



 **Urgent CMMC Alert**

Avoid Costly Audit Failures and Secure Your Funding with Iron Bow & SteelToad

In the evolving world of cybersecurity, ensuring compliance with the Department of Defense's (DoD) Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) is critical to securing your funding and avoiding audit findings. As state and local institutions increasingly handle Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) and Federal Contract Information (FCI), the risk of not implementing CMMC can jeopardize both reputation and ability to compete for DoD contracts and grants. That's where Iron Bow and SteelToad come in.

Why CMMC Compliance Matters for University Research Institutions

With [over 200,000 organizations needing to comply with CMMC regulations](#), the stakes are high. Institutions that fail to meet compliance requirements risk losing contracts, grants, and critical funding. By 2028, all organizations working with the DoD, including higher education institutions involved in research and development, will be required to obtain CMMC certification based on the sensitivity of the information they manage.

Key risks associated with non-compliance include:



Increased Audit Findings

Many organizations that self-assess may overestimate their compliance, leading to costly audit failures.



Loss of DoD Contracts and Grant Funding

Non-compliance can disqualify institutions from securing future DoD contracts, resulting in severe financial penalties and loss of funding.



Potential Legal Liabilities and Reputational Risk

Misrepresenting compliance could lead to legal issues and penalties.

How Iron Bow and SteelToad Help You Stay Compliant and Secure

SteelToad is a certified C3PAO (CMMC Third Party Assessment Organization) and CMMC Approved Training Provider (ATP) with years of experience in IT and cybersecurity assessments. Our partnership offers you the best of both worlds: SteelToad's certified assessors and Iron Bow's comprehensive consulting services to prepare your environment for CMMC Level 2 compliance.

Together, we provide:

CONSULTING SERVICES FOR COMPLIANCE PREPARATION

- Iron Bow's cybersecurity advisory services from Certified Registered Practitioners (CMMC RP).
- Iron Bow provides security solutions and other technical support, ensuring your environment is compliant and ready for certification.
- Virtual CISO (vCISO) services.
- Iron Bow will review your System Security Plan (SSP), POAM, Policy, Procedures implementation and provide remediation services.

CMMC GAP ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

- SteelToad conducts Gap Assessments to determine your readiness for CMMC Level 2. The Gap evaluates your cybersecurity posture and highlights any areas needing improvement before formal certification.
- SteelToad conducts CMMC Certification for Level 2 Assessments.

FAST TRACK TO CMMC CERTIFICATION

- With Iron Bow, you get accelerated access to SteelToad's CMMC C3PAO Assessment services.
- Iron Bow helps you organize documentation and collect the necessary artifacts to ensure smooth, error-free audits.

The Iron Bow Advantage

Expert Guidance: Iron Bow prepares you for CMMC certification with tailored advisory services, addressing any technical and compliance gaps before assessment.

Proven Track Record: SteelToad has successfully conducted over 175 IT and cybersecurity assessments. Iron Bow's deep understanding of enterprise security and CMMC requirements helps you avoid audit pitfalls and maintain your funding.

Streamlined Compliance Process: From policy auditing to artifact collection, Iron Bow ensures your institution is audit-ready, reducing the risk of audit findings and maintaining compliance with NIST 800-171 standards.



Stay Compliant,
Keep Your Funding

Don't jeopardize your institution's future by leaving CMMC to chance. Partner with Iron Bow and SteelToad to secure your research contracts, avoid audit findings, and maintain compliance.

Contact Us Today to Start Your CMMC Journey

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