be granted access.

1750 This authentication mechanism is similar to the unattended biometrics authentication mechanism; the only  
 1751 difference is that an attendant (e.g., security guard) supervises the use of the PIV Card and the submission  
 1752 of the PIN and the biometric by the cardholder.

#### 1753 **6.2.4 Authentication Using PIV Asymmetric Cryptography**

1754 The PIV Card contains two mandatory asymmetric authentication private keys and corresponding  
 1755 certificates, as described in Section 4. The following subsections shall be used to perform authentication  
 1756 using the authentication keys. The PKI-Auth shall be the alternative authentication mechanism, in cases  
 1757 where neither the fingerprints nor its alternative iris images could be collect for on-card storage.

##### 1758 **6.2.4.1 Authentication with the PIV authentication certificate credential (PKI-AUTH)**

- 1759 1. The reader reads the PIV Authentication Key certificate from the PIV Card Application.
- 1760 2. The cardholder is prompted to submit a PIN.
- 1761 3. The submitted PIN is used to activate the card.
- 1762 4. The reader issues a challenge string to the card and requests an asymmetric operation in response.
- 1763 5. The card responds to the previously issued challenge by signing it using the PIV authentication  
 1764 private key.
- 1765 6. The response signature is verified and standards-compliant PKI path validation is conducted. The  
 1766 related digital certificate is checked to ensure that it is from a trusted source. The revocation  
 1767 status of the certificate is checked to ensure current validity.
- 1768 7. The response is validated as the expected response to the issued challenge.
- 1769 8. The Subject Distinguished Name (DN) and unique identifier from the authentication certificate  
 1770 are extracted and passed as input to the access control decision.

1771 Some of the characteristics of the PKI-based authentication mechanism are as follows:

- 1772 + Requires the use of online certificate status checking infrastructure
- 1773 + Highly resistant to credential forgery
- 1774 + Strong resistance to use of unaltered card by non-owner since PIN is required to activate card
- 1775 + Applicable with contact-based card readers.

1776

##### 1777 **6.2.4.2 Authentication with the Card authentication certificate credential (PKI-CAK)**

- 1778 1. The reader reads the Card Authentication Key (CAK) certificate from the PIV Card Application.
- 1779 2. The reader issues a challenge string to the card and requests an asymmetric operation in response.

- 1780 3. The card responds to the previously issued challenge by signing it using the card authentication  
1781 private key.
- 1782 4. The response signature is verified and standards-compliant PKI path validation is conducted. The  
1783 related digital certificate is checked to ensure that it is from a trusted source. The revocation  
1784 status of the certificate is checked to ensure current validity.
- 1785 5. The response is validated as the expected response to the issued challenge.
- 1786 6. The FASC-N from the card authentication certificate is extracted and passed as input to the  
1787 access control decision.

1788 Some of the characteristics of the PKI-CAK authentication mechanism are as follows:

- 1789 + Requires the use of online certificate status checking infrastructure
- 1790 + Highly resistant to credential forgery
- 1791 + Applicable with contact-based and contactless readers.

1792 **6.2.5 Authentication Using On-Card Biometric Comparison**

1793 The PIV Card Application may host the optional on-card biometric comparison algorithm. In this case,  
1794 fingerprint templates are stored on the card, which cannot be read, but could be used for identity  
1795 verification. A live-scan biometric is supplied to the card to perform cardholder-to-card (CTC)  
1796 authentication and the card with an indication of the success of the on-card biometric comparison. The  
1797 response includes information that allows the reader to authenticate the card. The cardholder PIN is not  
1798 required for this operation. The PIV Card shall include mechanism to block this authentication  
1799 mechanism after a number of consecutive failed authentication attempts as stipulated by department or  
1800 agency. As with authentication using PIV biometric, aIf agencies choose to implement On-card biometric  
1801 comparison it shall be implemented as defined in [SP 800-73] and [SP 800-76].

1802 **6.2.6 Authentication with the Symmetric Card Authentication Key**

1803 The PIV Card Application may host the optional symmetric card authentication key. In this case, the  
1804 symmetric card authentication key shall be used for PIV cardholder authentication using the following  
1805 sequence:

- 1806 1. The CHUID is read electronically from the PIV Card.
- 1807 2. The digital signature on the CHUID is checked to ensure the CHUID was signed by a trusted  
1808 source and is unaltered.
- 1809 3. The expiration date on the CHUID is checked to ensure that the card has not expired.
- 1810 4. The reader issues a challenge string to the card and requests a response.
- 1811 5. The card responds to the previously issued challenge by signing it using the symmetric card  
1812 authentication key.
- 1813 6. The response is validated as the expected response to the issued challenge.

1814 7. A unique identifier within the CHUID is used as input to the authorization check to determine  
 1815 whether the cardholder should be granted access.

1816 **6.3 PIV Support of Graduated Assurance Levels for Identity Authentication**

1817 The PIV Card supports a set of authentication mechanisms that can be used to implement graduated  
 1818 assurance levels for identity authentication. The following subsections specify the basic PIV  
 1819 authentication mechanisms that may be used to support the various levels of identity authentication  
 1820 assurance as defined in Section 6.1. Two or more complementing identity authentication mechanisms  
 1821 may be applied in unison to achieve a higher degree of assurance of the identity of the PIV cardholder.  
 1822 For example, PKI-AUTH and BIO may be applied in unison to achieve a higher degree of assurance in  
 1823 cardholder identity.

1824 Adequately designed and implemented relying systems can achieve the PIV Card authentication  
 1825 assurance levels stated in Tables 6-2 and 6-3. Less adequately designed or implemented relying systems  
 1826 may only achieve lower authentication assurance levels. The design of components of relying systems,  
 1827 including card readers, biometric readers, cryptographic modules, and key management systems, involves  
 1828 many factors not fully specified by FIPS 201, such as correctness of the functional mechanism, physical  
 1829 protection of the mechanism, and environmental conditions at the authentication point. Additional  
 1830 standards and best practice guidelines apply to the design and implementation of relying systems, e.g.,  
 1831 FIPS 140 and SP 800-116.

1832 **6.3.1 Physical Access**

1833 The PIV Card may be used to authenticate the identity of the cardholder in a physical access control  
 1834 environment. For example, a Federal facility may have physical entry doors that have human guards at  
 1835 checkpoints, or may have electronic access control points. The PIV-supported authentication mechanisms  
 1836 for physical access control systems are summarized in Table 6-2. An authentication mechanism that is  
 1837 suitable for a higher assurance level can also be applied to meet the requirements for a lower assurance  
 1838 level.

1839 **Table 6-2. Authentication for Physical Access**

PIV Assurance Level Required by Application/Resource	Applicable PIV Authentication Mechanism
SOME confidence	VIS, CHUID, PKI-CAK
HIGH confidence	BIO
VERY HIGH confidence	BIO-A, PKI-AUTH

1847 **6.3.2 Logical Access**

1848 The PIV Card may be used to authenticate the cardholder in support of decisions concerning access to  
 1849 logical information resources. For example, a cardholder may log in to his or her department or agency  
 1850 network using the PIV Card; the identity established through this authentication process can be used for  
 1851 determining access to file systems, databases, and other services available on the network.

1852 Table 6-3 describes the authentication mechanisms defined for this standard to support logical access  
 1853 control. An authentication mechanism that is suitable for a higher assurance level can also be applied to  
 1854 meet the requirements for a lower assurance level.

1855

**Table 6-3. Authentication for Logical Access**

PIV Assurance Level Required by Application/Resource	Applicable PIV Authentication Mechanism	
	Local Workstation Environment	Remote/Network System Environment
SOME confidence	CHUID, PKI-CAK	PKI-CAK
HIGH confidence	BIO	
VERY HIGH confidence	BIO-A, PKI-AUTH	PKI-AUTH

1856

## 1857 **Appendix A—PIV Validation, Certification, and Accreditation**

### 1858 **A.1 Accreditation of PIV Card Issuers (PCI)**

1859 [HSPD-12] requires that all cards be issued by providers whose reliability has been established by an  
 1860 official accreditation process. To that end, NIST developed a set of attributes as the basis of reliability  
 1861 assessment of PIV Card Issuers (PCIs) in SP 800-79 and published this document in July 2005.  
 1862 Subsequent lessons learned in implementation experience (in credential management and PIV Card  
 1863 issuance) of various agencies together with the evolution of PCI organizations motivated NIST to develop  
 1864 a new accreditation methodology that is objective, efficient, and will result in consistent and repeatable  
 1865 accreditation decisions and published the substantial revision as SP 800-79-1 in June 2008 [SP 800-79].  
 1866 The new PCI accreditation methodology is built on a foundation of four major Accreditation Topics, 13  
 1867 Accreditation Focus Areas and a total of 79 Control requirements distributed under the various  
 1868 Accreditation Focus Areas. Associated with each control requirement are a set of assessment methods, the  
 1869 exercise of the latter will result in outcomes that form the basis for accreditation decisions.

1870 The four major Accreditation Topics identified in [SP 800-79] are:

- 1871 + Organizational Preparedness
- 1872 + Security Management and Data Protection
- 1873 + Infrastructure Elements
- 1874 + (PIV) Processes

1875 The entire spectrum of activities in the PCI accreditation methodology is divided into the following four  
 1876 phases:

- 1877 + Initiation Phase
- 1878 + Assessment Phase
- 1879 + Accreditation Phase
- 1880 + Monitoring Phase

1881 The initiation phase involves communicating the goals of the assessment/accreditation to the key  
 1882 personnel of the PCI organization and the review of documents such as the PCI operations plan. In the  
 1883 assessment phase, the appropriate assessment methods stipulated in the methodology for each PCI control  
 1884 are carried out and the individual results recorded. The accreditation phase involves aggregating the  
 1885 results of assessment, arriving at an accreditation decision, and issuing the appropriate notification –  
 1886 Authorization to Operate (ATO) or the Denial of Authorization to Operate (DATO), that is consistent  
 1887 with the accreditation decision.

### 1888 **A.2 Security Certification and Accreditation of IT System(s) Supporting PCI**

1889 The accreditation of the capability and reliability of a PCI using the methodology outlined in [SP 800-79]  
 1890 depends upon adequate security for the information systems that are used for PCI functions. The  
 1891 assurance that such a security exists in a PCI is obtained through security certification and accreditation of  
 1892 IT systems performed using the methodology specified in SP 800-37. [SP 800-37] The methodology in

1893 [SP 800-37] in turn was created in pursuant to a mandate in Appendix III of Office of Management and  
 1894 Budget (OMB) Circular A-130. An accreditation decision granted under [SP 800-37] signifies that a PCI  
 1895 organization's official accepts responsibility for the security (in terms of confidentiality, integrity, and  
 1896 availability of information) of the information systems that will be involved in carrying out the PCI  
 1897 functions. Hence accreditation under [SP 800-37] is mandatory for issuing PCI accreditation using SP  
 1898 800-79.

1899 **A.3 Conformance of PIV Card Application and Middleware Testing to Specifications**  
 1900 **Based on this Standard**

1901 Assurance of conformance of the PIV Card Application and PIV Middleware interfaces to this standard  
 1902 and its associated technical specifications is needed in order to meet the security and interoperability  
 1903 goals of HSPD-12. To facilitate this, NIST has established the NIST Personal Identity Verification  
 1904 Program (NPIVP). Under this program NIST has developed test procedures in SP 800-85A, *PIV Card*  
 1905 *Application and Middleware Interface Test Guidelines (SP800-73 compliance)*, and an associated toolkit  
 1906 for conformance testing of PIV Card Application and PIV Middleware. [SP 800-85A] Commercial  
 1907 products under these two categories are tested by the set of accredited test laboratories, accredited under  
 1908 National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) program, using the NIST supplied test  
 1909 procedures and toolkit. The outcomes of the test results are validated by NIST, which then issues  
 1910 validation certificates. Information about NPIVP is available at  
 1911 <http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/SNS/piv/npivp>.

1912  
 1913 **A.4 Cryptographic Testing and Validation (FIPS 140 and algorithm standards)**

1914 All on-card cryptographic modules hosting the PIV Card Application and cryptographic modules of Card  
 1915 Issuance and Maintenance Systems shall be validated to FIPS 140 with an overall Security Level 2 (or  
 1916 higher). [FIPS140-2] The facilities for FIPS 140 testing are the Cryptographic and Security Testing  
 1917 (CST) laboratories accredited by the NVLAP program of NIST. Vendors wanting to supply  
 1918 cryptographic modules can select any of the accredited laboratories. The tests conducted by these  
 1919 laboratories for all vendor submissions are validated and a validation certificate for each vendor module is  
 1920 issued by the Cryptographic Module Validation Program (CMVP), a joint program run by NIST and  
 1921 Communications Security Establishment (CSE) of the Government of Canada. The details of the CMVP  
 1922 and NVLAP programs and the list of CMT laboratories can be found at the CMVP Web site at  
 1923 <http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/STM/index.html>.

1924 **A.5 FIPS 201 Evaluation Program**

1925 In order to evaluate the conformance of different families of products that support the PIV processes to  
 1926 this standard and its associated technical specifications, the Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP)  
 1927 under GSA set up the FIPS 201 Evaluation Program. The product families include Card Personalization  
 1928 products, Card Readers, Products involved in Credential enrollment functions such as Fingerprint and  
 1929 Facial Image Capture equipments, Biometric fingerprint template generators etc. Products evaluated and  
 1930 approved under this program are placed on the FIPS 201 Approved Products List (APL) to enable  
 1931 procurement of conformant products by implementing agencies. The details of the program are available  
 1932 at <http://fips201ep.cio.gov/>.

1933

1934 **Appendix B—Background Check Descriptions**

1935 The following describes the details of a National Agency Check with Inquiries (NACI).

1936 + **NACI.** The basic and minimum investigation required on all new Federal employees consisting  
1937 of a National Agency Check (NAC) with written inquiries and searches of records covering  
1938 specific areas of an individual’s background during the past five years (inquiries sent to current  
1939 and past employers, schools attended, references, and local law enforcement authorities).  
1940 Coverage includes:

1941 – Employment, 5 years

1942 – Education, 5 years and highest degree verified

1943 – Residence, 3 years

1944 – References

1945 – Law Enforcement, 5 years

1946 – NACs



1947 **Appendix C—PIV Card Processes**

1948 The following table is a summary of the requirements described in Section 2.4 and Section 2.5. The  
 1949 summary is provided as an overview of the requirements and is only intend to be a quick reference.

1950

FIPS 201-2 Card Processes and Their Requirements							
	Issuance	Maintenance					
	Issuance	Renewal		Reissuance		Re-Key	Post Issuance Updates
		Data Change	No Data Change	Data Change	No Data Change		
Sponsor Approval	•	•	•	• (if expiration date is extended)	• (if expiration date is extended)		
Identity Proofing	•						
Biometric Collection	•	Good for 12 years	Good for 12 years	Good for 12 years	Good for 12 years		
Enroll in Chain-of-trust	•	Record change		Record change			
NCHC	•						
NACI	•	•	•	• (if expiration date is extended)	• (if expiration date is extended)		
Chain-of-trust verification (CV)	•	•	•	•	•		• (if biometric data change)
Valid PIV Card in Possession		•	•	• (unless lost/stolen)		•	•
New Physical Card issued (new FASC-N)	•	•	•	•	•		
Re-enrollment if CV not available		•	•	•	•		
Expiration Date	Maximum 6 yrs	Maximum 6 yrs	Maximum 6 yrs	Maximum 6 yrs	Maximum 6 yrs	No Change	No Change

1951

1952 **Appendix D—PIV Object Identifiers and Certificate Extension**

1953 **D.1 PIV Object Identifiers**

1954 Table D-1 lists details for PIV object identifiers.

1955 **Table D-1. PIV Object Identifiers**

ID	Object Identifier	Description
PIV eContent Types		
id-PIV-CHUIDSecurityObject	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.1	The associated content is the concatenated contents of the CHUID, excluding the authentication key map and the asymmetric signature field.
id-PIV-biometricObject	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.2	The associated content is the concatenated CBEFF_HEADER + STD_BIOMETRIC_RECORD.
PIV Attributes		
pivCardholder-Name	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.3	The attribute value is of type DirectoryString and specifies the PIV cardholder's name.
pivCardholder-DN	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.4	The attribute value is an X.501 type Name and specifies the DN associated with the PIV cardholder in the PIV certificate(s).
pivSigner-DN	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.5	The attribute value is an X.501 type Name and specifies the subject name that appears in the PKI certificate for the entity that signed the biometric or CHUID.
pivFASC-N	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.6	The pivFASC-N OID may appear as a name type in the otherName field of the subjectAltName extension of X.509 certificates or a signed attribute in CMS external signatures. Where used as a name type, the syntax is OCTET STRING. Where used as an attribute, the attribute value is of type OCTET STRING. In each case, the value specifies the FASC-N of the PIV Card.
PIV Extended Key Usage		
id-PIV-content-signing	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.7	This specifies that the public key may be used to verify signatures on PIV CHUIDs and PIV biometrics.
id-PIV-cardAuth	2.16.840.1.101.3.6.8	This specifies that the public key is used to authenticate the PIV Card rather than the PIV cardholder.

1956

1957 **D.2 PIV Certificate Extension**

1958 The PIV NACI indicator is a non-critical extension that may appear in PIV authentication certificates and  
 1959 card authentication certificates. The PIV NACI indicator extension indicates the status of the subject's  
 1960 background investigation at the time of credential issuance. The value of this extension is asserted as  
 1961 follows:

1962 + TRUE if, at the time of credential issuance, (1) the FBI National Criminal History Fingerprint  
 1963 Check has completed successfully, and (2) a NACI has been initiated but has not completed.

1964 + FALSE if, at the time of credential issuance, the subject's NACI has been completed and  
 1965 successfully adjudicated.

1966 The PIV NACI indicator extension is identified by the id-piv-NACI object identifier. The syntax for this  
 1967 extension is defined by the following ASN.1 module.

1968

```

1969     PIV-Cert-Extensions { 2 16 840 1 101 3 6 10 1 }
1970
1971     DEFINITIONS EXPLICIT TAGS ::=
1972
1973     BEGIN
1974
1975     -- EXPORTS ALL --
1976
1977     -- IMPORTS NONE --
1978
1979     id-piv-NACI OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { 2 16 840 1 101 3 6 9 1 }
1980
1981     NACI-indicator ::= BOOLEAN
1982
1983     END
1984
    
```

## 1985 Appendix E—Glossary of Terms, Acronyms, and Notations

### 1986 E.1 Glossary of Terms

1987 The following terms are used throughout this standard.

1988 **Access Control:** The process of granting or denying specific requests: 1) obtain and use information and  
1989 related information processing services; and 2) enter specific physical facilities (e.g., Federal buildings,  
1990 military establishments, border crossing entrances).

1991 **Applicant:** An individual applying for a PIV Card/credential. The Applicant may be a current or  
1992 prospective Federal hire, a Federal employee, or a contractor.

1993 **Application:** A hardware/software system implemented to satisfy a particular set of requirements. In  
1994 this context, an application incorporates a system used to satisfy a subset of requirements related to the  
1995 verification or identification of an end user's identity so that the end user's identifier can be used to  
1996 facilitate the end user's interaction with the system.

1997 **Approved:** FIPS approved or NIST recommended. An algorithm or technique that is either (1) specified  
1998 in a FIPS or a NIST recommendation or (2) adopted in a FIPS or NIST recommendation.

1999 **Architecture:** A highly structured specification of an acceptable approach within a framework for  
2000 solving a specific problem. An architecture contains descriptions of all the components of a selected,  
2001 acceptable solution while allowing certain details of specific components to be variable to satisfy related  
2002 constraints (e.g., costs, local environment, user acceptability).

2003 **Assurance Level (or E-Authentication Assurance Level):** A measure of trust or confidence in an  
2004 authentication mechanism defined in OMB Memorandum M-04-04 and NIST Special Publication (SP)  
2005 800-63, in terms of four levels: [M-04-04]

2006                   • Level 1: LITTLE OR NO confidence

2007                   • Level 2: SOME confidence

2008                   • Level 3: HIGH confidence

2009                   • Level 4: VERY HIGH confidence

2010 **Asymmetric Keys:** Two related keys, a public key and a private key, that are used to perform  
2011 complementary operations, such as encryption and decryption or signature generation and signature  
2012 verification.

2013 **Authentication:** The process of establishing confidence of authenticity; in this case, in the validity of a  
2014 person's identity and the PIV Card.

2015 **Biometric:** A measurable, physical characteristic or personal behavioral trait used to recognize the  
2016 identity, or verify the claimed identity, of an Applicant. Facial images, fingerprints, and iris scan samples  
2017 are all examples of biometrics.

2018 **Biometric Information:** The stored electronic information pertaining to a biometric. This information  
2019 can be in terms of raw or compressed pixels or in terms of some characteristic (e.g., patterns).

2020 **Biometric System:** An automated system capable of the following:

- 2021 + Capturing a biometric sample from an end user
- 2022 + Extracting biometric data from that sample
- 2023 + Comparing the extracted biometric data with data contained in one or more references
- 2024 + Deciding how well they match
- 2025 + Indicating whether or not an identification or verification of identity has been achieved.
- 2026 **Capture:** The method of taking a biometric sample from an end user. [INCITS/M1-040211]
- 2027 **Cardholder:** An individual possessing an issued PIV Card.
- 2028 **Certificate Revocation List:** A list of revoked public key certificates created and digitally signed by a  
2029 Certification Authority. [RFC 5280]
- 2030 **Certification:** The process of verifying the correctness of a statement or claim and issuing a certificate as  
2031 to its correctness.
- 2032 **Certification Authority:** A trusted entity that issues and revokes public key certificates.
- 2033 **Chain-of-trust:** The chain-of-trust is a sequence of related enrollment data sets that is created and  
2034 maintained by PIV Card issuers.
- 2035 **Claimant:** A party whose identity is to be verified using an authentication protocol.
- 2036 **Comparison:** The process of comparing a biometric with a previously stored reference. See also  
2037 “Identification” and “Identity Verification”. [INCITS/M1-040211]
- 2038 **Component:** An element of a large system, such as an identity card, PIV Issuer, PIV Registrar, card  
2039 reader, or identity verification support, within the PIV system.
- 2040 **Conformance Testing:** A process established by NIST within its responsibilities of developing,  
2041 promulgating, and supporting FIPS for testing specific characteristics of components, products, and  
2042 services, as well as people and organizations for compliance with a FIPS.
- 2043 **Credential:** Evidence attesting to one’s right to credit or authority; in this standard, it is the PIV Card  
2044 and data elements associated with an individual that authoritatively binds an identity (and, optionally,  
2045 additional attributes) to that individual.
- 2046 **Cryptographic Key (Key):** A parameter used in conjunction with a cryptographic algorithm that  
2047 determines the specific operation of that algorithm.
- 2048 **Enrollment data set:** A record including information about a biometric enrollment: name and role of the  
2049 acquiring agent, office and organization, time, place, and acquisition method.
- 2050 **Federal Agency Smart Credential Number (FASC-N):** As required by FIPS 201, the primary  
2051 identifier on the PIV Card for physical access control. The FASC-N is a fixed length (25 byte) data  
2052 object, specified in [SP 800-73], and included in several data objects on a PIV Card.

- 2053 **FASC-N Identifier:** The FASC-N shall be in accordance with [SP 800-73]. A subset of FASC-N, a  
2054 FASC-N Identifier, is a unique identifier as described in [SP 800-73].
- 2055 **Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS):** A standard for adoption and use by Federal  
2056 departments and agencies that has been developed within the Information Technology Laboratory and  
2057 published by NIST, a part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. A FIPS covers some topic in  
2058 information technology to achieve a common level of quality or some level of interoperability.
- 2059 **Framework:** A structured description of a topic of interest, including a detailed statement of the  
2060 problem(s) to be solved and the goal(s) to be achieved. An annotated outline of all the issues that must be  
2061 addressed while developing acceptable solutions to the problem(s). A description and analysis of the  
2062 constraints that must be satisfied by an acceptable solution and detailed specifications of acceptable  
2063 approaches to solving the problems(s).
- 2064 **Graduated Security:** A security system that provides several levels (e.g., low, moderate, high) of  
2065 protection based on threats, risks, available technology, support services, time, human concerns, and  
2066 economics.
- 2067 **Hash Function:** A function that maps a bit string of arbitrary length to a fixed length bit string.  
2068 Approved hash functions satisfy the following properties:
- 2069 1. **One-Way.** It is computationally infeasible to find any input that maps to any pre-specified  
2070 output.
  - 2071 2. **Collision Resistant.** It is computationally infeasible to find any two distinct inputs that map to  
2072 the same output.
- 2073 **Identification:** The process of discovering the true identity (i.e., origin, initial history) of a person or  
2074 item from the entire collection of similar persons or items.
- 2075 **Identifier:** Unique data used to represent a person's identity and associated attributes. A name or a card  
2076 number are examples of identifiers.
- 2077 **Identity:** The set of physical and behavioral characteristics by which an individual is uniquely  
2078 recognizable.
- 2079 **Identity Authentication Assurance Level:** A degree of confidence established in the identity of the  
2080 holder of the PIV Card.
- 2081 **Identity Binding** – Binding of the vetted claimed identity to the individual (through biometrics)  
2082 according to the issuing authority. Represented by an identity assertion from the issuer that is carried by a  
2083 *PIV credential*.
- 2084 **Identity Management System (IDMS)** – Identity management system comprised of one or more  
2085 systems or applications that manages the identity verification, validation, and issuance process.
- 2086 **Identity Proofing:** The process of providing sufficient information (e.g., identity history, credentials,  
2087 documents) to a PIV Registrar when attempting to establish an identity.
- 2088 **Identity Registration:** The process of making a person's identity known to the PIV system, associating a  
2089 unique identifier with that identity, and collecting and recording the person's relevant attributes into the  
2090 system.

- 2091 **Identity Verification:** The process of confirming or denying that a claimed identity is correct by  
 2092 comparing the credentials (something you know, something you have, something you are) of a person  
 2093 requesting access with those previously proven and stored in the PIV Card or system and associated with  
 2094 the identity being claimed.
- 2095 **Information in Identifiable Form (IIF):** Any representation of information that permits the identity of  
 2096 an individual to whom the information applies to be reasonably inferred by either direct or indirect means.  
 2097 [E-Gov]
- 2098 **Interoperability:** For the purposes of this standard, interoperability allows any government facility or  
 2099 information system, regardless of the PIV Issuer, to verify a cardholder’s identity using the credentials on  
 2100 the PIV Card.
- 2101 **Issuer:** The organization that is issuing the PIV Card to an Applicant. Typically this is an organization  
 2102 for which the Applicant is working.
- 2103 **Key:** See “Cryptographic Key”.
- 2104 **Match/Matching:** The process of comparing biometric information against a previously stored biometric  
 2105 data and scoring the level of similarity.
- 2106 **Model:** A very detailed description or scaled representation of one component of a larger system that can  
 2107 be created, operated, and analyzed to predict actual operational characteristics of the final produced  
 2108 component.
- 2109 **Off-Card:** Refers to data that is not stored within the PIV Card or to a computation that is not performed  
 2110 by the Integrated Circuit Chip (ICC) of the PIV Card.
- 2111 **On-Card:** Refers to data that is stored within the PIV Card or to a computation that is performed by the  
 2112 Integrated Circuit Chip (ICC) of the PIV Card.
- 2113 **One-to-Many:** Synonym for “Identification”. [INCITS/M1-040211]
- 2114 **Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP):** An online protocol used to determine the status of a public  
 2115 key certificate. [RFC 2560]
- 2116 **Path Validation:** The process of verifying the binding between the subject identifier and subject public  
 2117 key in a certificate, based on the public key of a trust anchor, through the validation of a chain of  
 2118 certificates that begins with a certificate issued by the trust anchor and ends with the target certificate.  
 2119 Successful path validation provides strong evidence that the information in the target certificate is  
 2120 trustworthy.
- 2121 **Personal Identification Number (PIN):** A secret that a claimant memorizes and uses to authenticate his  
 2122 or her identity.
- 2123 **Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Card:** A physical artifact (e.g., identity card, “smart” card) issued  
 2124 to an individual that contains stored identity credentials (e.g., photograph, cryptographic keys, digitized  
 2125 fingerprint representation) so that the claimed identity of the cardholder can be verified against the stored  
 2126 credentials by another person (human readable and verifiable) or an automated process (computer  
 2127 readable and verifiable).

- 2128 **PIV Issuer:** An authorized identity card creator that procures FIPS-approved blank identity cards,  
 2129 initializes them with appropriate software and data elements for the requested identity verification and  
 2130 access control application, personalizes the cards with the identity credentials of the authorized subjects,  
 2131 and delivers the personalized cards to the authorized subjects along with appropriate instructions for  
 2132 protection and use.
- 2133 **PIV Registrar:** An entity that establishes and vouches for the identity of an Applicant to a PIV Issuer.  
 2134 The PIV Registrar authenticates the Applicant’s identity by checking identity source documents and  
 2135 identity proofing, and ensures a proper background check has been completed, before the credential is  
 2136 issued.
- 2137 **PIV Sponsor:** An individual who can act on behalf of a department or agency to request a PIV Card for  
 2138 an Applicant.
- 2139 **Population:** The set of users for the application. [INCITS/M1-040211]
- 2140 **Pseudonyms:** a name assigned by a Federal Department or Agency through a formal process to a Federal  
 2141 employee for the purpose of the employee's protection (i.e., the employee might be placed at risk if their  
 2142 actual name were known) or for other purposes.
- 2143 **Public Key:** The public part of an asymmetric key pair that is typically used to verify signatures or  
 2144 encrypt data.
- 2145 **Public Key Infrastructure (PKI):** A support service to the PIV system that provides the cryptographic  
 2146 keys needed to perform digital signature-based identity verification and to protect communications and  
 2147 storage of sensitive verification system data within identity cards and the verification system.
- 2148 **PKI-Card Authentication Key (PKI-CAK):** A PIV authentication mechanism that is implemented by  
 2149 an asymmetric key challenge/response protocol using the Card authentication key of the PIV card and a  
 2150 contact or contactless reader.
- 2151 **PKI-PIV Authentication Key (PKI-AUTH):** A PIV authentication mechanism that is implemented by  
 2152 an asymmetric key challenge/response protocol using the PIV authentication key of the PIV card and a  
 2153 contact reader.
- 2154 **Recommendation:** A special publication of the ITL stipulating specific characteristics of technology to  
 2155 use or procedures to follow to achieve a common level of quality or level of interoperability.
- 2156 **Reference Implementation:** An implementation of a FIPS or a recommendation available from  
 2157 NIST/ITL for demonstrating proof of concept, implementation methods, technology utilization, and  
 2158 operational feasibility.
- 2159 **Registration:** See “Identity Registration”.
- 2160 **Secret Key:** A cryptographic key that must be protected from unauthorized disclosure to protect data  
 2161 encrypted with the key. The use of the term “secret” in this context does not imply a classification level;  
 2162 rather, the term implies the need to protect the key from disclosure or substitution.
- 2163 **Standard:** A published statement on a topic specifying the characteristics, usually measurable, that must  
 2164 be satisfied or achieved to comply with the standard.



2165 **Trustworthiness** – Security decision with respect to extended investigations to determine and confirm  
 2166 qualifications, and suitability to perform specific tasks and responsibilities.

2167 **Validation:** The process of demonstrating that the system under consideration meets in all respects the  
 2168 specification of that system. [INCITS/M1-040211]

2169 **Verification:** See “Identity Verification”.

2170

2171 **E.2 Acronyms**

2172 The following acronyms and abbreviations are used throughout this standard:

2173	<b>ACL</b>	Access Control List
2174	<b>AES</b>	Advanced Encryption Standard
2175	<b>AIA</b>	Authority Information Access
2176	<b>AIM</b>	Association for Automatic Identification and Mobility
2177	<b>ANSI</b>	American National Standards Institute
2178		
2179	<b>CA</b>	Certification Authority
2180	<b>CAK</b>	<b>Card Authentication Key</b>
2181	<b>CBEFF</b>	Common Biometric Exchange Formats Framework
2182	<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
2183	<b>CHUID</b>	Cardholder Unique Identifier
2184	<b>CMS</b>	Cryptographic Message Syntax
2185	<b>CMT</b>	Cryptographic Module Testing
2186	<b>CMTC</b>	Card Management System to the Card
2187	<b>CMVP</b>	Cryptographic Module Validation Program
2188	<b>COTS</b>	Commercial Off-the-Shelf
2189	<b>CRL</b>	Certificate Revocation List
2190	<b>CSE</b>	Communication Security Establishment
2191	<b>CTC</b>	Cardholder to Card
2192	<b>CTE</b>	Cardholder to External System
2193	<b>CVS</b>	Clearance Verification System
2194		
2195	<b>DHS</b>	Department of Homeland Security
2196	<b>DN</b>	Distinguished Name
2197	<b>dpi</b>	Dots Per Inch
2198		
2199	<b>ECC</b>	Elliptic Curve Cryptography
2200	<b>ERT</b>	Emergency Response Team
2201		
2202	<b>FASC-N</b>	Federal Agency Smart Credential Number
2203	<b>FBCA</b>	Federal Bridge Certification Authority
2204	<b>FBI</b>	Federal Bureau of Investigation
2205	<b>FICC</b>	Federal Identity Credentialing Committee
2206	<b>FIPS</b>	Federal Information Processing Standards
2207	<b>FIPS PUB</b>	FIPS Publication
2208	<b>FISMA</b>	Federal Information Security Management Act
2209		
2210	<b>HSPD</b>	Homeland Security Presidential Directive

2211	<b>HTTP</b>	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
2212		
2213	<b>I&amp;A</b>	Identification and Authentication
2214	<b>IAB</b>	Interagency Advisory Board
2215	<b>ICC</b>	Integrated Circuit Chip
2216	<b>ID</b>	Identification
2217	<b>IDMS</b>	Identity Management System
2218	<b>IEC</b>	International Electrotechnical Commission
2219	<b>IETF</b>	Internet Engineering Task Force
2220	<b>IIF</b>	Information in Identifiable Form
2221	<b>INCITS</b>	International Committee for Information Technology Standards
2222	<b>ISO</b>	International Organization for Standardization
2223	<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
2224	<b>ITL</b>	Information Technology Laboratory
2225		
2226	<b>LDAP</b>	Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
2227		
2228	<b>NAC</b>	National Agency Check
2229	<b>NACI</b>	National Agency Check with Inquiries
2230	<b>NCHC</b>	National Criminal History Check
2231	<b>NIST</b>	National Institute of Standards and Technology
2232	<b>NISTIR</b>	National Institute of Standards and Technology Interagency Report
2233	<b>NPIVP</b>	NIST Personal Identity Verification Program
2234	<b>NVLAP</b>	National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program
2235		
2236	<b>OCSP</b>	Online Certificate Status Protocol
2237	<b>OID</b>	Object Identifier
2238	<b>OMB</b>	Office of Management and Budget
2239	<b>OPM</b>	Office of Personnel Management
2240		
2241	<b>PCI</b>	PIV Card Issuer
2242	<b>PC/SC</b>	Personal Computer/Smart Card
2243	<b>PDF</b>	Portable Data File
2244	<b>PIA</b>	Privacy Impact Assessment
2245	<b>PIN</b>	Personal Identification Number
2246	<b>PIV</b>	Personal Identity Verification
2247	<b>PKI</b>	Public Key Infrastructure
2248		
2249	<b>RFC</b>	Request for Comments
2250	<b>RSA</b>	Rivest Shamir Adleman
2251		
2252	<b>SAVE</b>	Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements
2253	<b>SF</b>	Standard Form
2254	<b>SP</b>	Special Publication
2255		
2256	<b>TSA</b>	Transportation Security Administration
2257		
2258	<b>USCIS</b>	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
2259		

2260 **E.3 Notations**

2261 This standard uses the following typographical conventions in text:

2262 + ASN.1 data types are represented in *italics*. For example, *SignedData* and *SignerInfo* are data  
2263 types defined for digital signatures.

2264 + Letters or words in CAPITALS separated with underscore represent CBEFF-compliant data  
2265 structures. For example, CBEFF\_HEADER is a header field in the CBEFF structure.

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**Appendix G—Revision History**

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The Revision History is a complete list of updates to FIPS 201 since its initial release.

Version	Release Date	Updates
FIPS 201	February 2005	Initial Release
FIPS 201-1	March 2006	Added the requirement for electronically distinguishable from identity credentials issued to individuals who have a completed investigation (NACI Indicator).
FIPS 201-1 Change Notice 1	March 2006	Added clarification for variable placement of Agency Card Serial Number along the outer edge of the back of the PIV Card is allowed. Also, updated ASN.1 encoding for NACI Indicator.
FIPS 201-2, Draft	March 2011	<p>This version represents 5 year review of FISP 201 and change request inputs received from agencies. Following is the highlights of changes made in this version.</p> <p>Incorporated reference to the memo by Linda Springer, Director OPM, dated 31 Jul 2008 for Credentialing Requirements.</p> <p>Incorporated the content from the I-9 form that is relevant to FIPS 201.</p> <p>Introduced the concept of a “chain-of-trust” maintained by a PIV Card Issuer. The “chain-of-trust” allows the owner of a PIV Card to obtain a replacement for a compromised, lost, stolen, or damaged PIV Card through biometric authentication.</p> <p>Changed the maximum life of PIV Card from 5 years to 6 years.</p> <p>Introduced a special rule for pseudonyms.</p> <p>Introduced a grace period for the period between termination of an employee or contractor and re-employment by the US Government or a USG Federal contractor.</p> <p>Revised the PIV Card Issuance and Maintenance requirements based on above changes.</p> <p>Added requirements for post-issuance updates.</p> <p>Incorporated visual card topography zones and color specifications from SP 800-104 and added clarifications to some of the existing zones.</p> <p>Added optional requirements for Section 508 compliance.</p> <p>Introduced requirement to collect alternate iris images when an agency cannot capture reliable fingerprints.</p> <p>Made asymmetric card authentication key mandatory and symmetric card authentication key optional.</p> <p>Added optional On-card biometric comparison as a means of performing card activation and PIV authentication mechanism.</p> <p>Inserted hook for additional keys if they are needed for</p>

		<p>secure messaging.</p> <p>Modified card activation to allow for PIN or equivalent verification data (e.g., biometric data).</p> <p>Added an option to include country(ies) of citizenship of Foreign Nationals in the PIV Authentication Certificate.</p> <p>Require signature verification and certificate path validation in the CHUID, BIO, and BIO-A authentication mechanisms.</p> <p>Added support for On-card Biometric Comparison</p> <p>Removed Annex A which provided two examples of PIV Processes.</p>
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