



January 11, 2025

## Action Needed: VPN required to access select services

As we welcome students, faculty, and staff back for the spring semester, we continue to seek ways to strengthen the security posture across the Purdue University system. Effective immediately, we will now require connection to a Virtual Private Network, or VPN, before Purdue University Fort Wayne and Indiana University Fort Wayne users can access the Central Authentication Service, or CAS, while off campus.

### CAS services include, and are not limited to:

- Microsoft 365
- Access to I: drive files
- Brightspace
- StarRez housing software
- People Directory
- Handshake
- Meal plan information and fund management
- Scholarship Universe

### Connecting to VPN:

- New VPN users will need to follow the instructions under the Students section of the Purdue IT Knowledge Base article "[How to connect to the Purdue Fort Wayne VPN](#)" to download, install, and connect to the VPN.

### Additional steps to keep data secure:

- **Update your account password.** Passwords remain the first line of defense against all cyber threats. According to National Institute of Standards and Technology best practices, user passwords should be both long and unpredictable and should not match passwords used in other systems. View the KB article "[Purdue Fort Wayne – How to change your Account Password](#)" for detailed instructions.
- **Recognize and stop phishing scams.** These attacks are intentionally sneaky and seemingly trustworthy, often appearing to be sent by someone affiliated with Purdue, possibly in your contacts. Be aware that just because an email is from a purdue.edu address, it does NOT necessarily mean it is legitimate or safe. Purdue IT will never ask for your credentials.

Cybersecurity updates, FAQs, and training videos are available through the online **Cybersecurity Awareness hub**.

For further assistance, please contact the Purdue IT Service Desk located in Kettler Hall, Room 206, **submit a ticket online**, or call 260-481-6030. Thank you for your cooperation!

Purdue Information Technology

Links referenced above:

**How to connect to the Purdue Fort Wayne**

**Purdue Fort Wayne – How to change your Account Password**

**Online Cybersecurity Awareness Hub**

**Submit a ticket online**

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