

New security enhancement coming for student accounts in May 2023!

IT will be rolling out Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) to all student accounts this summer as a part of a broader security strategy. MFA reduces the risk of loss of access to critical SPC technology systems affecting enrollment and financial vitality due to phishing attacks, ransomware attacks and frequent password changes. The solution also delivers a more secure and efficient process to sign into SPC technology systems.

WHAT IS MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)?

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) is a way of verifying that people logging into our systems are indeed the people we think they are. In these times when malicious and phishing attacks are a daily occurrence, MFA provides a way to limit the impact of these attacks and help ensure that only authorized people are accessing our systems.

MFA is a security enhancement that requires two different pieces of identity evidence for system access. The two pieces of evidence must be something you know (user ID and password), something you have (smart card, phone, computer, etc.), or something you are (fingerprint, etc.).

MFA is quite simple. In fact, you probably already use it in some form. For example, you have used MFA if you have:

- swiped your bank card at the ATM and then entered your PIN (personal ID number).
- logged into a website that sent a numeric code to your phone, which you then entered to gain access to your account.

HOW WILL MFA AFFECT ME?

Student Office 365 accounts will be unavailable **beginning 5/26/2023 at 10 p.m. through 5/29/2023 at 10 p.m.** for maintenance, though they may come online earlier than anticipated. Student Microsoft Office 365 applications (Email, OneDrive, Teams) **will be unavailable** during this maintenance window. PeopleSoft, MyCourses, Titan Hub, and all other student systems will remain available. On Monday 5/15/2023, all existing and new SPC student accounts will be registered in MFA.

We recommend that you watch [this helpful video](#) that will help guide you through the registration process.

Those who only access SPC applications when on the college network will notice no difference after MFA is enabled. However, when access to online MS Office applications is attempted from outside the SPC network, you will be prompted for second factor verification using your chosen method. Applications **that** are currently MFA aware include SharePoint and Office 365. Other applications may be added in the future, but **they** are out of scope for our initial rollout.

HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR MFA?

Your enrollment into MFA will be managed by the IT Project Team. No action is required by you to enroll — just complete the prompts when you log in after Memorial Day. As always, the Technical Support Desk will be available to assist should you experience any difficulties once on MFA.

For Assistance, please contact the **Technical Support Center** at:
727-341-4357 or email onlinehelp@spcollege.edu