



DIGITAL AND
POPULATION DATA
SERVICES AGENCY

CERTIFICATION PRACTICE STATE- MENT CITIZEN CERTIFICATES

for Digital and Population Data Services Agency's citizen
certificate stored on an ID card

OID: 1.2.246.517.1.10.202.1

OID: 1.2.246.517.1.10.302.1

OID: 1.2.246.517.1.10.352.1

13.9.2025



13.9.2025

Document management	
Owner	
Prepared by	Ville Aarnio, Tuire Saaripuu, Taija Malinen
Inspected by	
Approved by	Mikko Pitkänen

Version control		
version no.	what has been done	date/person
v.1.0	Approved version 1.0, an eIDAS-compliant document	3.5.2018 TS
v.1.0	Approved version, Centre name change, publishing.	1.1.2020
v 1.2	Updated version, accessibility features, updated name of the act 661/2009	6.5.2021
v 1.3	Updated version, updated cps links	16.09.2022/SK
v 1.4	Specified the definition for activation PIN. Specified the definition for the IEC 27001 standard. Corrected the length of the RSA-key. Updated links.	8.3.2023/AG
v 1.5	Removed the word "encryption" in several chapters (authentication and encryption -> authentication). Chapter 3.4.1 and 5.1 added more information about granting and renewing a citizen certificate. Chapter 7.1.1 updated "FIPS 140-2 tai 140-3". Chapter 7.4.1 and 7.4.3 updated activation data information.	15.9.2023/TM
v 1.6	Consolidated CPS documents G2 and G3. Harmonised references to the eIDAS regulation. Updated Personal Data Act -> Data Protection Act. Version published	13.7.2024/TV
v 1.7	Deleted from chapters 2.3.5, 3.1.5, 3.5.1, 3.5.2, 3.5.3, 4.1 and 5.1 the mention about publishing the certificate in a public directory.	16.4.2025/TV
v 1.8	Added information on revocation information services availability to section 3.5.3. Added information on trusting certificates and revocation information in case of a CA private key compromise to section 3.1.9..	1.9.2025/TV





13.9.2025

Table of contents

1	Definitions and abbreviations	7
1.1	Definitions.....	7
1.2	List of abbreviations.....	10
2	Introduction.....	11
2.1	General points	11
2.2	Identifiers	13
2.3	Certification authority and applications of certificates.....	13
2.3.1	Certification authority	14
2.3.2	Registration authority	14
2.3.3	ID card manufacturer and identifier	14
2.3.4	Revocation service	14
2.3.5	Directory service	15
2.3.6	Certificate holder.....	15
2.3.7	The trusting party.....	15
2.3.8	Certificate usage.....	15
2.4	Contact details	15
2.4.1	Organisation responsible for administering the certification practice statement.....	15
2.4.2	Contact person	16
3	General terms and conditions.....	16
3.1	Obligations.....	16
3.1.1	Certification authority's obligations.....	16
3.1.2	The registration authority's obligations.....	17
3.1.3	Certificate holder's obligations	18
3.1.4	Obligations of the party trusting a citizen certificate	18
3.1.5	Obligations pertaining to the publishing of a citizen certificate.....	19
3.1.6	Certification authority's liabilities	19
3.1.7	Registration authority's liabilities	19
3.1.8	The citizen certificate holder's liabilities.....	20
3.1.9	Liabilities of a party trusting a citizen certificate	20
3.1.10	Limitations of liability.....	20
3.2	Financial liability.....	21
3.2.1	Certification authority	21
3.2.2	Other parties.....	22
3.2.3	Certification authority's financial administration.....	22



13.9.2025

3.3	Interpretation and implementation.....	22
3.3.1	Applicable legislation	22
3.3.2	Settling of disputes	24
3.4	Fees	24
3.4.1	Granting and renewing a citizen certificate.....	24
3.4.2	Fees related to the use of a citizen certificate	24
3.4.3	Fees related to the revocation of a citizen certificate.....	25
3.4.4	Other fees.....	25
3.5	Publishing and availability of data	25
3.5.1	Publishing of the certification authority's data	25
3.5.2	Publication frequency	25
3.5.3	Availability of data.....	25
3.5.4	Repositories.....	25
3.6	Information security audit.....	26
3.6.1	Audit frequency.....	26
3.6.2	Auditor	26
3.6.3	Audit objects and scope.....	26
3.6.4	Measures resulting from deviations.....	28
3.6.5	Communicating the result of an audit.....	28
3.7	Publication of data	28
3.7.1	Data published by the certification authority.....	28
3.7.2	Public data.....	28
3.7.3	Data related to the expiry or revocation of a citizen certificate.....	28
3.7.4	Data disclosed to authorities	28
3.7.5	Other data.....	28
3.7.6	Disclosure of data on the request of the certificate holder	29
3.7.7	Other principles concerning disclosure of information	29
3.8	Intellectual property rights	29
4	Identification of certificate applicant	29
4.1	Registration	29
4.1.1	Naming policies	30
4.1.2	Delivery of private keys to the certificate holder	31
4.2	Renewing a key pair after inclusion on revocation list	32
4.3	Identification of the requester of revocation of citizen certificate.....	32
4.4	Revocation request procedure	33
5	Operational requirements	33



13.9.2025

5.1	Citizen certificate application.....	33
5.2	Issuance of a citizen certificate	34
5.3	Acceptance of a citizen certificate	34
5.4	The validity and revocation of a citizen certificate	34
5.4.1	Prerequisites of revoking a citizen certificate	34
5.4.2	Requester of revocation.....	34
5.4.3	Revocation transaction	35
5.4.4	Cancellation of an ID card.....	35
5.4.5	Prevention of the use of citizen certificates by other methods.....	35
5.4.6	Prevention of the use of the ID card as proof of identity and a Finnish national's travel document.....	35
5.4.7	Revocation of a citizen certificate by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency	36
5.4.8	Timing of a revocation event.....	36
5.4.9	Requirements for terminating the validity of a certificate	36
5.4.10	Creator of revocation request.....	36
5.4.11	Making a revocation request.....	36
5.4.12	Limitations of the revocation period.....	36
5.4.13	Publishing frequency of the revocation list	37
5.4.14	Revocation list requirements.....	37
5.4.15	Online certificate status check	37
5.4.16	Requirements related to online certificate status check.....	37
5.4.17	Special requirements pertaining to the exposure of the certificate holder's private key	37
5.5	System supervision.....	37
5.6	Archiving of data pertaining to citizen certificates.....	37
5.6.1	Material stored	37
5.6.2	Protection of archives	38
5.6.3	Backup methods for archived data.....	38
5.6.4	Acquisition and backup methods for archived data	38
5.7	Management of the continuity of operations and handling of deviations.....	39
5.7.1	The certification authority's private key has been compromised or the certification authority's certificate has been revoked	39
5.7.2	Compromised security because of a natural disaster or other catastrophe	39
5.8	End of the certification authority's operations	39
6	Physical, operational and staff security requirements.....	40
6.1	Arrangements related to physical security.....	40



13.9.2025

6.1.1	Location and building properties	40
6.1.2	Physical access to facility	41
6.1.3	Electricity supply and air conditioning	41
6.1.4	Fire safety	41
6.1.5	Data storage	41
6.1.6	Handling of redundant data	41
6.1.7	Water damage	41
6.1.8	Auxiliary arrangements	41
6.2	Operational requirements	42
6.2.1	Division of responsibility	42
6.2.2	Number of staff required for the duties	42
6.2.3	Task-specific identification	42
6.3	Personal security	43
6.3.1	Carrying out a background check on the staff	43
6.3.2	Procedure adhered to in the security clearance	43
6.3.3	Requirements on training	44
6.3.4	Maintenance of expertise and skills	44
6.3.5	Requirements for task rotation	44
6.3.6	Measures resulting from deviations	44
6.3.7	Staff representing the organisation	44
6.3.8	Documents given to the staff	44
7	Technical security arrangements	45
7.1	Generation and storage of key pairs	45
7.1.1	Generating key pairs	45
7.1.2	Delivery of a private key to certificate applicant	45
7.1.3	Delivery of the certificate holder's public key to the certification authority	45
7.1.4	Distribution of the certification authority's public key to the certificate holder	46
7.1.5	Key lengths	46
7.1.6	Intended use of keys	46
7.2	Protection of private key	46
7.2.1	Standards for the hardware security module	46
7.2.2	Staff participating in the handling of the certification authority's private key	46
7.2.3	Disclosure of private key to a trusted party	47
7.2.4	Backup of a private key	47
7.2.5	Archiving of private keys	47
7.2.6	Administration of private keys in hardware security modules	47



13.9.2025

7.3	Other key management issues	47
7.3.1	Public key archiving	47
7.3.2	Usage period of public and private keys	47
7.4	Activation data	47
7.4.1	Creation and commissioning of activation data	47
7.4.2	Protection of activation data.....	48
7.4.3	Other activation data issues.....	48
7.5	Security requirements pertaining to the use of and access to computers	48
7.5.1	Hardware security.....	48
7.6	Certificate system life cycle management	48
7.6.1	Supervision related to developing the system	49
7.6.2	Security management.....	49
7.7	Telecommunication network security	49
7.8	Monitoring of the use of the hardware security module	49
8	Certificate and revocation list profiles	49
8.1	Technical certificate data	49
8.2	Revocation list profile.....	50
9	Specification document management.....	50
9.1	Changing of specifications	50
9.2	Publishing and communication	50
9.3	Certification practice statement change and approval procedure	50



13.9.2025

1 Definitions and abbreviations

1.1 Definitions

Activation data: Confidential data that are needed to activate private keys stored in a microchip and to use them in public key methods (e.g. electronic signatures).

Activation code: The citizen certificate user receives a personal card activation code which allows the user to then activate and set his/her own PIN codes. After the activation process has been completed, you can use your identity card in all e-services. The activation PIN can also be used to release a locked PIN -code.

Key pair: A pair of interconnected keys, one public and one private, which are used in public key methods. The keys' purpose of use is defined in the certificate (see certificate holder's signature certificate and authentication certificate).

ECC algorithm and ECC key: The ECC algorithm includes various elliptic curve cryptography algorithms used in a public key infrastructure. The ECC key contains a public and private key in the same way as an RSA key pair.

Asymmetric encryption: A pair of one public key and one private key is used in asymmetric encryption. A message that has been encrypted using a public key can only be opened by the private key of the key pair in question.

Personal identity card: A means of personal identification where the technical part contains the cardholder's citizen certificate.

Public key: The public component of a key pair used in asymmetric encryption in public key methods. The certification authority certifies with its digital signature that the public key belongs to the certificate holder. The public key is part of the data content of the certificate.

Public key infrastructure: A data security infrastructure in which security services are provided by public key methods.

Public key method: A data security service, such as electronic identification, which is provided by using public and private keys, certificates and asymmetric encryption.

Citizen certificate: A signature certificate issued by the DPDSA to a natural person; contains data specified in the Act on the Population Information System and the Certificate Services of the Digital and Population Data Services Agency (304/2019).

Card reader software: Card reader software is used in workstations as a so-called end-user application. It enables users to use their personal identity cards and certificates stored on it in various user and application environments such as public e-services, secure email and logging on to workstations.

Signature certificate: A certificate whose data content is provided by law; issued by a certification authority who is qualified to provide signature certificates under the law. The data content of the certificate is determined by the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services.



13.9.2025

Trusting party: A party that trusts the certificate data and uses the certificate for various data security services such as electronic identification of the certificate holder and authentication of digital signature.

Payment card: Generic term for debit, credit, combination, prepaid and delayed debit cards.

Microchip: A technical platform that is used to store the certificate and private keys, integrated into an identity card, payment card or mobile terminal card.

Mobile terminal: A mobile telephone or other mobile device that can use a certificate and private keys on a microchip.

PIN code: Activation data that activates a private key held on a microchip. PIN 1: the basic code for authentication. PIN 2: a signature code for digital signing.

Registration authority: The registration authority identifies the certificate applicant in accordance with the certificate policy and certification practice statement on behalf of and at the responsibility of the certification authority.

RSA algorithm and RSA key: The RSA algorithm is a common public key algorithm.

Some key pairs pertaining to the RSA algorithm are RSA keys.

Revocation list: A list of certificates revoked before the end of their validity period and the revocation dates, electronically signed and published by the certification authority. The revocation list specifies the publication dates of the current and next revocation list. Revoked certificates are added to the list.

Revocation service: A technical service provider that receives certificate revocation requests and submits them to the certificate system on behalf of the certification authority.

E-service ID: An identifier consisting of a series of numbers and a check character that helps identify Finnish citizens and, in accordance with the Municipality of Residence Act, foreign citizens permanently residing in Finland who are entered in the Population Information System.

Certificate: A digital certificate that associates the signature authentication data with the signer and authenticates the signer. A certificate contains an OID (object identifier) that identifies the certification practice statement in question.

Certificate system: A technical data system used to create certificates and sign revocation lists.

PKI disclosure statement: A document that contains the main points of the certificate policy and certification practice statement.

Certificate policy: A document that describes the principles of certification and the responsibilities of the trusting parties. The certificate policies published by DPDSA are publicly available. Each certificate policy is identified by an OID.



13.9.2025

Certificate register: A register conformant to the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services that a certification authority providing signature certificates to the public must maintain. Data must be held for at least 10 years after the expiry of the certificate.

Certificate management system: A data system consisting of certificate systems, data communications, a certificate directory, revocation list service, advice and revocation service, certificate management and card management.

CPS OID is part of the data content of the certificate.

Certification practice statement: A description of how the certification authority implements its certificate policy. Each certification practice statement is identified by an OID.

Certification authority: An organisation that issues certificates, is responsible for their provision and draws up the certificate policy that describes its operation and the associated certification practice statement.

CA certificate: Contains the name, country and public key of the certification authority.

CA's private key: The private key used by the certification authority to sign its issued certificates and published revocation lists.

Certificate applicant: A person who requests a citizen certificate and is reliably identified in conjunction with the request.

Certificate holder: A person whose identity and public key are verified by the CA's digital signature and who holds the private keys linked with the certificate in question.

Certificate holder's signature certificate: The public key in the certificate verifies the digital signature made by the certificate holder with the corresponding private key. The signature code (PIN 2) is required for the signing.

Certificate holder's authentication certificate: A certificate used for electronic personal identification. The certificate holder uses the private authentication key for electronic identification. The use of the key requires a basic PIN code (PIN 1).

Certificate usage and purpose: In this document, certificate usage refers to the use of the certificate and the associated keys. For example, using a certificate in digital signature refers to the use of a private key in signing and to the use of the public key and certificate in verifying the signature.

Private key: The private component of a key pair used in asymmetric encryption in public key methods. The private keys of the certificate holder are stored on a microchip to protect them from unauthorised usage.



13.9.2025

1.2 List of abbreviations

CA	Certification Authority
CP	Certificate Policy
CPS	Certification Practice Statement
CRL	Certificate Revocation List
ECC	Elliptic Curve Cryptography
FINEID	Finnish Electronic Identification
HSM	Hardware Security Module
EPI	Electronic Personal Identification
HTTP	Hypertext Transport Protocol
ISO/IEC 27001	ISO IEC 27001, International standard for information se- curity management
LDAP	Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
OCSP	Online Certificate Status Protocol
OID	Object Identifier
PDS	PKI Disclosure Statement
PIN	Personal Identification Number, PIN
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure
RSA	Rivest, Shamir, Adleman, a public key algorithm, asym- metric algorithm
SATU	Electronic Service Identifier
SIM	Subscriber Identity Module
DPDSA	Digital and Population Data Services Agency



13.9.2025

2 Introduction

The certificate policy is a document drawn up by the Certification Authority (CA) which describes the practices and principles used in certification. The certification practice statement is a more detailed description of the CA's activities than the certificate policy.

This CPS is applied to Digital and Population Data Services Agency's citizen's certificate, which is granted to Finnish citizens registered in the population information system and to foreign nationals permanently residing in Finland.

The status and tasks of the Certification Authority have been established by the Act on the Digital and Population Data Services Agency (304/2019), previously known as Population Register Centre.

2.1 General points

DPDSA offers highly secure digital signature and authentication certificates and associated services. Certificates are used to verify the certificate holder's identity and the accuracy, integrity and authenticity of data contained in the certificate. Digital signing based on signature certificates and identification by strong electronic identification devices enable citizens to access public services online securely and flexibly anytime, anywhere. Signature certificate and strong electronic identification service providers are supervised by the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency (Traficom).

A certificate is an electronic certificate that links the signature authentication data to the signatory and identifies the signatory. The certificate data are signed electronically by the CA's private key. Certificates under this certificate practice statement are based on a public key infrastructure and public key methods. The data content of certificates issued under this CPS is governed by the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009) and the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services (617/2009).

Digital and Population Data Services Agency (DPDSA) works in the branch of government of the Ministry of Finance. DPDSA is a public authority which administers a personal information register and, under the Act on the Population Information System and the Certificate Services of the Population Registration Centre (611/2009), is responsible for providing certified electronic services. As of 1 December 2010, Digital and Population Data Services Agency also works as the statutory certification authority for healthcare (act on the electronic processing of client data in social and health care (159/2007), act on electronic prescriptions (61/2007). DPDSA's Certificate Services are responsible for the agency's certification activities. DPDSA has provided certificate-based signing and identification means since 1999 and worked as a signature certification authority as of 31 March 2003.

DPDSA's certificate information system and certificate services are based on the public key infrastructure (PKI). DPDSA's certificate infrastructure consists of a certificate system, supplier of certificate data contained in the cards, a revocation list, advisory service and directory service. DPDSA's activities as a certification authority include the provision of certification, directory and revocation services, registration, and





13.9.2025

the creation and identification of a card that contains the certificate. DPDSA is responsible for the functioning of the certificate system as a whole, including on behalf of any registration authorities and technical suppliers it may use. These activities are described in Chapter 1.3.

DPDSA draws up a separate certificate policy for each type of certificate issued by it, and a separate certification practice statement for each technical platform. The certificate policy contains a general description of the practices, terms and conditions, responsibility allocation and other matters related to certificate usage for each type of certificate. The certification practice statement contains a detailed description of the applicable practices. Each document is identified by an OID. The documents are available online at <https://dvv.fi/en/certificate-policy>.

The Digital and Population Data Services Agency, which acts as the certifier, uses an electronic client identifier to identify the certificate holder. This identifier is also a part of the data content of the certificate. The electronic client identifier is a technical means of identification, defined in the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009), created specifically for electronic services and does not contain personally identifying data.

A citizen certificate can be issued and stored on various technical platforms (micro-chips), including ID cards, chip payment cards issued by banks, and SIM cards of mobile devices. This CPS describes citizen certificates stored on ID cards.

eIDAS Regulation shall apply with regard to signature certificates in trust services as of 1 July 2016. The provisions of the eIDAS Regulation were enacted by the amendment of 1 July 2016 of the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services (617/2009). The act provides for the provision of strong electronic identification services and electronic signature and their legal ramifications. The personal identity card is provided for in the identity card act (829/1999), and certificates issued by Digital and Population Data Services Agency are provided for in the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009).

This certification practice statement describing the issuing of a citizen certificate has been registered by Digital and Population Data Services Agency.

The citizen certificate comprises three certificates with two purposes: authentication and digital signing. The authentication certificate is a means of strong electronic authentication pursuant to the said act. Signature certificates are means of electronic signature pursuant to the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services. One of the digital signature certificates meeting the same requirement level has been implemented with the RSA algorithm and one with the ECC algorithm. The certificate holder can use either of these certificates for digital signatures.

This certification practice statement describes the issuing and production of a signature certificate for digital signatures conformant to the eIDAS Regulation and the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services and detailed requirements pertaining to the division of responsibility. Signature certificates issued in accordance with this CPS can be used to authenticate electronic signatures that meet the



13.9.2025

requirements for digital signature certificates and creation tools as provided for in Articles 28 and 29 of the eIDAS Regulation. The level of the identification certificate meets the requirements of High level of assurance in accordance with the eIDAS Regulation and the regulation on levels of assurance.

This document also describes solutions and procedures pertaining to the granting, production and data storage of an identification certificate offered as a means referred to in the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services, included in the citizen certificate, conforming to the requirements of the production environment of the signature certificate.

2.2 Identifiers

The title of this CPS is the Certification Practice Statement for Citizen Certificates Stored on an ID Card, OID on 1.2.246.517.1.10.202.1, 1.2.246.517.1.10.302.1 and 1.2.246.517.1.10.352.1.

This certification practice statement refers to the Certificate Policy for DPDSA's Citizen Certificates, OID 1.2.246.517.1.10.202, 1.2.246.517.1.10.302 and 1.2.246.517.1.10.352.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency adheres to a certificate policy concerning signature certificates issued to the public as per trust services under eIDAS Regulation No. (EU) 910/2014. The document reference as per ETSI EN 319 411-1 [2], QCP-n-QSCD; OID: 0.4.0.194112.1.2. Signature certificates issued in accordance with this certificate policy can be used to authenticate electronic signatures that correspond to approved certificates and creation devices for electronic signatures as referred to in the eIDAS Regulation.

The certificate policy and the certification practice statement are available at <https://dvv.fi/en/certificate-policy>.

2.3 Certification authority and applications of certificates

The certification authority provides certificate services according to the terms and conditions specified in this certification practice statement and guarantees their functioning to the certificate holder in accordance with Chapter 2.2.1 on the responsibilities of the certification authority. The certification authority is responsible for the functioning of the certificate system as a whole, including on behalf of any registration authorities and technical suppliers it may use. This certification practice statement has been registered by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency. The DPDSA is a public authority which administers a personal information register and, under the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009), is responsible for providing certified electronic services. The DPDSA Certificate Service is comprised of the following functions:





13.9.2025

2.3.1 Certification authority

The certification authority's task is to:

- provide certificate and directory services in accordance with its certificate policy and certification practice statement, and certification revocation services
- identify certificate applicants
- ensure the accuracy of the data content of certificates
- see to the revocation of certificates and the accuracy of status data and publish certificate revocation lists
- adhere to high data security standards and good data processing practices when processing the personal information of certificate holders

2.3.2 Registration authority

Citizen certificates stored on an ID card are registered by the police.

- The registration authority acts on behalf of and at the responsibility of the certification authority.
- The registration authority shall comply with the certification authority's certificate policy and certification practice statement.
- The registration authority identifies certificate applicants in accordance with the certification practice statement.
- The card platform for citizen certificates stored on an ID card is produced by the Police.
- The police registration authority provides the applicant's identification information needed to create the citizen certificate.

2.3.3 ID card manufacturer and identifier

- With regard to certificates, the associated key pairs and activation data, the manufacturer acts on behalf of the certification authority, at its responsibility and in accordance with the agreement.
- The manufacturer shall comply with the certification authority's certificate policy and certification practice statement.
- ID cards are uniquely identified in accordance with data provided by the registration authority.

2.3.4 Revocation service

The certificate revocation service revokes a certificate when the certificate holder or the CA wishes to revoke it before its stipulated expiry date. Revoked certificates are





13.9.2025

added to the revocation list. For example, revocation of a citizen certificate stored on an ID card can be requested if the card is lost.

2.3.5 Directory service

The directory service is a public Internet-based service which can be used to retrieve the certification authority's certificates and revocation list. The directory service is available at <ldap://ldap.fineid.fi>.

2.3.6 Certificate holder

A citizen certificate conformant to this CPS can be granted to a Finnish citizen or a foreign national habitually residing in Finland pursuant to the home municipality act (201/1994) whose personal details have been saved in the population information system.

The certificate holder must comply with the certification authority's certificate policy and certification practice statement.

2.3.7 The trusting party

The trusting party is a natural person or an organisation that trusts the certificate information and uses the certificate for authentication and electronic signing. The trusting party must verify that the certificate is valid and not on a revocation list. The certification authority provides an online certificate status check service that implements OCSP.

2.3.8 Certificate usage

Citizen certificates issued under this certification practice statement can be used for personal authentication and electronic signing. The citizen certificate can be used without limitation according to its purpose in administrative applications and services and those provided by private organisations.

The certificate policy and certification practice statement contain requirements concerning the obligations of the certification authority, registration authority, certificate holder and trusting party as well as matters related to legislation and dispute resolution.

2.4 Contact details

2.4.1 Organisation responsible for administering the certification practice statement

This certification practice statement has been registered by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency. DPDSA is responsible for the administration and updating of this certification practice statement.

Copyright under this certification practice statement belongs to DPDSA.





13.9.2025

2.4.2 Contact person

Questions pertaining to the CPS and communication pertaining to these documents are the responsibility of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's Certificate Services unit.

Questions regarding this certification practice statement should be addressed to:

Digital and Population Data Services Agency

P.O. Box 123 (Lintulahdenkuja 2)	Tel. +358 295 535 001
00531 Helsinki	Fax. +358 9 876 4369
Business ID: 0245437-2	kirjaamo@dvv.fi

Digital and Population Data Services Agency (DPDSA) Certificate Services

P.O. Box 123
FI-00531 Helsinki
www.dvv.fi/en

3 General terms and conditions

This certification practice statement is effective as of the date indicated on the cover page. The amendment and publication procedure of this policy is described in section 8 of this document.

3.1 Obligations

3.1.1 Certification authority's obligations

- The DPDSA is a statutory certification authority.
- The certification authority shall act in accordance with current legislation.
- The certification authority shall perform its duties duly and reliably.
- The certification authority has the necessary technical ability and financial resources for appropriately arranging the certificate activities and for covering potential liability for damages.
- The certification authority is responsible for all areas of the certification activity, including the reliability and functioning of services and products produced by any technical suppliers or persons who assist the certification authority, such as registration authorities and card manufacturers.





13.9.2025

- The certification authority draws up and maintains a certificate policy which describes at a general level the procedures for the issuance, maintenance and management of citizen certificates, the terms and conditions, the allocation of responsibilities, and other matters related to the use of citizen certificates.
- The certification authority draws up and maintains certification practice statements which describe how the certification authority applies its certificate policy.
- The certification authority complies with the certificate policy and CPS requirements.
- The certification authority makes the certificate policy and the certification practice statement publicly available.
- The certification authority shall employ sufficient staff with the expertise, experience and competence required for producing certificate services.
- The certification authority shall use reliable systems and products protected against unauthorised use.
- The certification authority shall keep information regarding the certificate and certificate activities publicly available, based on which the operations and reliability of the certification authority can be assessed.
- The certification authority ensures the confidentiality of signature creation data.
- The certification authority will not store or copy any signature creation data provided to a signatory.

3.1.2 The registration authority's obligations

- The registration authority shall comply with the certificate policy and the certification practice statement in its registration activities.
- The registration authority identifies the certificate applicant personally and reliably in a way described in the certification practice statement and so that the applicant's identity and other information pertaining to the applicant's person needed in the granting of the certificate will carefully be inspected.
- The registration authority shall see to the careful handling and confidentiality of personal data.
- The registration authority shall provide the certificate applicant with data of the terms of use of the certificate.
- The registration authority shall adhere to registration procedures agreed upon with the certificate authority.



13.9.2025

3.1.3 Certificate holder's obligations

- The purpose of the certificate is specified in the certificate policy and certification practice statement of each certificate type and in the certificate holder's instructions. The certificate may only be used in accordance with its intended use for digital signing and authentication.
- The holder of a citizen certificate sees to it that the data provided when applying for citizen certificates are correct.
- The holder of a certificate is liable for the use of the citizen certificate, legal actions taken with it and their financial consequences. With regard to the signature certificate, the provisions of the eIDAS Regulation shall apply.
- The holder of a citizen certificate shall store his/her private keys and the PIN code required for using them separately from each other and aim to prevent the loss, access by third parties, alteration or unauthorised use of the private keys. Transferring the ID card or disclosing the card access number to a third party, for example by lending, releases the certificate authority and the trusting party from any liability arising out of the use of the microchip.
- The ID card containing the citizen certificate shall be handled and protected with the same care as other corresponding cards or documents, such as credit cards, driving license or passport. Personal card access codes must be kept physically separate from the ID card.
- The loss or suspected misuse of the citizen certificate and ID card must be reported without delay to the certification authority by calling the free revocation service at +358 800 162 622. Deaf and hard-of-hearing customers can contact the textphone service at +358 100 2288.

3.1.4 Obligations of the party trusting a citizen certificate

It is the obligation of the party trusting a certificate to ensure that the certificate is used according to its intended use. The intended use of the signature certificate contained in a citizen certificate on an ID card is digital signing. The intended use of an authentication certificate is the authentication of a person.

A party trusting the certificate must adhere to the certificate policy and certification practice statement.

A party trusting a citizen certificate may bona fide trust a citizen certificate after verifying that **the citizen certificate is valid**. A party trusting a citizen certificate shall check the certificates on the revocation list. The certification authority provides an online certificate status check service that implements OCSP. In order to reliably verify the validity of a citizen certificate, the trusting party must comply with the following procedure for revocation list checks.

If a party trusting a citizen certificate copies the revocation list from a directory, it must verify the genuineness of the revocation list by checking the digital signature of



13.9.2025

the revocation list's certification authority. In addition, the validity period of the revocation list must be checked.

If the most recent revocation list cannot be obtained from the directory because of hardware or directory service malfunction, the citizen certificate must not be accepted if the validity period of the last obtained revocation list has expired. All approvals of a citizen certificate after the validity period take place at the risk of the party trusting the citizen certificate.

3.1.5 Obligations pertaining to the publishing of a citizen certificate

Revoked citizen certificates on a revocation list where a party trusting the certificate must check its validity.

3.1.6 Certification authority's liabilities

Digital and Population Data Services Agency as a certification authority is liable for the safety of the entire certificate system. The certification authority is liable for services it has commissioned as if for its own.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency is responsible for the citizen certificate having been created with adherence to the procedures prescribed in the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009), the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services, the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector, the certificate policy and the certification practice statement and according to the data provided by the applicant of the certificate. Digital and Population Data Services Agency is liable only for the data it has stored in the citizen certificate.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency is liable for the usability of the citizen certificate, when used appropriately, throughout its validity period, unless it has been placed on a revocation list. The citizen certificate has been given to a person identified in a manner required for citizen certificates. The certificate holder has been given instructions pertaining to the use of the citizen certificate prior to the signing of the agreement.

When signing a citizen certificate with its private key, the certification authority assures it has checked the personal data in the citizen certificate according to the policies described in the certificate policy and the certification practice statement.

The certification authority is responsible for including the right person's citizen certificate on the revocation list and that it appears on the revocation list in the time specified in this CPS.

3.1.7 Registration authority's liabilities

The registration authority of a citizen certificate is a point of registration that registers the certificate on behalf of and at the risk of Digital and Population Data Services Agency, which acts as the applicant's certification authority. The procedures of the police in conjunction with registration activity are provided by the act on identity cards.





13.9.2025

3.1.8 The citizen certificate holder's liabilities

A citizen certificate is the electronic identity of its holder and may not be given to another person to use.

The holder of a citizen certificate is liable for its use, legal actions taken with it and their financial consequences.

An ID card left in a card reader is susceptible to misuse. When ending a session or leaving the terminal unattended, the citizen certificate holder must remove the ID card from the reader and carefully close all applications used by him/her.

The responsibility of a citizen certificate holder ends when they have reported the necessary data to the revocation service for revoking the certificate and when they have received a revocation notice from the official receiving the call. In order to terminate liability, the revocation request must be made immediately upon noticing the reason for the request.

3.1.9 Liabilities of a party trusting a citizen certificate

A party trusting a citizen certificate cannot bona fide trust it and the correctness of the digital signature if the validity of the citizen certificate has not been checked on the revocation list. Accepting a citizen certificate in the above cases releases Digital and Population Data Services Agency of liability. A party trusting a citizen certificate shall verify that the certificate granted corresponds to its intended use in the legal action in which it is used.

Certificates and revocation status information may not be valid in the case of a CA private key compromise.

3.1.10 Limitations of liability

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's liability for damages related to the production of certificate services is determined according to the service agreement concluded with the certificate applicant. Digital and Population Data Services Agency is bound by the certification authority's liability for damages conformant to the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services and the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector. Where applicable, the Tort Liability Act (412/1974) also applies.

The electronic identity card is provided for in the identity card act (829/1999), and certificates issued by Digital and Population Data Services Agency are provided for in the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009). Electronic services are also subject to the provisions of the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector (13/2003).

Digital and Population Data Services Agency is not liable for damage caused by the disclosure of card access codes or a certificate holder's private keys, unless said disclosure is the direct result of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's direct actions.



13.9.2025

The maximum extent of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's liability to the certificate holder and a party trusting the certificate is for direct damage incurred if the damage is the result of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's direct actions.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency is not liable for indirect or consequential damage caused to the citizen certificate holder. Neither is Digital and Population Data Services Agency liable for the indirect or consequential damage incurred by a party trusting a citizen certificate or by another contractual partner of the certificate holder.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency is not responsible for the operation of public telecommunication connections, such as the Internet, or for the inability to execute a legal transaction because of the non-functionality of a device or software used by the citizen certificate holder or for the use of a certificate in contradiction to its intended use.

The certification authority has the right to interrupt the service for changes or maintenance. Changes to or maintenance of the revocation list will be announced in advance.

The certification authority has the right to further develop the certificate service. A citizen certificate holder or a party trusting a certificate must bear their own expenses thus incurred, and the certification authority is not liable to compensate the certificate holder or a party trusting the certificate for any expenses caused by the certification authority's development work.

The certification authority is not liable for errors in the online service or applications intended for citizens and organisations and based on a certificate or any resulting expenses.

The responsibility of an ID card holder ends when they have reported the necessary data to the revocation service for revoking the certificate and when they have received a revocation notice from the official receiving the call. In order to terminate liability, the revocation request must be made immediately upon noticing the reason for the request.

The certification authority is not liable for damages caused by force majeure, such as: strike, fire, war, insurrection, seizure, currency restrictions, public authority acts, legislation and public official commandments, interruptions in telecommunications connections, or other such extraordinary events or circumstances beyond the control of the certification authority.

3.2 Financial liability

3.2.1 Certification authority

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's liability for damages related to the production of certificate services is determined according to the service agreement concluded with the certificate applicant. Digital and Population Data Services Agency is bound by the certification authority's liability for damages conformant to the Act on



13.9.2025

Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services and the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector. Where applicable, the Tort Liability Act (412/1974) also applies.

The maximum extent of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's liability to the party trusting the certificate is for direct damage incurred, if the damage is the result of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's actions.

3.2.2 Other parties

A party trusting a citizen certificate may trust the correctness of the digital signature of a citizen certificate if they have verified that the certificate has not been included in a revocation list, the validity of the certificate has not expired, and the party has no other justifiable reason to doubt the correctness of the use of the certificate.

The certification authority is responsible for the citizen certificate in accordance with the certification authority's commitments in this certificate policy and the certification practice statement on citizen certificates.

3.2.3 Certification authority's financial administration

The certificate services produced by Digital and Population Data Services Agency are covered by a financial administration system and supervision as has separately been set forth. The Digital and Population Data Services Agency is a government agency under the Ministry of Finance. The financial management of DPDSA is based on acts and decrees that govern central government finances and regulations issued by the Ministry of Finance and the Treasury. The National Audit Office is responsible for financial oversight of DPDSA. In addition, its performance is reviewed from the points of view of effectiveness, economy and productivity.

3.3 Interpretation and implementation

3.3.1 Applicable legislation

A signature certificate issued under this CPS meets the requirements on signature certificates set out in Regulation (EU) No. 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC (eIDAS Regulation).

Provisions on digital signatures made with a signature certificate are set out in the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services (617/2009). The personal identity card is provided for in the identity card act (829/1999), and certificates issued by Digital and Population Data Services Agency are provided for in the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009).

The DPDSA's liability for damages in connection with certificate service provision is determined on the basis of the Tort Liability Act (412/1974). In addition, the DPDSA is bound by the requirements set out in the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and



13.9.2025

Trust Services (617/2009) and the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector (13/2003).

In accordance with the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector, signature certificates can be used in all communication with public administration.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency conforms to the principles of good personal data processing set forth in the Data Protection Act (1050/2018) and to the good information management practices of the Act on the Openness of Government Activities (621/1999). Digital and Population Data Services Agency also secures information security with continuous training. Digital and Population Data Services Agency has also prepared policy rules for information services and certificate services.

The DPDSA outsources the tasks related to registration and identification to the police. With regard to this activity, the DPDSA complies with the regulations set forth in the act on the government's joint services (2007/223).

The position of Digital and Population Data Services Agency is prescribed in the act on the Digital and Population Data Services Agency (304/2019). In Finland, signature certificate authorities are supervised by the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency is responsible for the citizen certificate having been created with adherence to the procedures prescribed in the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009), the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services, the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector and the certificate policy and according to the data provided by the applicant of the certificate.

The certificate services of Digital and Population Data Services Agency are supervised by Finnish Transport and Communications Agency (Traficom), a body conformant to the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services, which issues regulations and recommendations on certification activities. For that reason, DPDSA does not participate in voluntary accreditation systems. The DPDSA's certificate activities are supervised by Traficom, and the DPDSA complies with the Data Protection Act when processing personal information. Digital and Population Data Services Agency works in constant collaboration with the Office of the Data Protection Ombudsman with respect to the processing of personal data.

Applicable legislation is adhered to in settling appeals and disputes, in administrative supervision and implementation of law. In the provision of signature certificates, the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services and the supervision and appeals procedure described therein must, in particular, be taken into account.



13.9.2025

3.3.2 Settling of disputes

When granting citizen certificates, Digital and Population Data Services Agency is responsible for the certificates meeting the requirements set in this certification practice statement and the certificate policy for citizen certificates.

Any disputes shall be settled according to Finnish law. Applicable legislation is adhered to in settling appeals and disputes, in administrative supervision and implementation of law. In the provision of signature certificates, the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services and the supervision and appeals procedure described therein must, in particular, be taken into account.

3.4 Fees

This section specifies the fees related to the use of a citizen certificate stored on an ID card.

3.4.1 Granting and renewing a citizen certificate

Citizen certificates stored on an ID card can be applied for from the police. The application can be filed electronically. The applicant must make additions to the application in person at the authority's office, subject to the Identity Card Act (663/2016), section 10 (Personal attendance when applying for an electronic ID card). The applicant does not have to make a personal visit to the authority's office when applying for an ID card electronically for example when an ID card (or a passport if they are a Finnish national), that meets the requirements, has been issued for them, and they have made a personal visit to the authority's office when applying for this earlier identification. A Finnish national residing abroad may submit an ID card application to a Finnish embassy, to a consulate managed by a seconded civil servant or to another delegation of Finland, which issues passports, and in which a Finnish national with a Foreign Ministry's authorisation to issue ID cards operates (delegation of Finland). The applicant must personally be present at the delegation of Finland, when applying for an ID card, and the application cannot be filed electronically.

The certificate is issued on the basis of a new application and in accordance with the identification procedure set out in the act on identity cards. The price of acquiring an ID card is determined according to the then-valid Decree of the Ministry of Finance on the payment of Digital and Population Data Services Agency fees.

3.4.2 Fees related to the use of a citizen certificate

The certification authority does not separately charge the citizen certificate holder for the use of the citizen certificate, the revocation service or a public directory. Individual online service providers may charge for the use of their services. The use of a citizen certificate does not require a specific announcement or permit from the certification authority.



13.9.2025

3.4.3 Fees related to the revocation of a citizen certificate

Reporting a citizen certificate to a revocation list is free of charge. Retrieving revocation lists from the directory and checking the validity of citizen certificates against the revocation list are also free of charge.

3.4.4 Other fees

The use of advisory services is subject to a separate fee according to the then-valid price list.

If the service provider wishes to arrange for information maintenance service between the unique identifier of the citizen certificate holder and the identifiers of its own background system or between other updated data, the service provider may apply for information disclosure permission in the information service from Digital and Population Data Services Agency. This service will be priced according to the then-valid Act on Criteria for Charges Payable to the State and the Decree of the Ministry of Finance on the payment of Digital and Population Data Services Agency fees.

3.5 Publishing and availability of data

3.5.1 Publishing of the certification authority's data

The certification authority publishes the revocation lists in a non-chargeable, publicly available, public directory. The certification authority publishes the certificate policy, the certification practice statements, the PKI disclosure statement (PDS) and other public documents pertaining to the production of certificate services on its website.

3.5.2 Publication frequency

The certification authority publishes a revocation list that is valid for eight hours from its publication. This revocation list is updated once per hour with a new one.

3.5.3 Availability of data

Revocation list data are publicly available. The FINEID specifications published by the certification authority are available on the certification authority's website. In addition, the certificate policies and certification practice statements are available on the certification authority's website.

Revocation information services (OCSP and CRL) are available 24/7 and adhere to the Certificate Services 99.95% SLA requirement.

3.5.4 Repositories

The information published by the certification authority is available on the certification authority's website. Confidential data used in the certificate system are stored in the CA's own confidential repository. The certification authority's data are archived according to the valid archiving rules. Special attention is paid to the handling of personal information, and DPDSA has published a specific set of procedures for the provision of certificate services in accordance with the Data Protection Act. The certification authority has also prepared a register description for each component of the



13.9.2025

certificate system conformant to the Data Protection Act with respect to the processing of personal data.

3.6 Information security audit

Finnish Transport and Communications Agency (Traficom), which supervises signature certification authorities, may audit the operation of a certification authority under the prerequisites set forth in the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services.

3.6.1 Audit frequency

The DPDSA carries out a data security audit on the facilities, equipment and operations of its technical suppliers as appropriate. The audit is carried out at least once a year and at the start of each new contract period. In its audit procedure, the Digital and Population Data Services Agency adheres to the practices set out in the ISO/IEC 27001 information security management standard.

The audit is carried out to determine the technical supplier's compliance with the agreement, taking into account the requirements of information security management standards. Technical suppliers are generally assessed on the basis of the ISO/IEC 27001 standard and Traficom regulations.

3.6.2 Auditor

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's information security audit is carried out by Digital and Population Data Services Agency's Head of Information Management or an external auditor specialised in auditing technical vendors pertaining to certificate services.

3.6.3 Audit objects and scope

The objects of the audit are determined by the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services or, if Digital and Population Data Services Agency is carrying out the audit, the information security standard ISO/IEC 27001, Digital and Population Data Services Agency's information security policy or the technical terms of delivery.

The audit is carried out considering the implementation of the eight areas of information security. Audited information security properties include confidentiality, integrity and availability.

The audit covers Traficom regulations on the information security of the certification authority's operations.

The audit compares the policy, certification practice statement and application instructions to the operation of the entire certificate organisation and system. Digital and Population Data Services Agency ensures that the application instructions are consistent with the certificate policy.

In audits, attention is paid to information security in administration as well as various service providers, for example, on the basis of the following categories:



13.9.2025

Revocation service:

- Communications security
- Human resources security
- Physical security

Certificate production:

- task allocation and personal tasks – human resources security
- physical security
- Security related to the CA's keys
- The certificate production system and the backup system
- communications security

Card production:

- the production line as a whole from end to end
- quality control of card production
- communications security
- human resources security
- physical security

Directory service:

- components used
- control connections
- directory maintenance and operation in fault situations
- human resources security
- communications security
- physical security

HelpDesk operation:

- communications security
- personnel's competence and training



13.9.2025

- processes for auxiliary functions

3.6.4 Measures resulting from deviations

Observed deviations are recorded in the audit report and reacted to in accordance with legislation, the information security standard ISO 27001 and the valid terms of delivery.

3.6.5 Communicating the result of an audit

The results of an audit are communicated according to the law, the information security standard ISO/IEC 27001, Digital and Population Data Services Agency's information security policy and the valid terms of delivery. A detailed, fixed-form audit result intended for internal use is confidential and will not be disclosed to the public. Fixed-form reports are prepared separately for use outside of the organisation.

The DPDSA communicates the audit results to Traficom in accordance with the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Electronic Services and Traficom's regulations and recommendations.

3.7 Publication of data

3.7.1 Data published by the certification authority

The data in the certificate system are confidential unless they are based on the regulations on information disclosure set forth in the Data Protection Act, the Act on the Openness of Government Activities, the Act on the Population Information System and the certificate services of the Digital and Population Data Service Agency (661/2009), the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services or for purposes set forth in the certificate policy or certification practice statement.

3.7.2 Public data

The data of the public directory and the revocation list are public, as are the certification practice statements and the data specified in the certificate policy and the published FINEID specifications.

3.7.3 Data related to the expiry or revocation of a citizen certificate

The validity period of the citizen certificate is recorded in the certificate. Citizen certificates revoked during their validity period are published on a publicly available revocation list.

3.7.4 Data disclosed to authorities

The data disclosed to authorities are specified according to the valid legislation.

3.7.5 Other data

The data of the certificate system are not disclosed for purposes other than those listed above in this section.





13.9.2025

3.7.6 Disclosure of data on the request of the certificate holder

The holder of a certificate has the right to receive information pertaining to him/her, for example personal data, in accordance with the applicable legislation.

3.7.7 Other principles concerning disclosure of information

It is material for the reliability of the certification authority that Digital and Population Data Services Agency take all measures to see to the secrecy of confidential material it obtains in connection with the certificate activities and to the good administration of data unless otherwise required by legislation pertaining to the right of authorities to obtain information on the operation of the certificate system.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency conforms to the Data Protection Act and specific legislation in the processing of personal data. Digital and Population Data Services Agency has prepared the policy rules for the processing of personal data in connection with information disclosure and with the certificate activities. Special care must be taken when processing personal data.

3.8 Intellectual property rights

Digital and Population Data Services Agency owns all data pertaining to the certificates and documentation in accordance with the technical terms of delivery. Digital and Population Data Services Agency has full ownership and utilisation rights to this CPS.

4 Identification of certificate applicant

4.1 Registration

Sections 4.1–4.3 present the procedures and processes that are adhered to in the identification and authentication of certificate applicants.

The rights and obligations of a certificate applicant are specified in contract documents and general instructions for use, which comprise an agreement concluded with the certificate applicant. The application document contains the details of the rights and obligations of both parties.

The application document and terms and conditions of use clearly state that the applicant for a citizen certificate, with his/her signature, confirms the correctness of the information provided and approves the creation of the citizen certificate. At the same time, the applicant accepts the rules and terms pertaining to the use of the citizen certificate and sees to the storage of citizen certificates and card access numbers and the reporting of any misuse or lost cards.

An agreement has been concluded between the certification authority and registration authority, card manufacturer and other vendors that produce parts of the certificate services, indisputably specifying the rights, liabilities and obligations of all parties.



13.9.2025

The citizen certificate applicant is responsible for the correctness of all material data that the applicant has given the certification authority or registration authority. The citizen certificate holder must use the citizen certificate only for its intended uses.

When a certification authority grants a citizen certificate, it also approves the application for certificate.

The citizen certificate applicant may store the e-mail address in the citizen certificate and the population information system at his/her discretion. The e-mail address cannot be changed during the validity of the citizen certificate.

The use of the citizen certificate in online services requires compatible card reader software. Certificate holders can download the software from the DPDSA's website at <https://dvv.fi/en/certificate-policy>. The PIN codes stored on the ID card can be changed via the software.

It is the responsibility of the citizen certificate holder to prevent the use of private keys and the related card access codes belonging to him/her in a way contradictory to the terms of use by taking care of the card and codes as set forth in the terms of use.

The certificate holder must immediately notify the revocation service if he/she suspects that his/her citizen certificate may have been used in breach of the terms and conditions.

4.1.1 Naming policies

The DPDSA's root certificate authorities are:

CN = DVV Gov. Root CA – G3 RSA

OU = Varmennepalvelut

OU = Certification Authority Services

O = Digi- ja vaestotietovirasto CA

C = FI

and

CN = DVV Gov. Root CA – G3 ECC

OU = Varmennepalvelut

OU = Certification Authority Services

O = Digi- ja vaestotietovirasto CA

C = FI

The DPDSA's certification authorities for citizen certificates are:





13.9.2025

CN (Common name) = DVV Citizen Certificates - G4R

OU (Organizational unit) = Valtion kansalaisvarmenteet

O (Organization) = Digi- ja vaestotietovirasto CA

C (Country) = FI

and

Digi- ja väestötietoviraston kansalaisvarmenteiden varmentaja on:

CN (Common name) = DVV Citizen Certificates - G4E

OU (Organizational unit) = Valtion kansalaisvarmenteet

O (Organization) = Digi- ja vaestotietovirasto CA

C (Country) = FI

Certificate holder naming policy for citizen certificates:

2.5.4.5 (Serial Number) = Electronic client ID (SATU)

SN (Surname) = Surname

G (Given name) = Given name

CN (Common name) = Surname Given name SATU

C (Country) = FI

E (EmailAddress) = Email address (optional)

The CA's public key is stored in the CA certificate, the public directory, and the citizen certificate holder's ID card. The ID card containing the citizen certificate contains the card holder's photo and signature sample for visual identification purposes. The data in a citizen certificate unambiguously determine the citizen certificate holder. The certification authority will determine the official identity of the certificate applicant, if necessary.

4.1.2 Delivery of private keys to the certificate holder

The private keys associated with the citizen certificate are created within the technical component of the card and delivered to the certificate holder when the card is delivered. No copy of private keys created within the technical component exists or can be made afterwards.





13.9.2025

The ID card containing the citizen certificate is delivered to the certificate applicant in accordance with the procedure agreed with the registration authority representing the CA.

The ID card must be activated using the card access number before it can be used in e-services. The ID card is activated by the user with the card access number. When you use the ID card for the first time, for instance when accessing e-services from your home computer, the card reader software will automatically launch the ID card activation process. During this process, you will first be prompted to enter your card access number, after which you can activate and specify your own personal PIN codes. After the activation process has been completed, you can use your identity card in all e-services.

You will have two activated codes. A basic PIN which controls ID card maintenance and electronic identification and a signature PIN that you can use to create an electronic signature.

If you enter your PIN incorrectly five times, the card will become locked, and the function protected by the code can no longer be used. The locking of the basic PIN prevents the use of all PIN-protected applications. The locking of the signature PIN prevents electronic signature use. To unlock these PINs, you need your card access number.

4.2 Renewing a key pair after inclusion on revocation list

The public keys in citizen certificates and the private keys in the microchip cannot be renewed. The creation of new key pairs requires a new citizen certificate.

The renewal of the citizen certificate is described in section 3.4.1.

4.3 Identification of the requester of revocation of citizen certificate

The holder of a citizen certificate may have the certificate revoked before the expiration of the citizen certificate's validity period.

The caller is identified by verifying his/her personal information. If the caller is not the holder of the certificate being revoked, both the caller and the certificate holder must be identified.

The unique identifier of the certificate which is needed for the revocation request is determined from the certificate holder's identification details.

If the revocation request is made by a registration authority or a card manufacturer, identification is done according to the process described in section 5.4.3.



13.9.2025

4.4 Revocation request procedure

Revocation requests are primarily made by the certificate holder upon discovering that a certificate has been lost or it may have been misused. Requests can also be made by e.g. the card manufacturer or the registration authority.

The revocation request must be made immediately upon suspecting the misuse of a certificate, for example because of loss or theft. Citizen certificates can be revoked by calling the free revocation service at +358 800 162 622.

All revocation requests, reasons for revocation, the method of identifying the requester, and the CA's response to the request are archived. Calls concerning revocation requests are recorded.

5 Operational requirements

5.1 Citizen certificate application

The rights and obligations of an applicant of a citizen certificate are specified in contract documents and general instructions for use given before the signing of the citizen certificate application, the document and instructions comprising an agreement concluded with the citizen certificate applicant. The application document contains the details of the rights and obligations of both parties. When an applicant applies for a citizen certificate, he/she also accepts the general terms of use.

The application document and instructions of use clearly state that the applicant for a citizen certificate, with his/her signature, confirms the correctness of the information provided and approves the creation of the citizen certificate. At the same time, the applicant accepts the rules and terms pertaining to the use of the citizen certificate and sees to the storage of the citizen certificate and card access numbers and the reporting of any misuse or lost certificate/cards.

An agreement has been concluded between the certification authority and registration authority, card manufacturer and other vendors that produce parts of the certificate services, indisputably specifying the rights, liabilities and obligations of both parties.

Citizen certificates stored on an ID card can be applied for from the police. The application can be filed electronically. The applicant must make additions to the application in person at the authority's office, subject to the Identity Card Act (663/2016), section 10 (Personal attendance when applying for an electronic ID card). The applicant does not have to make a personal visit to the authority's office when applying for an ID card electronically for example when an ID card (or a passport if they are a Finnish national), that meets the requirements, has been issued for them, and they have made a personal visit to the authority's office when applying for this earlier identification. A Finnish national residing abroad may submit an ID card application to a Finnish embassy, to a consulate managed by a seconded civil servant or to another delegation of Finland, which issues passports, and in which a Finnish national with a Foreign Ministry's authorisation to issue ID cards operates (delegation of Finland). The applicant must personally be present at the delegation of Finland, when applying for an ID card, and the application cannot be filed electronically.



13.9.2025

The applicant's identity is verified from an identity document issued by the police, which can be an identity card or a passport. Other acceptable forms of identity are a valid passport or identity card issued by an official government agency of an EEA member state, Switzerland or San Marino or a valid passport issued by an official government agency of another state. If the applicant does not hold any of these documents, the police will verify his/her identity by other methods. The method of identification is recorded in the application form and confirmed by signature by the registration clerk.

The information presented by the applicant is compared with the information held by DPDSA.

5.2 Issuance of a citizen certificate

The certification authority issues the citizen certificate upon accepting the application.

When issuing a citizen certificate, the certification authority is responsible for its data content being correct at the time of delivery of the certificate.

5.3 Acceptance of a citizen certificate

A citizen certificate can be collected from the collection point in person. If a person does not have a valid identification document, the citizen certificate can be collected from the police station or from Finland's embassies.

The citizen certificate holder may download the card reader software from the Digital and Population Data Services Agency website to use the citizen certificate in electronic services.

5.4 The validity and revocation of a citizen certificate

5.4.1 Prerequisites of revoking a citizen certificate

A citizen certificate must be placed on a revocation list when there is reason to suspect misuse, for example because of loss or theft. Citizen certificates can be revoked by calling the free revocation service. The revocation request must be made immediately upon suspicion of potential misuse.

It is the responsibility of the citizen certificate holder to prevent the use of private keys and the related card access codes belonging to him/her in a way contradictory to the terms of use by taking care of the card and codes as set forth in the terms of use.

5.4.2 Requester of revocation

The revocation request for a citizen certificate is primarily made by its holder. If the caller is not the holder of the certificate being revoked, both the caller and the certificate holder must be identified.

Revocation requests can also be made by the certification authority, card manufacturer or registration authority. The method of identifying the person requesting the revocation is recorded.





13.9.2025

The reasons for revocation, the date and time, and the request handler's details are recorded.

5.4.3 Revocation transaction

Citizen certificates can be revoked by the following methods:

- a) By calling the revocation service
- b) By visiting the registration authority

Information of the inclusion of a certificate on a revocation list will be publicly available within an hour of the revocation request having been deemed valid and implemented. The revocation list is valid for eight hours.

5.4.4 Cancellation of an ID card

The police will cancel an ID card upon the card holder's request. An ID card issued to a minor will be cancelled if the guardian revokes his/her consent. An ID card can be cancelled if it has been lost, stolen, damaged, altered, or illegally used by another person. It can also be cancelled if the information related to the citizen certificate has changed. The police will contact the revocation service to request revocation of citizen certificates held on an ID card issued by the police if the card is still valid and, in the case of expired cards, if the card has been lost or stolen. If the ID card holder wants to request revocation of the citizen certificate before cancellation, he/she must contact the revocation service.

5.4.5 Prevention of the use of citizen certificates by other methods

The card holder is responsible for requesting revocation of the citizen certificate. Upon the card holder's request, the citizen certificate is placed on a revocation list, and the DPDSA-issued citizen certificate is prevented. However, any other applications stored in the card platform can still be used according to their designated purpose. Revocation of the citizen certificate does not affect the ID card's validity as proof of identity and a Finnish national's travel document.

Citizen certificates are revoked by calling the revocation service. The certificate holder's liability ends upon receipt of an identifiable notification that enables the revocation. The certificate holder's liability for the use of the certificate ceases at the same time. If necessary, the notification can be given by another person, in which case the caller's identity and connection with the ID card holder must be ascertained.

The revocation service confirms to the requester during the call when the revocation has been completed successfully.

Revoked certificates cannot be reinstated.

5.4.6 Prevention of the use of the ID card as proof of identity and a Finnish national's travel document

The card holder can report a lost or stolen ID card to the police. The police record the notification in the ID card register maintained by the police, and the card will no



13.9.2025

longer be accepted as proof of identity or travel document. In addition, the police report the citizen certificate stored in the technical component of the card to the revocation list. When a card holder reports his/her ID card as found, the police record it in the ID card register. The card can then be used as proof of identity or a Finnish national's travel document.

5.4.7 Revocation of a citizen certificate by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency

DPDSA revokes a citizen certificate belonging to a deceased person upon receiving notice of the death. Digital and Population Data Services Agency will notify the beneficiary of the deceased certificate holder of the revocation. Digital and Population Data Services Agency may revoke certificates signed with its private key if there is reason to believe that Digital and Population Data Services Agency's private keys have become disclosed or accessed by unauthorised parties.

The Digital and Population Data Services Agency will revoke a citizen certificate issued by it if an error is found in its data content.

All citizen certificates that are valid and have been granted with the exposed key must be closed on one or several revocation lists whose validity period does not expire until the validity of the last revoked citizen certificate has expired.

If the private key used by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency in certificate creation or another technical method has become exposed or otherwise unusable, the Digital and Population Data Services Agency must duly notify all cardholders and the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency of the event.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency may also revoke a citizen certificate for other special reasons.

5.4.8 Timing of a revocation event

Citizen certificates are revoked immediately in connection with a revocation request.

5.4.9 Requirements for terminating the validity of a certificate

Citizen certificates cannot be temporarily suspended. Revoked citizen certificates cannot be reinstated.

5.4.10 Creator of revocation request

Citizen certificates cannot be temporarily suspended.

5.4.11 Making a revocation request

Citizen certificates cannot be temporarily suspended.

5.4.12 Limitations of the revocation period

Citizen certificates cannot be temporarily suspended.





13.9.2025

5.4.13 Publishing frequency of the revocation list

Information of the inclusion of a certificate on a revocation list will be publicly available within an hour of the revocation request having been deemed valid and implemented. The revocation list is valid for eight hours.

The revocation list contains the time of publication of the next revocation list.

The new revocation list will be published by the expiration of the validity of the valid revocation list.

In case of system updates and other exceptional situations, DPDSA may publish revocation lists at a different frequency and extended validity periods.

5.4.14 Revocation list requirements

The obligations of a party trusting the certificate are described in section 3.1.4.

5.4.15 Online certificate status check

The certification authority provides an online certificate status check service that implements OCSP. The certification authority publishes a revocation list of revoked certificates.

5.4.16 Requirements related to online certificate status check

The certification authority provides an online certificate status check service that implements OCSP.

5.4.17 Special requirements pertaining to the exposure of the certificate holder's private key

It is the certificate holder's responsibility to protect the use of their private keys by taking care of their microchip or card and PIN codes as described in the instructions for use. The certificate holder must immediately notify the revocation service if he/she suspects that his/her certificate(s) may have been used in breach of the terms and conditions.

5.5 System supervision

For supervision purposes, the certification authority stores log data about certificate production events, the certificate system's access management, hardware configuration, system software and application software, their changes, backups and recoveries. In addition, the CA supervises documents related to the activity. Any non-conformances will be reported as agreed.

5.6 Archiving of data pertaining to citizen certificates

5.6.1 Material stored

The provisions of the Archive Act (831/1994) are applied as the general law for archiving. The right to obtain information is determined according to the Act on the



13.9.2025

Openness of Government Activities (621/1999). With respect to the archiving of citizen certificates, the provisions pertaining to archiving in electronic services legislation are also applied. Certificate register data are held for at least 10 years after expiry of the citizen certificate. The certification authority archives the following information:

- a) The application form signed by the applicant, and the acknowledgement of receipt of the ID card and the associated terms and conditions.
- b) Data on ID cards issued by the police are collected in an ID card register maintained and administered by the police.
- c) Issued citizen certificates, their data contents and additional details related to their life cycle management starting from the time of expiry or revocation of the certificate.
- d) Events related to the creation or renewal of the CA's private key
- e) Citizen certificate revocation requests
- f) Revocation lists submitted to the public directory and other information related to certificate revocation
- g) Current and previous versions of the certificate policy and the corresponding certification practice statements
- h) User actions by the administrators and users of the certificate system who are registered users of the certificate system are recorded in log files.
- i) Audit reports and records, including data security audits and system audits

The archive data are stored in accordance with regulations pertaining to the certification authority in question.

5.6.2 Protection of archives

The police store the archived documents related to the ID card application, the applicant's identification and the card's issuance in appropriate facilities.

Archived data are stored on high-security premises with access control.

5.6.3 Backup methods for archived data

Backups are stored in a place physically separate from the original data.

5.6.4 Acquisition and backup methods for archived data

If the CA's service is interrupted or terminated, the CA shall notify all of its customers that the archive will continue to be available. All archive queries should be sent to the CA or other party which is designated by the CA before it terminates its service.

The certification authority ensures the availability and readability of the archives even in the event that the certification authority's operations are interrupted or terminated.



13.9.2025

Archived data will be made available as deemed appropriate from the point of view of the certificate holder or the trusting party.

5.7 Management of the continuity of operations and handling of deviations

Digital and Population Data Services Agency has a continuity and preparedness plan that enables the continuity of the operations of Digital and Population Data Services Agency.

5.7.1 The certification authority's private key has been compromised or the certification authority's certificate has been revoked

In each certification practice statement, the certification authority states the measures that the certificate holders, parties trusting the certificate and registration administrators and the certification authority's staff must take if the certification authority's private key has become disclosed or otherwise unusable.

In such cases, the certification authority will either suspend its service as described in section 4.8 or carry out the following measures:

- a) The certification authority notifies all certificate holders, trusting parties, and clients with whom the CA has agreements in place or who are otherwise, on the grounds of a contractual relationship or government activities, in a relationship with the CA that entitles them to be notified by the CA.
- b) The certification authority creates a new key in accordance with section 3.4.1.
- c) All citizen certificates that are valid and have been granted with the exposed key must be closed on one or several revocation lists whose validity period does not expire until the validity of the last revoked citizen certificate has expired.
- d) The certification authority archives the required data as per section 38 of the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services for the statutory period and otherwise complies with the Archives Act.

5.7.2 Compromised security because of a natural disaster or other catastrophe

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's security policy takes into account the measures necessitated by the compromising of external security. Digital and Population Data Services Agency is ISO 27001 certified with respect to information security, setting the requirements for Digital and Population Data Services Agency's operations also after the occurrence of a catastrophe. The Digital and Population Data Services Agency complies with established data security procedures when issuing and administering citizen certificates.

5.8 End of the certification authority's operations

The termination of the certification authority is considered to be a situation where all services related to the granting of the certification authority's certificates are permanently terminated. The termination of the certification authority does not refer to a situation where the certification service is transferred from one organisation to another.



13.9.2025

The certification authority communicates the termination of the certificate services to the parties specified in section 5.7.1. a) as soon as possible, however at least one month before the time of termination.

Before the termination of the certification authority, at least the following measures will be taken:

- a) All certificates that are valid and have been granted are closed on one or several revocation lists whose validity period does not expire until the validity of the last revoked certificate has expired.
- b) The certification authority will revoke all authorisations of its contractual partners to carry out tasks pertaining to the granting process of certificates on behalf of the certification authority.
- c) The certification authority ensures that access to the certification authority's archives as set forth in section 5.6 will be maintained also after the termination of the certification authority.
- d) The certification authority is responsible for the archiving of the required data as per section 38 of the Act on Strong Electronic Identification and Trust Services and otherwise complies with the Archives Act.

6 Physical, operational and staff security requirements

An information security certificate has been granted to Digital and Population Data Services Agency, affirming that DPDSA's information security meets the requirements of the ISO/IEC 27001 standard.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency uses technical vendors for carrying out the information technology tasks of the certificate service. DPDSA is responsible, as the certification authority, for the safety and operation of certificate production in an appropriate way in all of its sub-areas.

The Digital and Population Data Services Agency adheres to good information management practices. Services related to certificate provision are organised within the Certificate Services of the DPDSA.

6.1 Arrangements related to physical security

An information security certificate has been granted to Digital and Population Data Services Agency, affirming that DPDSA's information security meets the requirements of the ISO/IEC 27001 standard. Digital and Population Data Services Agency uses technical vendors for carrying out the information technology tasks of the certificate service. DPDSA is responsible, as the certification authority, for the safety and operation of certificate production in an appropriate way in all of its sub-areas.

6.1.1 Location and building properties

The certification authority's systems are located in high-security data centres and meet the instructions and orders imposed on data centres regarding security.





13.9.2025

Facilities security is implemented by preventing unauthorised entry with sufficient locking systems and the use of suitably solid and durable structures. Data centres have limited windows, and structures are made with durable construction materials.

6.1.2 Physical access to facility

Facilities where production duties for the certificate system are carried out have controlled physical access. The access control system detects authorised and unauthorised entry. Access to data centre facilities requires the identification of the person, whereby the person is identified, and the access right is verified, and the transactions are registered. Data centre facilities are guarded at all times of the day.

6.1.3 Electricity supply and air conditioning

The data centre facilities have an appropriate air conditioning system. Built-in backup power solutions are in place to protect against unexpected power cuts.

6.1.4 Fire safety

The data centre facilities are fitted with the necessary fire alarm mechanisms, first-aid fire-fighting equipment, and automatic fire extinguishers.

6.1.5 Data storage

Archive data and backup copies are stored separately away from the CA's hardware systems.

Data are protected against loss, modification and unauthorised use.

6.1.6 Handling of redundant data

Classified data are destroyed using reliable techniques.

6.1.7 Water damage

The data centre facilities are fitted with appropriate humidity detectors.

6.1.8 Auxiliary arrangements

The hardware solutions have been implemented according to good information administration practice in such a way that in the event of system failure, a backup system can be used without compromising the confidentiality, integrity or availability of the data contained in the system.

The supply and maintenance of spare parts for important devices has been ensured.



13.9.2025

6.2 Operational requirements

6.2.1 Division of responsibility

Digital and Population Data Services Agency uses technical vendors for the registration and information technology duties of certificate production. Digital and Population Data Services Agency serves as the certification authority that is responsible for certificate activities.

The certification authority's tasks are comprised of the following areas of responsibility:

Data security

Registration

System administrator

System user

System supervisor

The certification authority and the technical supplier have concluded a supply agreement which contains detailed descriptions of the supplier's duties, methods and responsibilities and the data security provisions.

6.2.2 Number of staff required for the duties

The creation, activation, backup and recovery of the certification authority's private key require the presence of two persons with administrator privileges. The revocation of the certification authority's private key is possible only under the supervision of two authorised persons. At least two persons authorised to carry out maintenance on the system are present when the certification authority's private key's hardware security module is initialised.

The use of the system requires the presence of at least one person authorised to do so.

The registration and identification of a citizen certificate stored on an ID card requires the presence of one person. The tasks are carried out by the police.

6.2.3 Task-specific identification

The registration authority of a citizen certificate stored on an ID card

The registration authority's duties are performed by the police on the basis of the joint service agreement.

The certificate system administrator



13.9.2025

Identified on the basis of a personal system management card. System administrators include the system specialists of the certificate system supplier and authorised personnel of DPDSA.

Certificate system user

Identified on the basis of a personal system access card. The certificate system's users include data centre operations, technical certificate request initiators, and the revocation service.

6.3 Personal security

Digital and Population Data Services Agency serves as the certification authority that is responsible for certificate activities. The technical vendors have been selected through competition and work at the responsibility and on behalf of Digital and Population Data Services Agency.

The personnel of the DPDSA's Certificate Service are required to have the necessary educational qualifications and knowledge of certificate operations. Experts monitor industry developments in Finland and Europe and serve as industry experts.

During the contract procedure, the CA has assessed the competence of its technical suppliers' key personnel and employees with regard to the implementation of the certificate service. ICT suppliers maintain the competence of their personnel with regard to the hardware, software, methods and data security used as part of the service provision. In addition, technical suppliers ensure that their personnel are familiar with the data-processing tasks of the certificate service as required by the service.

6.3.1 Carrying out a background check on the staff

Digital and Population Data Services Agency has a basic security clearance done for its staff and technical vendors who work with the certificate environment. The checks are carried out by the Finnish Security Intelligence Service. The DPDSA reserves the right to reject a technical supplier's employee from a role that involves working with the certificate system.

6.3.2 Procedure adhered to in the security clearance

Employees' work experience is mapped during the recruitment stage, and each applicant completes a form which is submitted to the Finnish Security Intelligence Service for background check purposes.

All relevant personnel of the certification authority, certificate service and directory service providers, revocation service, and the card manufacturer must:

- complete a form which is submitted to the Finnish Security Intelligence Service for basic background check purposes
- refrain from duties which are in conflict with their obligations and responsibilities



13.9.2025

- not be persons known to have been released from a previous duty on the grounds of negligence of duty or misconduct
- be appropriately qualified for the duties they are taking on

6.3.3 Requirements on training

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's staff must be trained so that duties can be carried out in the best possible way. Digital and Population Data Services Agency has a training plan the implementation of which is the responsibility of Digital and Population Data Services Agency's administration unit.

6.3.4 Maintenance of expertise and skills

Staff training is planned and maintained in such a way that the expertise related to the management of the task is always at the best possible level required by the task.

6.3.5 Requirements for task rotation

When task rotation is planned for the certification authority's tasks, they must be organised in such a way that the person can see to his/her new duties in the best possible way. In task rotation planning, matters such as data security requirements, confidentiality and the principles of handling personal data (as described in the DPDSA's procedural rules regarding the handling of personal data) are taken into account.

Task rotation also adheres to Digital and Population Data Services Agency's information security policy and information security plan as well as Digital and Population Data Services Agency's other general instructions.

6.3.6 Measures resulting from deviations

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's staff work subject to official liability and in accordance with the internal instructions of Digital and Population Data Services Agency. The position of a public official is set forth in the State Officials Act (750/1994).

6.3.7 Staff representing the organisation

When recruiting staff, it must be seen to that the staff's skills correspond to the requirements of the task and that there is nothing detected in the person's background check that would put the person's interests at odds with the production of certificate services.

6.3.8 Documents given to the staff

The staff always has access to Digital and Population Data Services Agency's quality and security documents.



13.9.2025

7 Technical security arrangements

7.1 Generation and storage of key pairs

7.1.1 Generating key pairs

Each key is created on the basis of a random number input which is sufficiently long or generated in a way that makes it impossible to trace back computationally even if the time of creation and the device used to create it are known. In addition, the algorithm and method used to generate the random number meet the qualitative requirements, which include e.g. the reliability of the algorithm, the non-repeatability of the generation method, and the genuine randomness of the random number. The certification authority will not publish the probability accuracy or method.

Certification authority:

The certification authority generates its private signature keys and corresponding public keys. The keys are stored in hardware security modules administered by the certification authority. The modules meet the FIPS 140-2 or 140-3 Level 3 requirements.

Certificate holder:

Keys can be created by batch processing before certification or directly in conjunction with it. In both cases, the private key is kept read- and write-protected on the ID card.

The certification authority creates the certificate holder's keys in the ID card micro-chip. No copy of private keys is or can be made.

7.1.2 Delivery of a private key to certificate applicant

The ID card, which contains the citizen certificate holder's private keys and requires the original card access number in order to be activated, is delivered to the applicant by a method which ensures that the card is not physically in the same place as the access numbers before it reaches the applicant. This is done by using separate routes of transmission

The ID card containing the citizen certificate is delivered to the certificate applicant in accordance with the procedure agreed with the registration authority representing the CA.

7.1.3 Delivery of the certificate holder's public key to the certification authority

The integrity of public keys is protected until certification is performed. Once keys are generated, the card manufacturer submits certificate requests to the certificate system. The certificate request includes the public key and other certificate data. The connection between the certificate request system and the certificate generation system is encrypted, and persons who boot the system are identified with management cards issued by the certification authority.



13.9.2025

7.1.4 Distribution of the certification authority's public key to the certificate holder

The certification authority's public key is held in the CA certificate, which is located on an ID card. The CA certificates are freely distributable and available in a public directory and the CA's online service.

7.1.5 Key lengths

The certification authority's private key, which is used to sign citizen certificates, and the corresponding public key are 4096-bit RSA keys and 384-bit ECC keys.

The certificate holder's private and public keys are 3072-bit RSA keys and 384-bit ECC keys at minimum.

7.1.6 Intended use of keys

The data content of the certificate has a field that determines the intended use of the related key (e.g., authentication or digital signing). The use of the key is restricted to its intended use. For example, a key intended for digital signing must be used only for this purpose and not for authentication.

CA certificate:

Purpose: Signing of certificates and revocation lists. The technical description is in the FINEID S2 specifications: <https://dvv.fi/en/fineid-specifications>.

Certificate holder's authentication certificate:

Purpose: Electronic identification or exchange of keys.

Certificate holder's signature certificate:

Purpose: Digital signature

7.2 Protection of private key

7.2.1 Standards for the hardware security module

The certification authority's private keys are stored in hardware security modules administered by the certification authority, meeting the requirements of the necessary security standard.

The certification authority sees to it that the certification authority's private keys are protected against disclosure and unauthorised use. A backup is made of the certification authority's private keys in a manner conformant with critical information security.

7.2.2 Staff participating in the handling of the certification authority's private key

The generation of the private key requires the simultaneous presence of or activation of operation by at least two persons.



13.9.2025

7.2.3 Disclosure of private key to a trusted party

A CA's private key cannot be transferred or copied.

7.2.4 Backup of a private key

The certification authority's private keys and their backups are stored with strong encryption in devices that meet the requirements of critical information security.

7.2.5 Archiving of private keys

The certification authority's private keys are stored in hardware security modules administered by the certification authority.

7.2.6 Administration of private keys in hardware security modules

The certification authority's private signature keys are protected with physical and logical security measures of high reliability. They are used only in a system placed in a secure environment. The use of keys is controlled with management cards which are protected against unauthorised use.

The certification authority's employees who work in trusted roles have an access-code-protected management card. The management cards are used to verify the user's access privileges to the certificate system or other related systems.

When a CA key is no longer in use, the key is destroyed in such a way that it cannot be retrieved or regenerated. Backup copies of the key are destroyed at the same time. The disposal of broken devices is organised in such a way as to reliably destroy private keys from both hardware and software (by a sufficient number of overwrites).

7.3 Other key management issues

7.3.1 Public key archiving

The certification authority archives all public keys it has certified.

7.3.2 Usage period of public and private keys

Citizen certificates stored on ID cards are valid for five years. The certificate can be revoked during the validity period. Certified signatures created before the revocation or expiry of the certificate can still be authenticated after the revocation or expiry from the signature certificate.

7.4 Activation data

7.4.1 Creation and commissioning of activation data

The card manufacturer creates the activation data that enable the use of the keys. Individual activation codes are computed and transferred on to the card and, in encrypted form, on to a response file. After that the card manufacturer sends the activation codes to Posti via Suomi.fi-messages service. The activation code letters are printed by Posti and sent to the address given by the applicant in the card application.



13.9.2025

7.4.2 Protection of activation data

Card access numbers are protected so that they cannot be read or copied from the card. It is the certificate holder's responsibility to protect the use of his/her keys by taking care of his/her card and PIN codes as described in the terms and conditions of use.

7.4.3 Other activation data issues

It is explained to the holder of a citizen certificate that the activation code should be kept for possible future use.

The PIN codes set by the cardholder are locked and their use is prevented after five consecutive incorrect PIN codes are entered. The locked PIN code is released again with the help of the activation code. The ID card is locked, and its use is irrevocably blocked after five consecutive incorrect activation codes have been entered. A locked activation code cannot be released, and the cardholder must order a new card.

7.5 Security requirements pertaining to the use of and access to computers

7.5.1 Hardware security

Only equipment suitable for their intended use is used in the certificate system.

Hardware security has been implemented according to good information administration practice in such a way that in the event of system failure, a backup system can be used without compromising the confidentiality of the system. The availability of spare parts for mission-critical components is ensured.

In service and maintenance processes, access by external personnel to the systems and facilities which are the responsibility of the service production is prevented. Maintenance visits can only be done by technical suppliers who have signed a technical supply agreement and a confidentiality agreement. A list of approved technical suppliers is maintained.

Maintenance visits can only be done under the supervision of a system administrator, or another person authorised by him/her.

The certificate system hardware is under 24-hour security monitoring.

7.6 Certificate system life cycle management

Digital and Population Data Services Agency maintains a classification of importance on certificate service objects and systems, their backups, priorities and minimum maintenance levels.



13.9.2025

7.6.1 Supervision related to developing the system

The development and testing of the system are done in a separate test environment. Only tested, functional and approved solutions are transferred to the production system.

7.6.2 Security management

Digital and Population Data Services Agency's information security is managed according to Digital and Population Data Services Agency's information security policy and the standard ISO 27001.

7.7 Telecommunication network security

Telecommunications security is implemented so that the certificate system's telecommunication network works as a joined-up entity and is isolated from other telecommunication networks in an appropriate manner, and its critical components are duplicated. Transmitted messages, their senders or recipients cannot be viewed by unauthorised parties without special measures. The network is only used for tasks related to the certificate system. Redundant network services have been disabled. The network is divided into logical sub-components with restricted connectivity between components. Sufficient authentication, access control and non-repudiation procedures are in place.

7.8 Monitoring of the use of the hardware security module

The certification authority sees to it that the certification authority's private keys are protected against disclosure and unauthorised use. A backup is made of the certification authority's private keys in a manner conformant with critical information security.

The hardware security module cannot be accessed without an ID card which is used to identify the person and verify his/her access privileges. The module cannot be activated without a system user's personal management card.

The presence of two administrator-level persons and their personal management cards are required to create a new user-level privilege. The module collects log data on events.

8 Certificate and revocation list profiles

8.1 Technical certificate data

The data content of the root certificate, certification authority certificate and certificate holder's certificates are described in the document FINEID S2. The document is available at the certification authority's website at <https://dvv.fi/en/fineid-specifications>.



13.9.2025

8.2 Revocation list profile

The data content of the revocation lists published by the certification authority is described in the document FINEID S2. The document is available at the certification authority's website at <https://dvv.fi/en/fineid-specifications>.

9 Specification document management

9.1 Changing of specifications

The certification authority may change the specifications because of legislation or functional requirements. Changes to the specifications must be recorded in the certificate policy and certification practice statement documents as described below.

9.2 Publishing and communication

The CA publishes a certificate policy and a certification practice statement, available at the website <https://dvv.fi/en/certificate-policy>.

The certification authority's public specifications pertaining to the production of certificates can be obtained from the same websites.

Agreements concluded with information technology vendors on the delivery of certificates and production system descriptions and product-related specifications are confidential.

9.3 Certification practice statement change and approval procedure

Digital and Population Data Services Agency approves the certificate policy and certification practice statements pertaining to citizen certificates. The documents may be amended according to Digital and Population Data Services Agency's internal change policy.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency will communicate the changes to Traficom and on its own website well in advance of their entry into force.

Digital and Population Data Services Agency maintains version management of the documents and archives all certificate policy and certification practice statement documents. Typographic corrections and changes of contact details are possible with immediate effect.

1. All items of the certificate policy and certification practice statement can be amended by communicating the main upcoming changes 30 days before their entry into force.
2. Items that Digital and Population Data Services Agency does not deem to have significant effect on certificate holders and trusting parties may be amended with communication 14 days in advance.