What Is McAfee AutoUpdate?
McAfee AutoUpdate is a scheduled task in McAfee’s VirusScan software. AutoUpdate allows users to set a specific time for the VirusScan software to update the virus definition files (also known as .DAT or data files). It is recommended to schedule an update daily during a time when the computer is on and connected to the Internet. Purdue faculty and staff whose office computers are supported by an IT department should check with their desktop support unit before changing McAfee AutoUpdate settings on Purdue office machines.

Why should I use McAfee AutoUpdate?
When you set a scheduled AutoUpdate task in McAfee, you do not have to worry about your virus definition files being out of date. Having up-to-date virus definitions protects your computer against new viruses that are released several times a week.

How to set up McAfee Auto Update
1. Right-click the VirusScan icon that appears in the lower right hand corner of your taskbar, and click VirusScan Console at the top.
2. Double-click AutoUpdate.
3. Click the Schedule button.
4. Select Enable (scheduled task runs at specified time) if there is not check mark already present.
5. Click on the Schedule tab, schedule a time when you know your computer will be on and connected to the Internet, and click Apply.

NOTE: It is strongly recommend that you set your computer to auto-update daily. If your computer is turned off during a scheduled virus definition update, your computer will begin the update process once your computer is turned on and connected to the network.