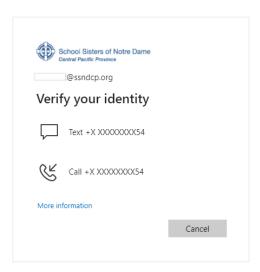# National Cyber Security Awareness Month: Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

by Information Technology

We are all familiar with the prompt to authenticate by receiving a text or phone call from Microsoft. It comes around every 90 days for those off campus or when you connect at a new location - whether it be working from home or traveling. This extra layer of protection has made a tremendous impact on keeping our network safe.

We are down from 100 to 40 at-risk accounts since implementing MFA. The at-risk accounts are those that criminals are trying to get into as the password may have been found on the dark web.

Fortunately, with MFA, it's hard for hackers to access your accounts with just your password. Having the second layer of verification (text or call) to prove your identity makes it well worth it.

It's important to not only use multifactor for your @ssndcp.org account but to use it on all your personal accounts, from social media, email and banking. We can't list everything you might use, but here are some support pages for using multi-factor authentication with popular sites - Apple ID, Gmail, Facebook, and Yahoo. If you login to an email service that doesn't offer the option of MFA, we do highly recommend switching to a @ssndcp.org account, which includes other benefits.

If you ever need to update the phone number on your @ssndcp.org account, please visit the security verification page. For more information, please reach out to us at 1-800-373-7521 or helpdesk@ssndcp.org

Please continue to follow along this month at our IT Resource Center where we will cover a variety of topics to help keep us safe in our digital lives!