Picking a New Password

Assumption College has always allowed its users to select and use any password that is six characters or longer. Due to new security recommendations from our auditors, we are now requiring that any new password meet the following criteria:

- A password must be between eight and sixteen characters and
- Must be considered a “strong” password
- You cannot include the first three characters of your name (first, middle or last), your user name or title as part of your password

A “strong” password is one that includes characters from three of the following four groups:

- Lower-case letters
- Upper case letters
- Numbers
- Punctuation

For example, “achelpdesk” (the password does not include the quote marks) is not considered a strong password, nor is “ACHelpDesk”. “ACHelp.Desk” is a strong password, as is “achdesk.2010”.

Here are some other examples of “weak” and “strong” passwords.

“Weak”

- achelp (not long enough, doesn’t include characters from three groups)
- assumption2010 (doesn’t include characters from three groups)
- MyPassword (doesn’t include characters from three groups)
- MyP2010 (not long enough)

“Strong”

- acHelp.2010 (includes characters from all four groups)
- ACghound.2010
- My.Password
- My.P2010#