

Teams vs. Zoom

In the Spring, we encouraged faculty to use Zoom as the way to quickly get up to speed and have the ability to hold online synchronous class meetings. This semester we have another solution, Microsoft Teams. Now that the student emails are being changed (from username@students.tntech.edu to username@tntech.edu), it makes it easier for us to use Microsoft Teams for classes. Please be aware that we have a finite number of Zoom Licensed accounts. In the future, that number will go back down to the original 150 licenses we originally had prior to the Spring and will only be granted to those with specific needs.

If you are using Zoom for the following, then you can use MS Teams instead.

- Create a single link to email or [post that link into your course](#) in iLearn
- [Record your lecture](#) (with the class in attendance or without)
- Office hours
- Having an external person attend the meeting (a guest speaker, etc)
- Presentations to internal and external people

We are working to update the [Video Conferencing](#) area on the CITL web site with information. As new functionality in MS Teams becomes available, the CITL and ITS will partner to provide notices of the enhancements and features that occur during the semester.

There are a couple areas where Zoom is specific. One in particular is breakout rooms. If you plan to use breakout rooms online (you can do this with Teams with multiple meetings and groups in iLearn, but it takes some setup) feel free to request a Zoom account, but please know we only have a handful left for Fall. We hope that people who no longer need a Licensed account in Zoom will let us know so we can make sure that people who truly need it, can use it. We will continue to monitor usage and inactive accounts will automatically be reverted to Basic accounts.

If you are a part of one of the departments who use the HIPAA licensed Zoom accounts, please continue to use Zoom for now. However, we are working on transferring these accounts to Teams at some point.

If you have a Zoom Licensed Account and will be using Teams instead, please let us know so that we can re-assign the license to someone with a specific use case that needs Zoom.