The COVID-19 pandemic has offered an opportunity for UNT to reimagine how we support our students in providing safe learning environments. For some students, the safety measures being taken such as smaller classes, physical distancing, and face masks have addressed those concerns. However, some students may still have issues due to disability and/or chronic health condition that makes them high risk for COVID-19. As a result, the ODA is assisting in UNT’s process to identify students who may need consideration for an option to participate in their course(s) remotely for in-person sections or an exception to the face mask requirement. The ODA’s purpose is to review the student’s request; and then work with the student and academic department to find a solution.

Additionally, we understand that some students have personal circumstances unrelated to an existing health condition such as childcare, living with family members who are in high risk categories, or other reasons. These instances may merit consideration as well. The student is encouraged to meet with their academic advisor as soon as possible to update their course schedule to reflect their needs.

How Students Request These Accommodations

- (1) **Student Makes Accommodation Request to ODA**
  - **Students not registered with the ODA**
    Please follow the process to register at [https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply](https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply). Please indicate that your request is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **Students registered with ODA**
    Login to the AIM Student Portal and submit an “Additional Accommodation Request Form”. Please indicate that your request is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- (2) **Submit Documentation**
  - **Students Seeking Accommodations with ODA Beyond COVID Pandemic**
    Please review documentation guidelines at [https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply#documentation](https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply#documentation).
  - **Students Seeking Accommodations with ODA for COVID Pandemic only**
    In this instance, [Medical Form for Students Seeking COVID-19 Accommodations ONLY](https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply#documentation) can serve as documentation.

- (3) **Review of request** once student’s request and documentation is received. After reviewing the request, the student will be updated on the status of request and informed of next steps

The process to determine whether remote participation in a course is reasonable may take up to 2-3 weeks because this is a highly collaborative process between the ODA, academic departments, and instructors.

If students have any questions about the process to request remote participation in their courses or an exception to the face mask requirement due to disability and/or chronic health condition that makes them high risk for COVID-19, please contact Dr. Katy Washington, ODA Director at Katy.Washington@unt.edu.

**Relevant Resources and UNT Guidelines**

- [Office of Disability Access](https://disability.unt.edu) Website
- [Read the UNT System’s guidelines on Face Coverings and PPE](https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply#documentation)
- [Tips for Addressing Non-Compliance of Face Covering Requirement](https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply#documentation)
- [High-Risk Groups as Identified by the CDC](https://disability.unt.edu/services/apply#documentation)