

**From:** [dig-comments@list.nist.gov](mailto:dig-comments@list.nist.gov) on behalf of [REDACTED]  
**To:** [dig-comments@nist.gov](mailto:dig-comments@nist.gov)  
**Subject:** [dig-comments] Request to review the current guidelines and consider revising the minimum password length to 12 characters  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 1, 2024 12:01:39 AM

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Dear NIST Authorized Person(s),

I am writing this email to provide feedback on the current password guidelines outlined in NIST Special Publication 800-63B, particularly focusing on the recommendations for password length.

While the current guidelines suggest a minimum password length of 8 characters and support for passphrases up to 64 characters, **I strongly recommend increasing the minimum password length to 12 characters.** In light of the rapidly evolving threat landscape, particularly with the integration of AI in hacking tools, passwords under 12 characters are becoming increasingly vulnerable to being compromised.

Recent studies, such as those cited by [Statista](#), indicate that AI-based tools can crack shorter passwords almost instantly, rendering them ineffective against modern cybersecurity threats. A longer minimum password length, such as 12 characters, would significantly improve defenses against brute-force attacks, particularly those facilitated by AI technologies.

Furthermore, it's important to recognize that NIST standards, while developed within the United States, are widely regarded as a global benchmark for security practices. Many organizations worldwide choose to adhere to NIST standards over other frameworks due to their comprehensive and rigorous approach. For this reason, I kindly ask you to consider this revision not only from a U.S. security perspective but also as part of the global security landscape where NIST plays a critical role in shaping best practices.

For reference, several sources support the need for increasing the minimum password length:

- <https://www.infosecinstitute.com/resources/security-awareness/password-security-complexity-vs-length/>
- <https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2023/08/ai-can-crack-most-passwords-how-to-protect-your-passwords-from-an-ai-attack/>

I kindly ask you to review the current guidelines and consider revising the minimum password length to 12 characters. This change would significantly enhance global cybersecurity resilience in the face of increasingly sophisticated threats.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

**Shaamim Ahmed**

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