Phishing Scenario Results: Account Deactivated
August 2023

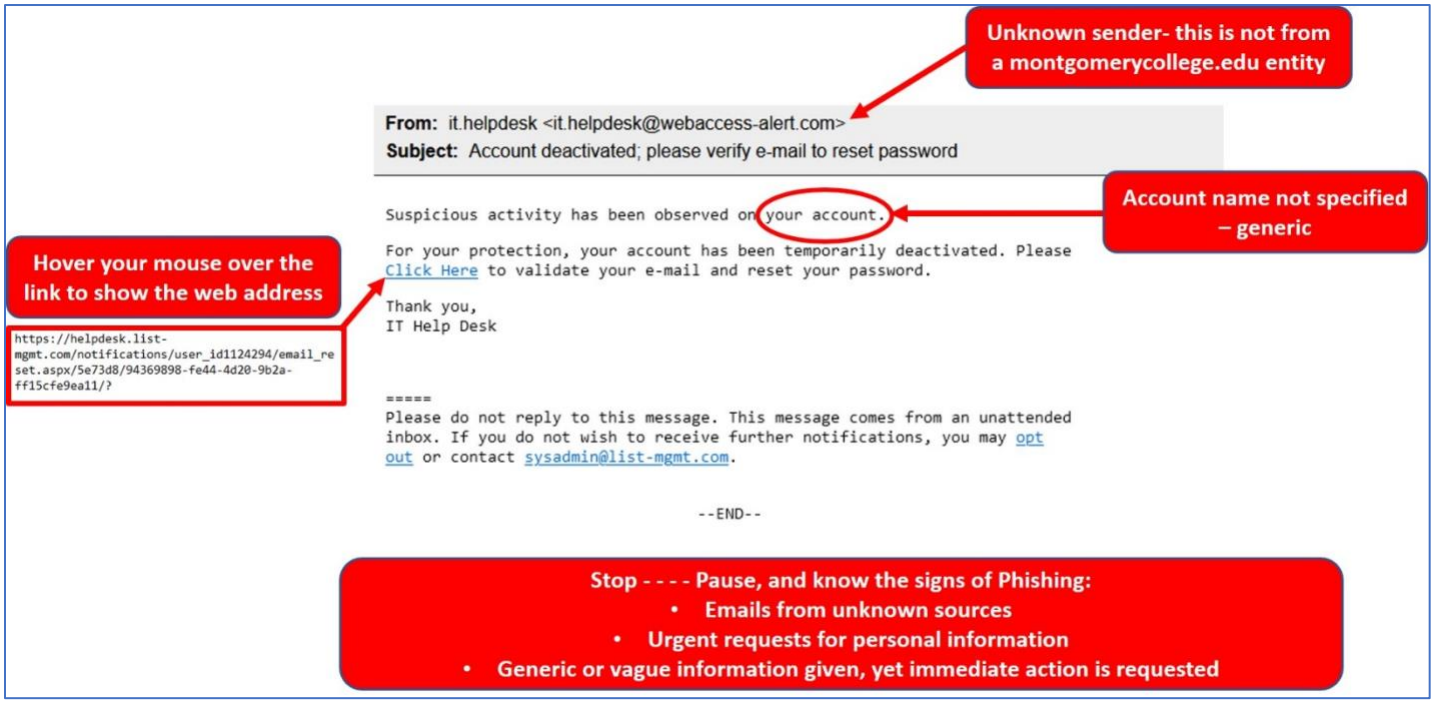
The Office of Information Technology (OIT) recently completed a simulated phishing scenario titled, *Account deactivated; please verify e-mail to reset password*. Emails with key phrases such as "account deactivated" or "account verification" are meant to give you pause. It is best practice to check the status of your account by logging in using the saved bookmarked web address. An even safer approach is to contact the IT Service Desk to check the status of your account. Do not check your account status by clicking on the link in an email.

Learn more on how to recognize phishing scams and remember, IT changes or updates are announced from the ITCommunications@montgomerycollege.edu sending address, and major upgrade announcements provide an MC website for more information. Always safeguard your MC login credentials and question out of the ordinary requests.

Good News:
1,218 employees reported the phishing scenario to the Phishtrap. **Nice work MC!**

Opportunities for Improvement:
110 employees clicked the link within the training email. One click is one too many - one click puts the entire MC network at risk!

Did YOU click?
In a real-world phishing attack clicking the link may have prompted you to give up your login credentials. Please review the red flags within this type of phishing attack and to learn ways to spot a suspicious email.



What should you do if you suspect an email may be a phishing attempt?

Let IT Security analyze the email for you - **REPORT** the email! The Report Phishing button within your email client allows you to quickly report suspicious emails to IT Security. Learn how to access the Phishing Reporter button when using Office 365 at home. If you accidentally clicked on a link or attachment in a suspicious email, contact the IT Service Desk immediately.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the IT Service Desk:

- by email at itservicedesk@montgomerycollege.edu
- by web chat on OIT's web page
- by phone at 240-567-7222

Please do not reply to this email, as this mailbox is not monitored. Thank you.

IT Communications
Office of Information Technology