

 EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY <small>DIVISION of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</small>	Standard	
	Effective Date	Date of Last Revision
	January 28, 2015	January 28, 2015

Chapter Name	
Security	
Chapter Number	Title
8.1.S.1	Password Complexity Requirements

1.0 Purpose

This standard establishes the rules, which govern password complexity at Eastern Michigan University.

This standard will be phased in over a two-year implementation period beginning upon the effective date of the policy. The first phase will increase the password length requirement to 12 characters and require at least one numeral implemented during the first year. The second phase (implemented during the second year) will move the length requirement to 15 characters with no special character requirements (i.e., upper case, numerals, symbols). This will make the password easy to remember but hard to crack.

2.0 Governing Policy	
Number/Document Name	Effective Date
8.1 Passwords for DoIT Systems	October 18, 2014

3.0 Standard

Password requirements for EMU system and user accounts:

- Password complexity requirements will be increased over a two-year rollout.
 - In the first year of the implementation passwords will require 12 characters including a numeral.
 - In the second year passwords will require 15 characters but no longer require a numeral.
- Passwords will expire and cease to function 365 days after they are created.
- Password must never be identical to a prior EMU password.
- Passwords for individual user accounts may not be shared with any other individual.

Also, it is recommend that passwords used for EMU accounts be unique and not used on non-EMU or personal accounts

4.0 Responsibility for Implementation

The director in charge of IT Security is responsible for the implementation of this standard.

5.0 Definitions	
Term	Definition

6.0 Revision History	
Description	Approval Date
Initial Draft (S. Edwards, A. Edwards, J. Pringle)	September 5, 2014
Policy committee 1 st approval	September 18, 2014
Policy committee 2 nd approval	October 16, 2014
Updated to reflect multi-year role out (S. Edwards)	November 4, 2014
Approved by CIO	January 28, 2015