

Title: Statement on Student Identity Verification with Remote Learning

Source: CUSDM Office of Academic Affairs
CUSDM Office of Information Technology

With the remote delivery of courses, the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine (CUSDM) is in compliance with the provisions of the United States Higher Education Opportunity Act-2008, the Higher Learning Commission Policy FDCR.A.10.050, and the Commission on Dental Accreditation Policy on Distance Education concerning the verification of student identity in distance education.

To ensure that the student who participates in the course is the CUSDM student who is registered for the course, the following methods are used:

- Secure login and pass code
- Proctored examinations
- New or other technologies and practices that are effective in verifying the identity of students

The PassportID Single Sign-On (SSO) is the authentication and security measure to ensure that accounts are managed more securely across university resources. Each student is assigned an account with a unique username. The student creates security questions and answers, and enters contact information to receive text or email to be used in the event that students need to change their password. This system follows guidance for IAL1 as set forth in NIST Special Publication 800-63-3 for Digital Identity Guidelines, including lifecycle management and Federated login* to ensure that the Canvas learning management system (LMS) and Zoom video conferencing system adhere to a uniform, non-siloed configuration.

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus uses Canvas LMS and Zoom video conferencing system. With single sign-on service (Federated login), Canvas LMS and Zoom integrate with university authentication services to ensure appropriate and secure student access to courses. All users of the university's resources are responsible for maintaining the security of university credentials and passwords, and any other access credentials, per the published IT policy:

"It is the responsibility of the user to protect any access controls they use including but not limited to: Computer passwords and passphrases, Campus ID badges, one-time token fobs and/or applications/apps, Encryption keys and certificates, and password storage applications/apps. Users must not share or allow to be shared any access controls for which they are responsible."

The Canvas LMS and Zoom conferencing provide student photos associated with their account and this is visible in areas of the course including the discussion. Live audio and video of students interacting in the course are also features of the learning management system and conferencing system. Exams and assessments are delivered using a secured exam platform, automated proctoring integrated into our LMS also utilizing SSO. Students are responsible for providing complete and true information in any identity verification process. As technology and personal accountability are not absolute in determining a student's identity, faculty members are encouraged to use these technologies and to employ pedagogically sound assignments and evaluations that support academic integrity.

The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine is continually working to improve security in our environment. With the impending campus wide implementation of two-factor security, we will be significantly adding to our security posture. The system will be moving much closer to IAL2, pending
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integration of two factor authentication with the third party LMS system and zoom. The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine will continue to explore and implement other new and emerging technologies that can aid with identity verification as applicable.

The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine complies fully with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to protect the privacy of student information. The student's consent must be obtained before disclosing any personally identifiable information in the student's education records. Additional information on FERPA can be found at:
<http://www.ucdenver.edu/anschutz/studentresources/Registrar/StudentServices/FERPA/Pages/default.aspx>

The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine currently does not charge a fee for student identity verification. Students will be notified of additional fees, if any, prior to the registration process.

* Federated login enables the use of a single identity provider's authentication ticket/token to obtain access to an external system. As a result, once the identity provider's authentication is complete, they now also have access to the external federated domains. This process ensures that the identity provider (UCDenver in this case) has control over the management and maintenance policy of the accounts (e.g. password policies, account lockout, identity management).