NeSIS Federation FAQs

What are the benefits of federating the student information system?

Federation allows users to use the set of credentials most familiar with them. Campuses have their own set of credentials to access other services on campus (i.e. CANVAS, Library, Parking). With federation, users will be able to use those local campus credentials to authenticate into the student information system. Other benefits include:

- Presenting a similar user experience during authentication which ensures a familiar and secure user experience. You will use the same user interface to authenticate to all federated applications.
- The student information system will leverage security mechanisms from campus authentication processes, which minimizes the risk of having your information breached.
- Two factor authentication (2FA) processes will align with other applications on the campuses. If you are required to use 2FA, the user experience will be similar and the rules to prompt for 2FA will be consistent.
- Single sign on capabilities will be enabled to minimize the number of times users have to authenticate into multiple applications on your campus.

What changes will I see from federating the student information system?

A few changes have come along with the student information system federation project:

- Logging in: When you access the student information system, you will notice a different login screen with options for using either your TrueYou ID (NUID) or your campus NetID, so you only have to remember one username and password.
- Duo Two factor authentication: If you are a current Duo user for two factor authentication (2FA) into systems such as Firefly or Box, the student information system is another system that is protected by Duo 2FA. If you see a prompt for Duo 2FA after you log in, simply follow the same steps you’ve been following for other systems.
- Single sign-on (SSO) – Federation will provide the benefit of single sign-on to other federated applications depending on the ID you used to log in. Once signed in with an ID, simply open another tab in your browser and navigate to a site that is federated and SSO, you will not be asked to log in again.
  - If you log in with your TrueYou ID (NUID) – You can access the following applications without re-authentication: MyBLUE, Firefly and TrueYou.
  - If you log in with your campus Net ID – MyBLUE, TrueYou, Box, Cisco Jabber, Qualtrics and a few others. Single sign on will be coming for Canvas, but it is not available yet at UNK.

Why am I required to use Duo two-factor authentication now for systems that I wasn’t previously required to use it for?

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