

AMCS Security

HELLO, EVERYONE. By now, you should have seen the following message when you signed on to the Aerospace Medical Certification Subsystem (AMCS):

“To ensure continued security and integrity of your aviator’s medical certification information on the FAA AMCS web based system, it is critical that only current authorized users from your office have valid AMCS accounts. It is your responsibility to notify the AMCS Online Support help desk at (405) 954-3238 if staff changes have occurred for individuals with AMCS privileges and their employment status no longer requires AMCS access.”

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The reason for this message is to help protect the security of our medical systems and to assure that only people with a verified need have access.

An electronic query will shortly be transmitted across AMCS that will identify any authorized user who has not accessed the AMCS system within the previous 90 days. We will use this information to determine if there are some accounts that should be disabled. This query will be repeated on a quarterly basis.

In August, you will receive a letter informing you of the requirement to promptly report any change in staff member status to your Regional Flight Surgeon, the AMCS Online Support Help Desk, the manager of the Aerospace Medical Certification Division, AAM-300, and the manager of the Aerospace Medical Education Division, AAM-400.

This letter will include the currently approved users in your office and emphasize that usernames and passwords must not be shared with anyone. The letter will also include a warning that we will take an adverse action against your designation if you fail to comply with this requirement.

In a few months, we will start sending an E-mail message to you on a regular

basis that asks you to verify that everyone on your staff who is using AMCS is authorized to do so. If you don’t respond within 30 days, your account and the accounts of your associates will be disabled.

Your Regional Flight Surgeon will also be conducting random checks to help assure compliance. You may be aware that we have hired some new analysts to help them manage the aviation medical examiner system. The analysts will be visiting your offices and evaluating your programs to include an assessment of AMCS use by you and your staff.

On the bright side, these analysts will also be available to answer questions and lend support to you, should you need help. I hope that you will get to know them and take advantage of their expertise.

I know that these actions appear overbearing and that it sounds like I am threatening you. I wish there were a kinder and gentler way to convey the message. However, we have recently discovered that a few individuals who no longer have a need to access our system might still be able to do so. While we have no evidence this has actually occurred, we must do everything possible to protect the security and integrity of the systems and to assure our constituents’ privacy.

In reality, most of these changes are upgrades to our systems, and they will be transparent to you. They will add very little to your actual workload. All you have to do is keep us informed of any changes in your office staff, and we will do the rest.

Again, like I always say, thanks so much for what you do for us and our airmen. We could not “stay in business” without your help.

—Fred