



The DoIT Digest

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This Week:

- **DHS Enables SNAP Online**
- **Multi- Factor Authentication (MFA) Coming Your Way!**
- **Tax Season Extension Provides Opportunity for Cyber Criminals**

DHS Enables SNAP Online

The Illinois Department of Human Services enabled Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) online grocery shopping for more than 1.8 million recipients effective this week. Walmart and Amazon currently participate in this effort to make access to food easier for the vulnerable residents of our state. The move to online shopping started before COVID-19 threatened the ability to shop safely and will endure as a permanent vehicle to obtain groceries. Link to the [Message to DHS Providers](#) and [SNAP Online Purchasing Program](#) for further details about how technology is enabling access to food in Illinois.



Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Coming Your Way!

DoIT began implementing Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) in January to strengthen security and the value of this exercise was demonstrated as we transitioned to remote work because of COVID. Many of the DoIT supported agencies and all DoIT employees have already received communications with instructions on how to set up MFA on their accounts. MFA impacts remote access to Office 365 or webmail from a non-State of Illinois device or network. MFA greatly increases account security beyond traditional password-based authentication by requiring anyone seeking remote access to provide an additional factor of proof before being granted access. Additional authentication factors include text messages, authenticator apps, or phone calls. DoIT.MFADeployment@illinois.gov will contact each user with specific instructions on set up. DoIT piloted the rollout and employee set up should now be complete. Many DoIT supported agencies have also been notified to implement MFA and the larger agencies will soon be transitioned. DHS, Corrections, DNR and Transportation will be notified over the coming weeks.

Tax Season Extension Provides Opportunity for Cyber Criminals

Tax filing has been extended to July 15, 2020 for all individual, trust and corporate returns. A welcome relief to many experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19, the extension has also provided a prolonged opportunity for cyber criminals. Remember the IRS will always initiate communication via a letter in the mail and will never demand payment using a debit/credit card, a prepaid card, a gift card, or wire transfer. The IRS does not threaten to notify law enforcement and will not demand payment without offering an opportunity to question or appeal. Remain on your guard. Link to the [tax extension announcement](#) and other [resources](#) from the Department of Revenue.

DoIT FYIs and Reminders

DCFS has kicked off ["You Are Not Alone"](#) to encourage youth across our state to call if they are being hurt. Calls to report suspected child abuse and neglect are down 57% in Illinois compared to the same time last year and not because abuse has declined. Calls are not being made. Children aren't in the classroom or other group settings with trusted adults who can make the phone call on their behalf. The campaign encourages children in danger to call for help at 1-800-25-ABUSE or 22873.

