

Office of Cybersecurity at UW–Madison stated that there are risks associated with downloading any app on to a cell phone. The Office recommends users take the following additional steps to use WhatsApp safely:

1. Two-Step Verification

- a. Open **WhatsApp**
- b. Tap on the **Settings** tab
- c. Tap **Account**
- d. Tap **Two-step verification** and tap **Enable**.
- e. Enter a **six-digit PIN** of your choice and type it again to confirm it.
- f. If you want WhatsApp to send you an email to reset your PIN when you forget it, type your email address here and follow steps g and h. Tap **Skip** if you don't want to add an email address.
- g. Tap **Next**.
- h. Confirm the email address and tap **Save** or **Done**.

2. Change WhatsApp group access from “Everyone” to “My Contacts”

- a. Open **WhatsApp**
- b. Tap on the **Status** tab
- c. Tap on **Privacy**
- d. Tap on “**My contacts**” and click “**DONE**”.

Here are other ways you can use WhatsApp and your phone safely:

Installing WhatsApp Updates

Android

- a. Go to the Google Play Store and search for **WhatsApp Messenger**.
- b. Tap **Update** next to WhatsApp Messenger.

iPhone

- a. Go to the App Store and search for **WhatsApp Messenger**.
- b. Tap **UPDATE** next to WhatsApp Messenger.

Installing Smartphone Operating System Updates

- For Android, click this link and follow the instruction:
<https://support.google.com/android/answer/7680439?hl=en>
- For iPhone, click this link and follow the instruction:
<https://support.apple.com/guide/iphone/update-ios-iph3e504502/ios>

Please email Jzong Thao at jzong.thao@wisc.edu to remove your phone number from the list if you no longer wish to receive WhatsApp messages from us.