Windows XP support ending from Microsoft. Microsoft has provided support for Windows XP for the past 12 years and they have announced an end to that support. As a result, after April 8, 2014, technical assistance for Windows XP will no longer be available, including automatic security updates that help protect your PC.

If you continue to use Windows XP after support ends, your computer will still work but it will become more vulnerable to security risks and malware. Your personal credentials and identity will be at greater risk when used with an unsupported operating system. If your credentials to log on to University systems are compromised, those systems are then at risk.

What does this mean for University of Nebraska and Nebraska State College System students, faculty, staff and business partners? After April 8, 2014 anyone connecting to University of Nebraska network resources may be required to have an updated operating system on their computer, i.e. Windows 7 or newer. The use of older operating systems like Windows XP after April 8, 2014 presents a risk to personal information stored on your computer, and to University IT systems including exposure to malware and viruses that may disrupt operations or result in loss of sensitive data. This is especially critical for those whose job includes entering information into University business or student systems.

Therefore, after April 8, 2014, anyone attempting to access the SAP Business System (also known as the SAP GUI) or the PeopleSoft Application with a computer using Windows XP will be blocked and be redirected to a webpage explaining this situation. While you will still be able to access employee self-service applications within Firefly or the NeSIS student portals, you are strongly encouraged to update any Windows XP machines accessing those systems.

How can I move forward from Windows XP? There are two options for you to consider. For computers provided to you by the University, contact your campus service or help desk for instructions. Your IT service group will work with you (or your department) to upgrade or replace your computer with the correct operating system. For personal computers you own (not provided by the University) first, try to upgrade your computer’s operating system to Windows 7 or 8. Upgrades are available online from Microsoft, many resellers, and at many local computer software retailers. If your computer does not have the hardware to support an upgraded operating system, you will need to upgrade hardware or purchase a new computer with a newer operating system. If you have questions please contact your campus Help Desk.