



TikTok Ban

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As of the new year, 27 of the 50 states have both announced and enacted a ban on the social media app, TikTok. Not to worry, at the moment the ban is only instated in government agencies, and government-issued devices. So while at the moment this ban does not affect personal

devices, this could change in the near future.

In one instance, the University of Oklahoma and David Horton, their Chief Information Officer issued a statement, “No university employee or student shall access the TikTok application or website on University-owned or operated devices, including OU (Oklahoma University) wired and wireless networks.” On campus networks and devices, TikTok cannot be accessed. In order to override this, students and employees would need to be using a personal hotspot or data plan while on school grounds. The University of Oklahoma is not alone, many other public universities have followed suit, including; Auburn, Boise State, System of Georgia, and Huston System Universities.

This ban has been long in the works by both the Trump and Biden administrations. Senator Steve Daines has released a statement on the TikTok controversy, “I have serious concerns with any app that poses a risk to Americans’ personal data and information.” This recent ban on the use of TikTok on government devices could be just the beginning, with many security and technology challenges to come in the future.

TikTok has released their own statements in response to the United States ban, “We’re disappointed that Congress has moved to ban TikTok on government devices rather than encouraging the Administration to conclude its national security review.” Because of this, users can expect new implements in security to better protect users in the U.S. It looks like this current ban is not the end of the platform as a whole, and it is very unlikely that TikTok will be completely banned for all U.S. citizens.