



2025-2026 School Year: Engaging Youth from a Distance

The majority of our classroom presentations are in-person; however, online classes are an option for many students across our service area, and DLNW can reach classrooms in remote areas with online presentations. In which case, speakers may be asked to join a class virtually. See below for some tips for presenting online.

1. **Test your setup ahead of time.** You'll need a computer (desktop or laptop), a microphone or phone for audio/sound, and ideally a webcam. Many laptops have a webcam and microphone built in. If not, you can purchase a webcam with a built-in microphone relatively inexpensively from Amazon or Best Buy. Zoom is a fairly common online platform, but it's possible that a school will use a different platform, such as Google Classroom or Teams. If possible, test it out ahead of time so you are familiar with the controls.
 - a. Zoom and other online platforms have a lot of tutorials that you can watch to learn more. Here is one on how to share your screen in Zoom—which you would be doing to share the presentation and videos: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362153-Sharing-your-screen>
2. **Prepare your environment.** Silence your phone, turn off desktop notifications, get rid of loud noises, and make sure your room is kid/dog free (if possible). Also, if your presentation will use a video feed of you (which we recommend), you should plan to dress appropriately.
3. **Set ground rules.** Be explicit with your plan and expectations. If students are joining the presentation individually from home, you'll likely want them muted for the presentation. Let them know if they should submit their questions via a chat box or if they should hold them for the end of the presentation. If you are being virtually presented to an in-person class, you can ask the students to write down their questions so you can take them at the end, or you can answer them as they come via the classroom teacher. Choose whatever you are comfortable with—but let them know ahead of time.
4. **Keep it engaging.** Depending on the set-up, try to incorporate more questions and discussions throughout the presentation. For example, ask students to respond to the true/false questions in a chat box. If they are on camera, ask them to give a thumbs up/thumbs down for true/false. If you are more adept at online presentations, think about adding a poll. Think of ways to keep them engaged throughout the presentation. Ask if anyone has previous experience with donation or transplantation. If so, do they feel comfortable sharing their story?
5. **Check in regularly.** Presenting online can be hard because you lose the non-verbal cues that students can give to show understanding or confusion. It can be easy to assume that they understand since you don't have that feedback loop, but make sure to check in from time to time to verify.