

CSA Cyber Essentials mark

Service information sheet. Cybersecurity, IT and Data Protection. Information checked 11 October 2026.

In brief

The CSA Cyber Essentials mark shows that an organisation has basic cyber hygiene controls in place, such as asset management, secure configuration, access control, malware protection and backups. It is valid for two years and is issued by CSA-appointed certification bodies. ICFC prepares you, closes gaps, and trains your staff.

What it is

Cyber Essentials recognises organisations that have put basic cyber hygiene in place. CSA also runs variants for ICT vendors, healthcare (HIA entities) and healthcare system (HIMS) vendors.

Who it is for

SMEs and non-profits starting their cybersecurity journey, and suppliers asked by customers for a recognised baseline.

What is checked

Assets, secure settings, updates, access controls, malware protection, backups and incident readiness, scaled for smaller organisations. Cloud, OT and AI security can be added as pillars.

CSA funding (Cyber Essentials 2025)

For the classical pillar, CSA's maximum support ranges from S\$250 (1 to 5 end-points) to S\$650 (101 to 200 end-points), with S\$50 to S\$100 for each added cloud, OT or AI pillar. Separate amounts apply to HIA entities and HIMS vendors. First certification only, for Singapore-incorporated SMEs and non-profits, until 6 February 2028. Figures from CSA, checked 11 October 2026.

How ICFC helps

Service	What we offer
Audit	Third-party assessments: Certification is awarded under the scheme run by the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA). Where appointed, our auditors carry out assessments on behalf of the certification body; the certificate or mark is never issued by ICFC. Second-party audits: Supplier and partner checks against the scheme requirements, on behalf of your organisation. Readiness and internal audits: A pre-assessment that shows exactly what the formal assessment will look for, with a prioritised action list.
Consulting	Funding: CSA's certification funding is deducted by the certification body from its own fee. Our consultancy is quoted separately and is not covered by that funding. Non-grant: A fixed-scope engagement: gap assessment, documentation, implementation coaching, internal audit and management review, and support through the formal audit or assessment. How we work: Practical, proportionate systems that your staff can run after we leave.
Training	Classroom: Public and in-house classroom courses on Cyber Essentials mark: awareness, implementation and internal auditor levels. Online LMS: Self-paced and live-online courses on the ICFC Digital LMS, with progress tracking and certificates of completion. Funding: Funding depends on each course's approval status, shown on the course page in the LMS.

Funding

CSA certification funding. This mark is funded by CSA rather than EDGE. CSA funds the first successful certification only, for SMEs and non-profit organisations incorporated in Singapore, until 6 February 2028. The amount is deducted from the fee charged by the CSA-appointed certification body. Consultancy fees are not covered by this funding.

Impartiality

Impartiality comes first. Every engagement begins with a conflict-of-interest check. We keep consulting and auditing roles separate, and our auditors never audit, on behalf of a certification body, an organisation that ICFC has consulted on the same scope within the period set by that body.

Frequently asked questions

Q. Who should choose Cyber Essentials over Cyber Trust?

A. Organisations with simpler IT and lower cyber risk. If your risk assessment points to wider exposure, Cyber Trust is the better fit.

Q. Is there funding?

A. Yes. CSA funds the first successful Cyber Essentials certification for eligible SMEs and non-profits until 6 February 2028, deducted from the certification body's fee. Our consultancy fees are separate.

Q. Which variant applies to us?

A. The general mark suits most organisations. ICT vendors under SMEs Go Digital, HIA entities and HIMS vendors should check CSA's sector variants.

Q. How long does preparation take?

A. It depends on how many gaps the initial review finds. We give you a realistic timeline in our proposal.

Related services

- CSA Cyber Trust mark (SS 712)
- Data Protection Essentials (DPE)
- Data Protection Trustmark (DPTM) SS 714
- ISO/IEC 27701 Privacy Information Management System (PIMS)

Talk to us

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