



QUALIFICATION OF SOLUTIONS

BY THE FRENCH NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AGENCY (ANSSI)





THE ANSSI SECURITY VISAS MEET THREE OBJECTIVES

1

REGULATORY OBJECTIVES:

to meet the French or European regulations that enforce the use of solutions guaranteeing a tried and tested level of robustness.

2

CONTRACTUAL OBJECTIVES:

to provide a solution for public or private contractors who demand that the solutions they use have obtained an ANSSI security Visa.

3

COMMERCIAL OBJECTIVES:

to enable a **product supplier** or **service provider**, as well as the final users of these **solutions** to stand out from the competition by guaranteeing a certain level of robustness.

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Security Visas provide a competitive edge for the suppliers of security solutions and a guarantee of security for users.

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In a society where digital becomes ubiquitous, each day we recognise the extraordinary opportunities that it has to offer. However, this transformation does not come without new threats that are constantly increasing in number, effectiveness and sophistication.

At a time when these risks indiscriminately affects government authorities, businesses and individuals, it is crucial to be aware of the vital importance of putting in place appropriate solutions for securing information systems at the right level. **WHILE THERE ARE MANY AND VARIOUS CYBERSECURITY SOLUTIONS AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET, THEY ARE NOT ALL EQUALLY EFFECTIVE AND ROBUST.**

This is why the French National Cybersecurity Agency (Agence nationale de la sécurité des systèmes d'information – ANSSI), in its capacity as a national authority, and aware of the need for clarification about this market, is helping companies and government authorities to make a choice thanks to its **Security Visas**. They provide an easy way to identify solutions that ANSSI considers the most reliable following a qualification or certification process. They are a guarantee of security for users and provide a significant competitive edge for product suppliers and the providers of security services.

You will find in the following pages a description of the ANSSI's qualification process. Additionally, the list of qualified products and services may be found on the Agency's website. ■



► WHAT DOES QUALIFICATION INVOLVE?

Qualification is the French state's **recommendation** of cybersecurity products or services that have been tested and approved by ANSSI⁽¹⁾.

It demonstrates their compliance with the regulatory, technical and security requirements promoted by ANSSI by providing a guarantee for the product's **robustness** and the service provider's **competency**, as well as the product or service supplier's commitment to comply with **trust** criteria:

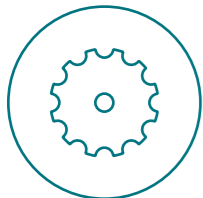
1 The evaluation of the product's robustness and a service provider's competency

- For products, the robustness evaluation involves proving their ability to withstand IT attacks depending on a specific usage context and level of threat.
- For services, the evaluation of the service provider's competency demonstrates its ability to identify and control threats and risks, to meet the requirements stipulated in the reference documents.

2 Trust evaluation

For both products and services, trust is evaluated as part of the qualification process and its follow-up. Trust evaluation involves proving the supplier's ability to provide long-term compliance with a set of commitments made to ANSSI, such as:

- For products: confidentiality and protection of the data entrusted by the product or service user, correction of weaknesses and vulnerabilities, etc.
- For services: maintaining levels of competency, etc.

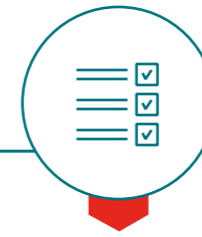


► WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF QUALIFICATION?

For the user of qualified products or services: the qualification provides you with the assurance of choosing solutions for which the level of security and trust have been verified. It provides you with a guarantee that you are using solutions recommended by the State and used by French government authorities, operators of vital importance and companies that operate within the most sensitive sectors.

For suppliers of qualified products or services: the qualification enables the access to French and European regulated markets and provides you with a competitive edge compared with the other French and International cybersecurity market operators.

(1) Qualification is defined in the following regulatory texts:
 - Decree No 2010-112 of February 2, 2010 issued to apply Articles 9, 10 and 12 of the Ordinance No 2005-1516 of December 8, 2005 concerning electronic exchanges between users and administrative authorities and between administrative authorities. Available at <https://www.legifrance.fr>
 - Decree No 2015-350 of March 27, 2015 concerning the qualification of security products and trusted service providers for the needs of national security. Available at <https://www.legifrance.fr>
 - EU Regulation No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and Council dated July 23, 2014. Available at eur-lex.europa.eu



WHAT ARE THE VARIOUS TYPES OF QUALIFICATION?

FOR PRODUCTS, THERE ARE THREE LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION:

BASIC

the product must be able to prevent basic attacks performed by an attacker with limited resources.

STANDARD

the product must be able to prevent advanced attacks performed by an attacker with substantial resources.

ENHANCED

the product must be able to prevent sophisticated attacks performed by an attacker with unlimited resource with etatic or ciminal organisation support.

THE SERVICES ARE GROUPED INTO SEVERAL FAMILIES DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF USE:

audit, incident response, incident detection, cloud computing and trusted digital services (electronic certification, electronic time/date stamping, approval and conservation of electronic signatures and seals, and registered email).



► WHAT TYPES OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR QUALIFICATION?

ALL CYBERSECURITY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT PRINCIPALLY MEET THE NEEDS OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES, COME WITHIN THE SCOPE OF QUALIFICATION.

PRODUCTS FAMILIES	SECURITY FUNCTIONS
NETWORK ENCRYPTION	Solutions providing communications flow encryption functions
PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (PKI) AND SMARTCARDS	Solutions implementing cryptographic key management such as smartcards, cryptographic models and authentication tokens
ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE AND PROBATIVE VALUE	Solutions for creating and validating electronic signatures and managing electronic proof (document storage and time stamping)
ELECTRONIC IDENTITY DOCUMENTS	Solutions for managing identity documents (passports, civil servant cards, etc.)
SECURE CLOUD STORAGE	Solutions for user data stored, managed or handled by hosting services through IaaS, PaaS and SaaS offers
MOBILITY	Solutions providing secure mobility services (e.g., mobile terminals, secure voice solutions, etc.)
INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS PROTECTION	Solutions for industrial systems
WORKSTATION PROTECTION	Solutions for user data stored locally on a workstation
NETWORK AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROTECTION	Web filtering, firewall, hacking detection systems or probe solutions
SYSTEM PROTECTION	Solutions for managing access rights to networks or fleet management

THE SERVICES ELIGIBLE FOR QUALIFICATION MUST CORRESPOND TO THE FAMILIES THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND MUST MEET REGULATORY NEEDS:

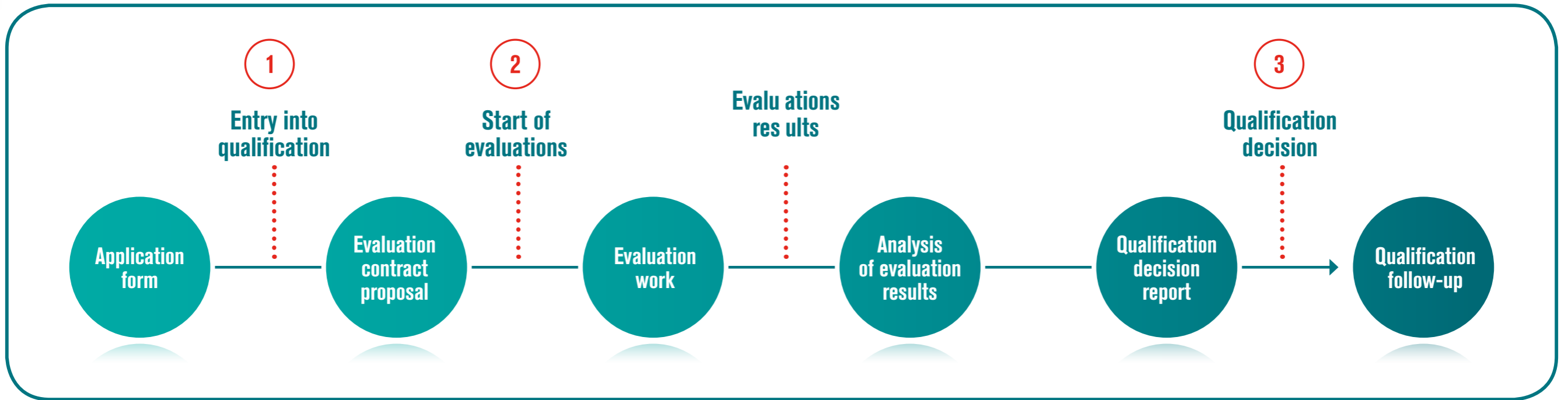
- **Cyber defence service providers**
 - Information systems security audit service providers (PASSI)
 - Security incident detection service providers (PDIS)
 - Security incident response service providers (PRIS).

- **Cloud information technology service providers (SecNumCloud)**

- **Digital trust service providers**
 - Electronic certification service providers (PSCE)
 - Electronic date stamping service providers (PSHE)
 - Electronic seal and signature authentication service providers
 - Electronic seal and signature conservation service providers
 - Electronic registered mail service providers.



► WHAT IS THE QUALIFICATION PROCESS?



1 ENTRY INTO QUALIFICATION
 The product or service supplier compiles a qualification request submission² which it emails or posts to ANSSI.
 Examination of the qualification request identifies the offers that meet government authorities and operators of vital importance needs.
 Suppliers whose offer is eligible for qualification then submit to ANSSI an “evaluation contract” defining the framework and conditions for the evaluation. By validating this evaluation contract, ANSSI authorises the supplier to begin evaluations. At this first step, suppliers who are granted a “qualification pending” status can already use it to promote their product or service.

2 EVALUATIONS
 An ANSSI-approved evaluation centre tests the robustness of a product or the skills of a service provider against a specific framework and approved evaluation criteria. This is referred to as the “evaluation contract”. The supplier also ensures compliance with commitments relative to the evaluation deadlines. The results of the evaluations are then presented to ANSSI which can request additional assessments if necessary.

(2) Qualification request forms are available here: <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/qualification-processus>

3 QUALIFICATION DECISION AND FOLLOW-UP
 The decision depends on evaluation results and their compliance with the robustness and trust criteria. Based on these criteria, ANSSI defines the security uses of the product or service and the operating conditions that have to be respected.
 During the follow-up, in order to comply with their commitments, suppliers ensure that they maintain their solutions’ robustness and its level of trust.

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ANSSI ensures the smooth progression of each step in the qualification process.
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► WHAT IS THE QUALIFICATION PROCESS?

The qualification of a product or service by ANSSI is recognised in France and, for certain regulatory frameworks, in Europe. Recommended by the French State, it provides visibility on the national, European and international markets.



► WHO IS IN CHARGE OF EVALUATING A PRODUCT OR SERVICE IN THE QUALIFICATION PROCESS?

For both products and services, the evaluation is performed by an evaluation centre approved by ANSSI. The list of approved centres is presented in the catalogue of ANSSI qualified solutions. The costs incurred for evaluating a product or service by an evaluation centre remain at the charge of the product supplier or service provider. ANSSI provides continuous supervision of these evaluations.



► IS THE QUALIFICATION ISSUED DEFINITIVE?

DEPENDING ON THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, THE QUALIFICATION IS ISSUED FOR A PERIOD OF 2 TO 3 YEARS.

Over this period of validity, ANSSI defines a level of recommendation for the qualified offer which evolves over time and illustrates the use and acquisition recommendations determined by ANSSI. After this period of validity, a simplified renewal process can be undertaken, based on the **supplier's commitment**, an **impact analysis** listing all the potential changes and corrections made, and if applicable, additional evaluation work. The certified qualification of new versions of qualified products is also possible using a similar model.

Qualification validity depends on the conditions and restrictions listed in the qualification decision: with respect to the qualification follow-up, the supplier must inform ANSSI **of any major changes** concerning the contractor or supplier of the product or service (change of owner, legal structure, loss of national security clearance, withdrawal from sale, corrective maintenance, user support, etc.).



HOW DO YOU OBTAIN A QUALIFIED SOLUTION?

THE GUIDE TO PURCHASING SECURITY PRODUCTS AND QUALIFIED TRUST SERVICES

published on ANSSI website and ***THE CATALOGUE OF QUALIFIED SOLUTIONS*** enables procurement managers in charge of purchasing products or services relating to the security of information systems to find the offer corresponding to their requirements.

WWW.SSI.GOUV.FR

FOR ALL QUALIFICATION PROJECTS
(prior to submitting an application)
industries@ssi.gouv.fr

TO SUBMIT A QUALIFICATION REQUEST APPLICATION
or for any question concerning examination
of a qualification request application already submitted:
qualification@ssi.gouv.fr



LICENCE OUVERTE/OPEN LICENCE (ETALAB – V1)

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Premier ministre

