What is Zoom? A few technical tips and resources

P-CCS has adopted Zoom as a videoconferencing platform because of its safety and security. Zoom is a leader in this arena with multiple safeguards, private rooms, and unique urls. At the outset of COVID-19, there were some concerns about Zoom security, but Zoom has established important milestones to ensure compliance.

Below are some considerations that all households should follow when videoconferencing to ensure as good a technical experience as possible:

1. Limit internet activity from other devices while videoconferencing. Videoconferencing, streaming, and online gaming all use large amounts of bandwidth, which can create problems for others that are accessing the internet on the same local network.

2. Limit distance from wireless routers or use a wired connection. Wifi signals degrade with distance, so those that are further from their wireless routers can have a less reliable connection to the internet. If possible, students/staff should use a wired connection to their router as this provides the fastest and most reliable connection to the internet.

3. Limit usage of device resources by closing unnecessary tabs, windows, and applications.

Videoconferencing uses device resources, such as CPU and RAM, which are shared among other open tabs, windows, and applications. By closing unnecessary tabs, windows, and applications, more device resources can be allocated towards Zoom.

4. Use Zoom's device-specific app when possible instead of its browser app. On Windows and Mac computers, the Zoom desktop app is fuller featured and generally more reliable than the Zoom browser app. For Android and IOS devices, the mobile app typically provides a better user experience than using Zoom via the cell phone's native browser. Visit https://www.zoom.us/download#client_4meeting on your computing device if you don't have the app installed and aren't otherwise prompted to download with a meeting or event invite.

Zoom video tutorials

https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials

Frequently asked questions

https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806-Top-Questions