

## YubiKey: An Alternative Option to Multifactor Authentication

### Background:

The Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas (FHLB Dallas) has enhanced the information security for its online platforms, SecureConnect and GrantConnect, by requiring multifactor authentication (MFA) to log into these systems. The new authentication process is done through various verification methods such as a cellphone, direct dial landline phone or via the Microsoft Authenticator mobile app. If you are unable to authenticate through one of the three methods (cellphone, direct dial landline or Microsoft Authenticator app), there is an alternative way to authenticate using a YubiKey authenticator.

### Overview:

The solution is based on the YubiKey 5 Series, which is a hardware-based authentication solution consisting of a YubiKey authenticator key (suggested model **YubiKey 5 NFC**) and the corresponding authenticator software.

These two components deliver the required one-time-passcode that is needed to support the MFA verification to FHLB Dallas platforms such as SecureConnect and GrantConnect.



### Product Description

The YubiKey 5 Series is a hardware-based authentication solution that provides a simple authentication experience and does not require a battery or network connectivity, making authentication always accessible.

It provides the following benefits:

- Eliminates account takeovers
- Provides defense against phishing
- Enables compliance requirements for MFA

### Procurement:

You can purchase a YubiKey 5 NFC on Yubico's website for approximately \$45 per key:

<https://www.yubico.com/product/yubikey-5-nfc/>

You must also download Yubico's free authenticator software for the key to work:

<https://www.yubico.com/products/yubico-authenticator/>

### Additional Information:

The authenticator software must be installed on the local computer where the user has access to it. This software along with the YubiKey is the equivalent of MFA through a cell phone, direct dial landline phone or the Microsoft Authenticator mobile app. **If you are using a YubiKey as an alternative authentication method, please purchase the YubiKeys, download the software and complete the migration process by January 15 to avoid disruption to your SecureConnect access.**

As this YubiKey can be used to store any passwords for the user, it is important to ensure the keys are not shared and the institution makes use of the software to wipe the passwords out of the keys before reissuing to other employees. Contact **Migration Support** at [migration.support@fhb.com](mailto:migration.support@fhb.com) or 866.415.1364 with questions.