

Software Supply Chain Security: SSDF, Attestations and SBOMs Course (Self-Paced)

Understand the SSDF, software producer self-attestation, and SBOMs so you can evaluate vendor submissions with confidence.

Group classes in Live Online and onsite training is available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: <https://www.graduateschool.edu/courses/software-supply-chain-security-course-self-paced>



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Course Outline

Module 1: Why Software Supply Chain Security Became a Federal Priority

- Lessons:
 - What a Software Supply Chain Actually Includes
 - How a Compromise Upstream Becomes an Agency's Problem
 - Executive Order 14028 and the Federal Response
- Applied activity: Learners review a short, described scenario in which a widely used software update is later found to contain malicious code and trace which of the agency's own systems would be affected and why.

Module 2: The Secure Software Development Framework (SSDF)

- Lessons:
 - What the SSDF Is and Who It Is For
 - The Four SSDF Practice Groups
 - How the SSDF Differs From a Compliance Checklist
 - Reading an SSDF Practice: An Example Walkthrough
- Applied activity: Learners review a short, described SSDF practice statement and identify what a software producer would need to do, and what evidence they might produce, to demonstrate they follow it.

Module 3: Self-Attestation: What Agencies Require From Software Producers

- Lessons:
 - The Self-Attestation Requirement, and What It Actually Asks For
 - Who Signs an Attestation, and What They Are Certifying
 - What an Agency Does With an Attestation Once Received
 - When an Attestation Is Not Enough: Artifacts and Extensions

- Applied activity: Learners review a short, described attestation submission and identify whether it meets the basic requirements, then decide what an agency's next step should be if it does not.

Module 4: Software Bills of Materials (SBOMs): What They Are and How Agencies Use Them

- Lessons:
 - What an SBOM Actually Contains
 - Reading a Simple SBOM Example
 - Why Agencies Ask for SBOMs
 - Common SBOM Formats and Limitations
- Applied activity: Learners review a simplified, described SBOM listing several components and identify which one would need immediate attention if a newly disclosed vulnerability affected a specific component and version.