Password Policy

New BAC password procedure in effect as of January 5th, 2021

IMPORTANT: If you changed your password on or after October 7th, 2020, **no action is required**.
If you have not changed your password since October 7th, 2020, please read this email carefully.

Dear All,

The **United States National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST)** has introduced new guidelines for secure passwords. In line with these guidelines, we have updated BAC's password policy. These changes have been gradually rolled out over a 90-day period starting October 7th, 2020, and are now fully implemented as of January 31st, 2021. Please note that our previous password standards were also based on earlier NIST recommendations.

We previously sent an email on October 1st, 2020, outlining upcoming changes to the BAC password procedure. This message serves as a reminder that the updated password requirements are now fully in effect as of **January 31st, 2021**.

What's Changing:

1. **No more mandatory password changes:** You will no longer be required to change your password every 90 days. Passwords will only need to be reset if:

   - **You forget your password**

   - **We receive a notification from Google regarding suspicious activity on your account**

   - **There are other reasons to believe your password may have been compromised**

2. **Simplified password composition:** Passwords will no longer need to include complex combinations of uppercase, lowercase, and special characters.

3. **Password length requirement:** Your new password must be at least 20 characters long. We recommend creating a passphrase made up of four or five random words. We suggest using random, unrelated words over common phrases or quotes, as attackers often target well-known sayings. Examples of strong passphrases include:

   - **disposal.lunar.cacti.stimuli**

   - **grape-cavity-resistant-regulate**

   - **DataPushchairMortalityYodel**

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- **blip.feel.management.cola**

Note: Passwords can include spaces.

What You Need to Do:

If you have not changed your password since October 7th, 2020, please update it following the guidelines above.

- Ensure your new password is at least 20 characters long and made up of random words.

- Once updated, you're all set! No further action will be required from you for the time being.

What to expect next: If you have **not** changed your password on or after October 7th, please change your password following the guidelines above. Make the new password at least 20 characters long with random words. That's it!

Important Timeline:

- Password changes began on October 7th, 2020

- Full implementation was completed on January 31st, 2021

Reminder: Always change your password through **letmein.bac.edu**.
To stay extra secure, we recommend typing the URL directly into your browser instead of clicking any email links. Remember, IT will **NEVER** ask for your password.

For additional support, please contact the BAC Help Desk

BAC Help Desk

•Phone: 704-461-6247 •Email: support@bac.edu •Website: https://support.bac.edu/

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