

This document is a courtesy notice regarding the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO) upcoming CM/ECF and PACER changes. Starting mid-May 2025, the AO will begin implementing multifactor authentication (MFA) to enhance system security for CM/ECF and PACER. MFA provides an added layer of security to accounts by helping protect against cyberattacks that steal passwords, significantly reducing the risk of unauthorized access.

Once implemented, all PACER accounts will be able to enroll in MFA. Those accounts with filing privileges will be required to enroll in MFA, while users with query only access will have the option to enroll. Accounts with filing access who have not already voluntarily enrolled will be randomly selected to enroll beginning in mid-May and throughout the rest of the year. By the end of 2025, the AO will require all accounts with filing access to use MFA when logging in.

Any authentication application that supports a time-based one-time password (TOTP) can be used to meet the requirement. We do not endorse specific applications; however, some options include Authy, DUO Mobile, FreeOTP, Google Authenticator, and Microsoft Authenticator. Before enrolling in MFA, we recommend that you research available authentication apps to decide which one will work best for you and then download your preferred app.

Additionally, those who are unable to download or use an authentication app will be able to save a limited number of one-time use codes. Once that batch of codes has been used, you will need to request a new batch.

Further instructions and guides are being developed by the AO and will be made available as soon as possible. Future communication will come directly to account holders.