Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12) was issued on August 12, 2004 by President George W. Bush.

Called for a mandatory, government-wide standard for secure and reliable forms of ID issued by the federal government to its employees and contractors that:

- is issued based on sound criteria for verifying an individual employee's identity;
- is strongly resistant to identity fraud, tampering, counterfeiting, and terrorist exploitation;
- can be rapidly authenticated electronically; and
- is issued only by providers whose reliability has been established by an official accreditation process.
USDA’s HSPD-12 compliant ID is the **LincPass**, issued through GSA’s shared service solution called USAccess. USAccess is used by approximately 100 other Federal Agencies.

- Used for access to federally-controlled facilities and systems

- USDA’s LincPass program began in 2006; working hard to credential Federal and non-Federal employees with the LincPass
A LincPass includes:

- Information printed on the card (photograph, name, Agency etc.)
- Fingerprints
- Unique card identifier
- Personal Identification Number (PIN)
- Authentication certificate
- Encryption
- Digital Signature

Not all employees and affiliates will require a LincPass. Some may require only an alternate badge.
FIPS 201 ensures separation of duties in the system plays an important part in the chain of trust and the security of the entire PIV program. FIPS 201 states that no single corrupt official in the process may issue a Credential with an incorrect identity or to a person not entitled to the Credential.

Applicants are entered into EmpowHR/Person Model and sponsored for the LincPass. The applicant must enroll, be successfully adjudicated, then pick up and activate their credential.
Once sponsored for a LincPass, you will receive an automated email from HSPD12Admin@usaccess.gsa.gov with the subject “Your Sponsorship is complete.” Follow the instructions to schedule your enrollment.

Once adjudicated, your card should be ready within 2-3 days. You will receive another email when your card has been delivered and is ready for activation.

Because of Federal certificate policy, you must visit an activation station every three years to have your LincPass updated. The actual card is replaced every five years.

You will receive notifications to renew your certificates and card when each are set to expire.
USDA has over 600 credentialing centers to support its large and geographically-dispersed population.

Fixed-site Credentialing Centers house sets of enrollment and activation workstations leased from the GSA HSPD-12 Managed Services Office (MSO) that are located in agency-provided space and managed by agency points of contact (POCs). Some of these Centers are agency-specific or dedicated, while others operate as shared services centers. In the future, this map will be updated with all light stations as well.

To locate fixed-site credentialing centers, visit [http://fedidcard.gov](http://fedidcard.gov).
The Light Credentialing Station (LCS) capability enables government employees and contractors in remote locations to be enrolled and credentials activated in the USAccess system without having to travel great distances to do so, from an Internet Web portal.

The LCS is a mobile kit that enables enrollment and activation of USAccess Credentials and post issuance activities. The kit can be moved as Agencies deem necessary.
The Light Activation Station (LAS) enables activation of LincPass Credentials and post issuance activities from an Internet web portal, from any computer meeting the minimum requirements.

LAS also enables the freedom to move the equipment at any time to other locations.
Using your LincPass

- You may use your LincPass for access to your building or office, but many personnel are now required to use it for their computers.

- Using your LincPass helps secure facilities, and safeguards information on computers and systems.

- When you use your LincPass, there’s no need for multiple IDs and passwords.

- Use it to log into your computer, eAuth, AgLearn, digitally sign emails and encrypt documents.

- By using your LincPass, you're helping USDA strengthen security against fraud, tampering, counterfeiting, and terrorist exploitation.
AgLearn has just released *LincPass Training: Using your Smart Card to Log-In.*

This course covers:

- The importance of HSPD-12 at USDA
- The benefits to using your LincPass
- LincPass as USDA’s HSPD-12 solution
- Where to go for help

Once in AgLearn, click "**View Offerings**" to see upcoming classroom sessions.

This course is recommended for all end-users at USDA, including non-Federal employees (contractors, affiliates, etc.).
An 80% card usage goal for FY 14 has been established by the Department

- Department working on a new USDA-wide outreach and communication effort to keep up momentum

- USDA has worked hard on the various aspects of LincPass issuance (sponsorship, enrollment, adjudication, etc.).
  - Coordination of role holders
  - Commitment from our folks to get their cards
Please take advantage of all resources/tools available from the LincPass Program Office:

- USDA HSPD-12 Help Desk
- Monthly reports
- Outreach/communication efforts
- Enrollment and Activations:
  - 600 locations where you can get cards
  - Light Activation and Light Credentialing Stations
If you need help or additional information, please see the contact list below:


**USDA HSPD-12 Help Desk** (primary contact option for all role holder/applicant questions, ePACs related issues)  
Toll Free: 888-212-9309  
Email: usdahspd12help@dm.usda.gov

**USAccess Help Desk** (for USAccess system questions/issues) – Role Holders only  
Toll Free: 866-493-8391  
Email: usaccess.helpdesk@hp.com

**GSA MSO Help Desk** (general policy questions)  
Phone: 202-501-4740  
Email: hspd12@gsa.gov

**eAuthentication Help:**  
Phone: 800-457-3642, Option 1  