Mandatory Security Clearance and Access Process Disqualifying Criteria

You have applied for a position that requires a Security Clearance. All candidates being hired for positions requiring a Security Clearance must apply for and receive the required clearance level for the position (i.e. Confidential, Secret, Top Secret) and may also require customer approval to access the Program. Although the clearance and access permissions are controlled and administered by the Department of Defense, we want to provide you with information concerning the process in advance to ensure that you are prepared and understand the various factors that may lead to disqualification.

Obtaining and maintaining a Security Clearance is a required condition of employment for this position. If selected, you will be required to divulge detailed personal information including business, finances, residential history, education, employment history, psychological conditions, drug involvement, prior military service, and criminal behavior among other details, regardless of how long ago they occurred.

The ultimate determination of whether the granting or continuing of eligibility for a security clearance is clearly consistent with the interests of national security must be an overall common-sense judgment based upon careful consideration of the adjudicative guidelines (LINK to information on Military.com), each of which is to be evaluated in the context of the whole person.

Potential Disqualifying Factors
Candidates with findings in any of the following categories may be deemed ineligible for a Security clearance and/or customer access approval:

- Dual citizenship/Foreign Passport, allegiance, foreign influence and/or foreign preference (note that renouncing dual citizenship is no guarantee of approval)
- Immediate family member who is a citizen of another country
- Adverse financial findings such as excessive debt, unpaid debt, unresolved liens, garnished wages, bankruptcies, failure to pay taxes, gambling, etc.
- Criminal conduct and conviction
- A pattern of dishonest behavior, acts which indicate poor judgment and untrustworthiness and/or criminal, compulsive, or public sexual behavior
- Improper handling of protected information, including failure to comply with rules and regulations for the protection of classified information or controlled but unclassified information.
- Emotional, mental and personality disorders that impact psychological, social and/or occupational functioning
- Alcohol abuse
- Drug involvement and/or substance abuse, which includes use of illegal drugs (including marijuana), or involvement in drug manufacturing, trade or trafficking

The following link provides additional items that may result in disqualification for clearance and/or Program access. You are encouraged to visit the security clearance eligibility page on military.com for further information. (LINK to information on Military.com)

Failure to obtain and maintain the clearance and customer access approval after accepting and starting the position may result in termination of employment or transfer to another position due to not meeting job qualification requirements.