DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

READINESS GUIDE: CMMC LEVEL 2

Taking the leap towards CMMC Level 2 certification.

This guide provides:

- ✔ Understanding of CMMC Level 2 requirements
- ✔ Identifying common readiness gaps
- ✔ Ways to avoid common mistakes that delay certification
- ✔ Guidance to begin organizing evidence and documentation
- ✔ Help determine when outside support may be beneficial

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

Need Guidance?

Let us help you prepare for CMMC Level 2 assessment success

Whether your organization is just beginning its CMMC journey or preparing for a formal assessment, we can help you:

- Clarify scope
- Identify gaps
- Prioritize remediation
- Improve documentation
- Prepare for assessment success

Contact us to discuss your CMMC Level 2 readiness objectives and assessment timeline.

LinkedIn
linkedin.com/company/directviz

Cyber-AB Marketplace
cyberab.org/marketplace/directviz

RampXChange Profile
rampxchange.com/directviz

Email
consulting@directviz.com

Phone
703-662-0099

Website
https://www.directviz.com

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

What Is CMMC Level 2?

Understanding the DoD cybersecurity framework

Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Level 2 is the Department of Defense (DoD) cybersecurity framework aligned to the 110 security requirements found in NIST SP 800-171.

Organizations that store, process, or transmit Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) for the DoD will typically require CMMC Level 2 certification.

Level 2 focuses on:

- ✔ Protecting CUI
- ✔ Demonstrating implemented security practices
- ✔ Providing objective evidence to assessors
- ✔ Maintaining repeatable and sustainable cybersecurity processes

For most organizations, readiness is not just about technology — it is about alignment between:

- ✔ Policies and procedures
- ✔ System configurations
- ✔ Security operations
- ✔ User behavior
- ✔ Evidence and documentation

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The Biggest Misconception About CMMC

Why technology alone is not enough

Many companies assume CMMC is primarily an IT project.

In reality, most organizations struggle more with:

- ✔ Scoping the environment correctly
- ✔ Documenting processes accurately
- ✔ Organizing evidence
- ✔ Aligning policies to actual operations
- ✔ Understanding assessor expectations

A technically secure environment can still fail an assessment if documentation, evidence, and implementation do not align.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The 6 Core Areas of Readiness

1. Define Your CUI Scope

Before implementing controls, organizations must determine:

- ✔ Where CUI exists
- ✔ How CUI enters and leaves the environment
- ✔ Which systems are in scope
- ✔ Which users, vendors, and services interact with CUI

Poor scoping is one of the most common causes of project delays and unnecessary cost.

Readiness Tip

Start by mapping:

- ✔ CUI data flows
- ✔ External connections
- ✔ Cloud services
- ✔ Remote access methods
- ✔ Shared systems
- ✔ Third-party providers

A smaller, well-defined boundary is often easier to secure and assess.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The 6 Core Areas of Readiness

2. Understand Your Current Gaps

Most organizations already have some security controls in place.

The challenge is determining:

- ✔ Which controls are fully implemented
- ✔ Which controls are partially implemented
- ✔ Which controls lack evidence
- ✔ Which policies need improvement

A structured gap assessment helps organizations prioritize remediation activities and avoid wasting time on low-impact tasks.

Readiness Tip

Do not rely solely on policy reviews. Assessors evaluate:

- ✔ Documentation
- ✔ Technical configurations
- ✔ Operational processes
- ✔ Interviews with personnel
- ✔ Objective evidence

All five areas must align.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The 6 Core Areas of Readiness

3. Build Documentation That Matches Reality

One of the largest readiness obstacles is documentation.

Key documents typically include:

- ✔ System Security Plan (SSP)
- ✔ Policies and procedures
- ✔ Incident response documentation
- ✔ Asset inventory
- ✔ Network diagrams
- ✔ POA&M (Plan of Action & Milestones)
- ✔ Training records
- ✔ Access review evidence

Many organizations make the mistake of using generic templates that do not reflect their actual environment.

Readiness Tip

If a policy states that a process occurs monthly, assessors may request evidence proving that activity occurred monthly.

Your documentation should describe what your organization actually does.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The 6 Core Areas of Readiness

4. Organize Evidence Early

Evidence collection is often underestimated.
Organizations should begin collecting and organizing evidence long before a formal assessment.

Common evidence examples include:

- ✔ Screenshots
- ✔ Configuration exports
- ✔ Security logs
- ✔ Ticketing records
- ✔ Meeting records
- ✔ Training completion reports
- ✔ Vulnerability scan results
- ✔ MFA configurations
- ✔ Change management records

Readiness Tip

Create an evidence repository early in the process. Waiting until assessment time often creates unnecessary stress and missing artifacts.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The 6 Core Areas of Readiness

5. Prepare Your Team — Not Just Your Systems

Assessors conduct interviews as part of the assessment process.

Personnel should understand:

- Their cybersecurity responsibilities
- Basic incident reporting procedures
- Acceptable use requirements
- How access is managed
- How security processes operate within the organization

Readiness Tip

Employees should understand and follow documented processes rather than memorize controls. Regular training and refreshers help maintain awareness, while open communication and accessible resources promote a culture of security. Empowering employees with knowledge and tools enhances asset protection and strengthens security posture.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

The 6 Core Areas of Readiness

6. Conduct a Readiness Review Before Assessment

Organizations benefit significantly from a final readiness review or mock assessment before scheduling a formal C3PAO assessment.

A readiness review can help identify:

- ✔ Documentation inconsistencies
- ✔ Missing evidence
- ✔ Unclear scope boundaries
- ✔ Control implementation gaps
- ✔ Interview preparation issues

Readiness Tip

Identifying internal gaps early is more cost-effective than during formal assessments. Proactively addressing these issues saves money and prevents setbacks. A thorough readiness review refines strategies, improves documentation, and enhances preparedness, leading to a smoother assessment process and increased confidence in meeting standards. This approach clarifies compliance status and equips teams to demonstrate strengths while addressing concerns, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and resilience.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

Common Readiness Mistakes

Avoid these pitfalls on the path to certification

Treating CMMC as a Documentation Exercise

Policies alone do not satisfy requirements. Organizations must demonstrate that controls are:

- Implemented
- Operational
- Repeatable
- Supported by evidence

Overcomplicating the Environment

Many organizations attempt to secure their entire enterprise when only a smaller enclave may require assessment. Proper scoping can significantly reduce:

- Cost
- Complexity
- Assessment burden
- Remediation timelines

Waiting Too Long to Build Evidence

Evidence gaps are one of the most common assessment challenges. Organizations should continuously collect and maintain evidence as controls are implemented.

Using Generic Templates Without Customization

Assessors quickly identify documentation that does not align to the operational environment. Templates can accelerate readiness, but they must be tailored to the organization.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

What Assessors Commonly Expect to See

Demonstrating consistency between policy, implementation, and evidence

While every environment differs, assessors commonly evaluate:

- Clearly defined CUI boundaries
- Accurate network and data flow diagrams
- A complete System Security Plan (SSP)
- A maintained Plan of Action & Milestones (POA&M)
- Technical enforcement of security controls
- Consistent MFA implementation
- Logging and monitoring processes
- Vulnerability management activities
- Access control procedures
- Security awareness training
- Evidence tied directly to requirements

Readiness is ultimately about demonstrating consistency between policy, implementation, and evidence.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

Questions Every Organization Should Ask

Key questions to answer before pursuing certification

Before pursuing certification, organizations should be able to answer:

- Where does our CUI exist?
- Is our environment properly scoped?
- Are our policies aligned to operations?
- Can we demonstrate implementation with evidence?
- Is our SSP accurate and complete?
- Are our technical controls consistently enforced?
- Are users prepared for assessor interviews?
- Are we assessment-ready — or simply assessment-aware?

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

When to Seek Outside Support

Knowing when external guidance can accelerate readiness

Many organizations successfully implement portions of CMMC internally. However, outside support may help accelerate readiness when organizations:

- ✔ Lack internal compliance expertise
- ✔ Need assistance interpreting requirements
- ✔ Require scoping guidance
- ✔ Need SSP or POA&M development support
- ✔ Need remediation prioritization
- ✔ Want a mock assessment or readiness review
- ✔ Need help aligning evidence to controls

The right guidance can help organizations avoid costly rework and reduce overall assessment risk.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

How We Support CMMC Readiness

Practical, assessment-aligned readiness support

Our approach focuses on practical, assessment-aligned readiness support.

We help organizations:

- Define and reduce CUI scope
- Conduct structured gap assessments
- Develop realistic SSPs and POA&Ms
- Align documentation to operations
- Organize evidence repositories
- Prepare teams for assessment interviews
- Conduct readiness reviews and mock assessments
- Support remediation planning and prioritization

Our goal is not simply to produce documentation — it is to help organizations build defensible, sustainable readiness.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

Final Thoughts

Building defensible, sustainable CMMC readiness

CMMC Level 2 readiness is not achieved through templates alone or last-minute preparation.

Successful organizations approach readiness as a combination of:

- ✔ Operational maturity
- ✔ Technical implementation
- ✔ Documentation accuracy
- ✔ Evidence organization
- ✔ Assessment preparation

Starting early and building a structured readiness strategy can significantly reduce cost, stress, and assessment risk.

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content

DIRECTVIZ SOLUTIONS

Need Guidance?

Let us help you prepare for CMMC Level 2 assessment success

Whether your organization is just beginning its CMMC journey or preparing for a formal assessment, we can help you:

- Clarify scope
- Identify gaps
- Prioritize remediation
- Improve documentation
- Prepare for assessment success

Contact us to discuss your CMMC Level 2 readiness objectives and assessment timeline.

LinkedIn
linkedin.com/company/directviz

RampXChange Profile
rampxchange.com/directviz

Phone
703-662-0099

Cyber-AB Marketplace
cyberab.org/marketplace/directviz

Email
consulting@directviz.com

Website
https://www.directviz.com

Call Us
703-662-0099

Visit Our Website
https://www.directviz.com

Email Us
consulting@directviz.com

© 2026 DirectViz Solutions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. | Proprietary Content