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September 26, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Due to a rash of scam and phishing emails we have been receiving, we are making some changes to improve our information security posture.

### **WHAT IS HAPPENING?**

Starting on Wednesday, Oct. 18, we will require employees to use Duo authentication for Microsoft web-based applications. The primary goal is to require multi-factor authentication on Outlook.com as it is the most common way hackers try to send fraudulent emails when they are able to compromise user credentials. Outlook applications on computers will **not** require Duo authentication.

Other web-based Microsoft applications will also require Duo authentication. Similar to Outlook, if you have the applications installed on your computer (Teams, To Do, and Power Apps), you will not have the Duo requirement.

This will not affect most students as they are on the Google email platform and not Outlook. Some student workers who already use Duo will be required to use multi-factor authentication on Outlook.com.

### **WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?**

When using Microsoft web-based applications, use your Duo multi-factor authentication much as you do when signing into MyWCC or Blackboard. [A guide for accessing Outlook.com is available online.](#)

### **WHY ARE WE MAKING THESE CHANGES?**

Implementing Duo on Microsoft web-based applications (especially on Outlook.com) can help prevent unauthorized access to your email and files, even if your password has been compromised. Sophisticated phishing attacks that successfully steal your credentials can automatically log in to your WCC account from the attacker's location. By enabling Duo authentication, your WCC account will be protected from compromise.

**Thank you!** Your assistance with helping keep college data and systems secure is very much

appreciated.

If you have questions, contact the Information Technology Service HelpDesk at [help-desk@wccnet.edu](mailto:help-desk@wccnet.edu) or [734-973-3456](tel:734-973-3456).

Sincerely,

Oliver Wendt  
Chief Information Officer

Will Laney  
Chief Information Security Officer

Washtenaw Community College  
4800 E Huron River Dr  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-4800



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