



Light Activation FAQ

Q: What is Light Activation?

The Light Activation capability enables USDA LincPasses to be activated, and enables post-issuance activities performed through an internet web portal from any computer meeting the minimum requirements. Access to the Light Activation capability requires the installation of a Light Activation Kit.

Q: What is a Light Activation Kit?

The Light Activation Kit provides a pre-packaged set of hardware peripherals and software that is installed on a workstation and are necessary to enable the Light Activation capability.

Q: What is in a Light Activation Kit?

The Light Activation Kit contains:

- -Two card readers and drivers
- -One single fingerprint device and drivers
- -ActivClient v6.1 with appropriate Service Packs and Hot Fixes
- -CMS Public Root certificate
- -Java runtime v1.6 Update 12 or newer
- -Consolidated install utility
- -Network connection test utility
- -Shortcuts to PIN Reset portal and Privacy Act
- -Light Activation Installation and User Guides and various Job Aids

Q: What actions can I perform using the Light Activation Service?

LincPass applicants can perform unattended activation or with the help of a trained Activator conduct attended activation using the Light Activation Service. Additionally, credential holders can reset their PIN or update the digital certificates contained on the credential. The same functions that are performed at a USAccess Credentialing Center Activation station can be performed on a Light Activation station.

Q: What is the difference between a Light Activation station and an Activation station at a USAccess Credentialing Center?

The Light Activation station is run through your agencies network, unlike the USAccess Credentialing Center Activation station which is run through a USAccess secured network. The Light Activation Kit was developed with the intent of providing greater convenience to card holders. This solution allows the software to be installed on a USDA computer and can be moved from site to site, at the discretion of your agency. The Light Activation software is owned by USDA. The same functions, however, such as card activations, PIN resets, certificate updates, etc.; are performed at both types of Activation stations.

Q: What responsibilities are involved when accepting a light Activation Kit?

A person must be trained, designated as an activator, and have an active LincPass. The activator, or other designated personnel, must also receive LincPass cards from central distribution. Once cards are received, they must be logged in the Credential Inventory Tool and an email must be sent to the applicant.

Q: If I have questions about Light Activation, who do I contact?

For Light Activation installation and technical support, contact your internal IT USDA helpdesk. For general Light Activation questions, please contact your Agency Lead or the USDA HSPD-12 helpdesk.

Q: How do I purchase a Light Activation Kit?

USDA purchased hundreds of Light Activation kits which are to be allocated to all USDA agencies based on need and overall agency population percentages. Prior to purchasing a Light Activation kit, please contact your Agency Lead for details as to where your previously purchased agency kits will be distributed. You may already have a kit at your location.



Q: Where can I find a list of Light Activation locations?

You can find this list on the USDA HSPD-12 LincPass website under the Station Lookup Utility page:

<http://hspd12.usda.gov/StationsUtil/allStations.aspx>