

Announcements

Last Modified on 01/17/2025 9:16 am CST

Below are the latest news and announcements from LSC-Online, as seen in the D2L Announcements widget. This page will be regularly updated, with the newest information at the top.

LSC-Online also provides other outlets of helpful information, including an [email newsletter \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive), a [video newsletter \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/the-online-update\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/the-online-update), and an [event calendar \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/events\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/events).

Reminder: D2L Email Has Been Retired Posted in D2L on Jan 15, 2025 1:33 PM

Reminder: D2L Brightspace Email has been replaced by Microsoft 365 (Outlook)

D2L Brightspace email has been replaced by the Microsoft 365 email integration, which hosts the LSC Employee Email domain (@lonestar.edu) and LSC Student Email domain (@my.lonestar.edu). **You will no longer be seeing the envelope icon on D2L.**

D2L Brightspace Email Retirement

- The D2L Brightspace email service has retired on **December 18, 2024**.
- You are no longer able to access D2L emails through this platform, including your old sent and received emails.
- Emails sent via the Classlist or Intelligent Agents [will continue to work \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-email-to-students-in-d2l\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-email-to-students-in-d2l).
- Because D2L will no longer have a **Sent Folder**, we recommend having D2L [send copies of your outgoing emails to your LSC email \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-a-copy-of-outgoing-d2l-emails-to-your-outlook-inbox\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-a-copy-of-outgoing-d2l-emails-to-your-outlook-inbox).

Microsoft 365 Widget in D2L

- You can already access your Lone Star College email, calendar, and OneDrive directly from D2L using the Microsoft 365.
- The widget can be found on the main D2L homepage and the homepages of your courses.
- If you are accessing the widget for the first time, and you are receiving an **Internal Error** here, **log into your LSC Outlook account on the same browser** . This will pair the widget with your course, and will only need to be done once.
- Learn more about [using the Microsoft 365 widget \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/microsoft-365-widget\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/microsoft-365-widget).

For more information about the upcoming changes, [see the FAQ page in VTAC \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/microsoft-365-faqs\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/microsoft-365-faqs).

Second Chance: Digital Digest Newsletter Posted in D2L on Jan 15, 2025 12:01 AM

Our start-of-semester newsletter was recently sent out via email. If you haven't read it yet, here's another chance.

Topics included **in this issue** (<https://bit.ly/dd-newsletter-jan25>):

- Automatic Zero Grading
- D2L Email Transition Complete
- Semester Start Reminders
- AI Detection Returns
- Design in the Evening
- Online Proctoring Options
- And more!

Want to see some of these topics in action? [Watch our video newsletter!](http://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/the-online-update)
(<http://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/the-online-update>)

For previous issues, please visit the [Newsletter Archive page in VTAC](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive)
(<https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive>).

Turnitin Scheduled Maintenance Posted in D2L on Jan 13, 2025 12:01 AM

Turnitin will be conducting necessary maintenance on **Saturday, January 18th, from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CST.**

During this time, all Turnitin services (including the D2L Turnitin integration) will be **unavailable**. Assignments should not be submitted to Turnitin or Turnitin-enabled assignment folders in D2L during this time frame.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Video Newsletter - Spring 2025 Posted in D2L on Jan 7, 2025 8:00 AM

[The Online Update](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/the-online-update) (<https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/the-online-update>) is a video newsletter produced every major semester by Lone Star College.

Here are the topics in the Spring 2025 Episode:

- Creator+ Practices with Lumi AI
- Auto Zero for Missing Submissions
- New Quiz Evaluation Experience

- Rubrics in Quiz Questions
- Microsoft 365 Email Transition
- Faculty Support Options
- And more...

For more information about these topics, search this VTAC knowledge base. You can also read our corresponding [email newsletter \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive) for additional updates.

Spring 2025 Semester Start Posted in D2L on Jan 6, 2025 12:02 AM

Welcome to the Spring 2025 Semester!

To get started in your D2L course, please explore the following resources:

D2L Semester Start Checklist: This checklist will assist you in making a smooth start in your D2L courses and includes topics like copying content and merging course sections. You can find it at the following link: [D2L Semester Start Instructor Checklist \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/semester-start-checklist\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/semester-start-checklist).

Visit the VTAC Knowledge Base: This site contains guides to help you work with your new D2L course. You can find it at the following link: [VTAC Knowledge Base \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help).

D2L resources for students can be found at this link: [Virtual Learning Assistance Center \(http://vlac.lonestar.edu\)](http://vlac.lonestar.edu).

Extended Support Hours: January 11 Posted in D2L on Jan 2, 2025 8:00 AM

VTAC is offering extended support hours on **Saturday, Jan. 11th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** The VTAC team will be providing ticket support and a virtual open lab to assist faculty with D2L, supported technologies, and course design.

The virtual open lab can be accessed through [this link. \(https://lonestar.webex.com/lonestar/j.php?MTID=mfcc00521d0d65a2b7144b588271bd721\)](https://lonestar.webex.com/lonestar/j.php?MTID=mfcc00521d0d65a2b7144b588271bd721)

Tickets for D2L related questions/issues can be submitted by emailing [VTAC@LoneStar.edu \(\)](mailto:VTAC@LoneStar.edu).

[OTS \(https://www.lonestar.edu/ots\)](https://www.lonestar.edu/ots) is available 6 a.m. to midnight for technology questions.

For other support opportunities, please refer to the [VTAC Event Calendar \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/events\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/events).

December D2L Update Posted in D2L on Dec 24, 2024 12:01 AM

The next update for D2L is scheduled for **December 27th**.

Important information regarding the update:

Consistent Evaluation - New Learner View of Grade indicator

Consistent Evaluation enables faculty to evaluate learner submissions for **Assignments**, **Discussions**, and **Quizzes** using an improved and optimized experience. With this update, the **Consistent Evaluation** and the **New Quiz Evaluation** are updated with the new **Learner View of Grade** indicator. This will display the grade the student will see for the assessment.

For example, if the grade scheme applied to a course is a **Letter Grade**, instructors can view that letter grade instantly under **Learner View of Grade**. In this example, the letter grade is based upon the grade entered during an evaluation. The instructor can also choose to **Hide Learner View of Grade** or **Show Learner View of Grade** directly from the evaluation experience.

For more information on grading Assignment and Quiz submissions and Discussion posts, please see the [Grade Assignment Submissions \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/evaluate-assignment-submissions\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/evaluate-assignment-submissions), [New Quiz Evaluation Experience \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/new-quiz-eval-xp\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/new-quiz-eval-xp), and [Grade a Discussion \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/grade-a-discussion\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/grade-a-discussion) VTAC articles.

D2L Virtual Assistant being upgraded with Lumi Chat

The **D2L Virtual Assistant** is being upgraded with D2L's new chatbot, known as **Lumi Chat**. Lumi Chat provides generative AI responses to students' and faculty's queries. Generated answers take your questions, identify your intent, and create a free-form text answer with information from D2L's knowledge bases while also linking to related documentation (from D2L's knowledge base) where applicable.

After closing Lumi Chat, you are prompted with a **Customer Satisfaction Survey** to gather your feedback. The survey is prompted automatically when you close the chat window and is accessible any time through the star icon in the chat. Participation in the survey is optional, and will be used by D2L to improve the chat responses in the future.

For more information on Lumi Chat, we recommend viewing the article [About Lumi Chat \(https://community.d2l.com/brightspace/kb/articles/26548-about-lumi-chat\)](https://community.d2l.com/brightspace/kb/articles/26548-about-lumi-chat) on the D2L knowledge base.

For information on other D2L-related topics, please search this VTAC knowledge base.

LSC Winter Holidays - Campus Closed Posted in D2L on Dec 19, 2024 12:01 AM

Lone Star College campuses are closed (<https://www.lonestar.edu/academic-calendar.htm>) for the

Winter Holidays, Dec. 19 - Jan 1.

Examity Retiring on 12/31 (Tues) Posted in D2L on Dec 18, 2024 3:20 PM

Examity will be retired on **December 31, 2024**. If your online course uses Examity for exam proctoring, please note that it will no longer be available after the aforementioned date.

ProctorU will serve as the new exam proctoring service.

If you have any further questions, please contact [VTAC Support](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/vtac-support) (<https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/vtac-support>) for assistance.

Retirement of Third-Party Integration 1.1 Posted in D2L on Dec 11, 2024 10:11 AM

As of **December 18, 2024**, the following third-party integration versions will be retired:

- **Cengage 1.1**
- **Connect 1.1**
- **Carolina Distance Learning 1.1**

If you have already upgraded to version 1.3, no further action is required at this time. However, **if you are currently using the 1.1 versions, you must upgrade to version 1.3** to ensure your integration links work correctly for the upcoming semester.

Please contact your respective Third-party representative for assistance.

If you have any further questions, please contact [VTAC Support](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/vtac-support) (<https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/vtac-support>) for assistance.

Reminder: Major Changes to Email in D2L Posted in D2L on Dec 8, 2024 12:00 PM

D2L Brightspace Email is Getting Retired

Reminder: D2L Brightspace email will soon be replaced by the Microsoft 365 email integration, which hosts LSC Employee Email (@lonestar.edu).

What is happening and when?

D2L Brightspace Email

- The D2L Brightspace email service will be retired on **December 18, 2024**.
- After this date, you will no longer be able to access D2L emails through this platform, including your old sent and received emails.
- **Any D2L emails you wish to keep need to be forwarded to your LSC Email prior to this date.**
- Emails sent via the Classlist or Intelligent Agents [will continue to work \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-email-to-students-in-d2l\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-email-to-students-in-d2l).
- Because D2L will no longer have a Sent Folder, we recommend having D2L [send copies of your outgoing emails to your LSC email \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-a-copy-of-outgoing-d2l-emails-to-your-outlook-inbox\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/send-a-copy-of-outgoing-d2l-emails-to-your-outlook-inbox).

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For more information about the upcoming changes, [see the FAQ page in VLAC \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/microsoft-365-faqs\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/microsoft-365-faqs).

Scheduled Archiving of Old Courses Posted in D2L on Dec 5, 2024 1:55 PM

Starting **Wednesday, Dec 18th**, we will be archiving D2L courses and sandboxes that are at least one year past their end dates. This archive will include courses from **Summer 2023**.

If you need to regain access to an archived course, please go to [VTAC Support \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/vtac-support\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/vtac-support) and select the **[Archive/Restore Courses]** tool under **Course Design**. Here are [instructions for using the tool \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/restore-archived-course\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/restore-archived-course).

If you restore an old course but don't see it in your **My Courses** list, click on the **[View All Courses]** link and use the search and/or sorting functions.

D2L Showcase - Recording & Survey Posted in D2L on Dec 5, 2024 8:30 AM

We would like to thank everyone who attended the D2L Showcase. We hope you found it informative and are excited about some of the new features that D2L is working on.

We'd love to hear your feedback! Please take a moment to [complete this short survey \(https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GMYDP93\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GMYDP93) and share your thoughts on the Showcase, including which new features you're most looking forward to.

If you missed the live event, don't worry—you can [watch a recording of the D2L Showcase here \(https://vimeo.com/1030143540/d7c163db94\)](https://vimeo.com/1030143540/d7c163db94).

We're looking forward to the upcoming features D2L is working on and anticipate integrating them into our environment once they have successfully passed testing and compliance.

November D2L Update Posted in D2L on Nov 26, 2024 3:30 PM

The next update for D2L is scheduled for **November 29th**.

Important information regarding the update:

New Quiz Evaluation Experience

The new experience provides an updated look and feel to your grading workflow, consistent with the updated experiences for Assignments and Discussions that were released previously. To access the new quiz evaluation experience, you must click the **[drop-down arrow]** in the upper right hand corner of the screen and select **[Turn it on]**. To revert back to the old experience, you can follow the same process but select **[Turn it off]**.

For more details on the New Quiz Evaluation Experience, you can view the [Turn On New Quiz Evaluation Experience \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/turn-on-new-quiz-evaluation-experience\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/turn-on-new-quiz-evaluation-experience) and [New Quiz Evaluation Experience \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/new-quiz-evaluation-experience\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/new-quiz-evaluation-experience) VTAC articles.

New Automatic Zeroes for Overdue Submissions Feature

You can now set your gradebook to automatically apply a grade of **zero** to any student who has not submitted an **Assignment, Quiz, or Third-party Integration** activity before the due date has passed.

There is a lot to keep in mind when using this new feature, so we recommend reading the [Automatic Zeroes for Overdue Submissions \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/automatic-zeroes-for-overdue-submissions\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/automatic-zeroes-for-overdue-submissions) VTAC article before activating it.

Assign Evaluators and Publishers for Assignments

The Evaluators and Publishers feature in D2L Assignments allows instructors to delegate the task of grading and providing feedback for assignments to other faculty in the course, significantly reducing instructor workload for large courses or complex assignments that require multiple perspectives, and helping to provide a more comprehensive assessment of student work. By delegating tasks, instructors can optimize the evaluation process for assignments and ensure timely feedback.

This is an advanced feature, with many complex moving parts to consider before using, so please read the [Assign Evaluators and Publishers for Assignments \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/assign-evaluators-for-assignments\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/assign-evaluators-for-assignments) VTAC article before utilizing this feature.

For information on other D2L-related topics, please search this VTAC knowledge base.

Second Chance: Digital Digest Newsletter Posted in D2L on Nov 24, 2024 5:00 PM

Our end-of-semester newsletter was recently sent out via email. If you haven't read it yet, here's another chance.

Topics included in this issue (<https://bit.ly/dd-newsletter-nov24>):

- Creator+ with Lumi AI
- Major Changes to Email in D2L
- Semester Wrap Reminders
- New Quiz Experience
- D2L Showcase Recap
- Design in the Evening
- And more!

For previous issues, please visit the [Newsletter Archive page in VTAC](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive) (<https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/newsletter-archive>).

D2L Showcase - Register Now! Posted in D2L on Nov 8, 2024 3:39 PM

[Register now](https://lonestar-edu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y-7cppecQICV5129cCRPIw) (https://lonestar-edu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y-7cppecQICV5129cCRPIw) for the **D2L Showcase!** Learn about new and upcoming features in D2L. Catch the live stream on **Thursday, November 14**, from **2:00 PM to 3:30 PM**.

RESOLVED: Turnitin - Issue with Enabling Similarity Reports Posted in D2L on Oct 31, 2024 1:34 PM (Edited)

UPDATE: The incident has been RESOLVED.

ORIGINAL MESSAGE:

At this time, we are currently investigating an issue that is occurring when trying to enable a Turnitin Similarity Report for a D2L assignment. As a result, it is not currently possible to enable Similarity Reports for new assignments. We are working with Turnitin to resolve this issue.

We sincerely apologize for the impact this disruption may be causing. We will provide an update as soon as new information becomes available.

Snagit - Now Available to All Faculty & Staff! Posted in D2L on Oct 25, 2024 9:49 AM

Lone Star College Academic Affairs is excited to announce that **Snagit**, a powerful screen capture and recording software by **TechSmith**, is now available for download to all LSC faculty and staff. With Snagit, users can easily capture, edit, and share screenshots and videos to enhance their instructional and professional materials.

Please head over to the [VTAC Snagit article \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/snagit\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/snagit) to access the **download link** and **license code** that is required for installation. Be sure to log into the VTAC page first using your LSCS credentials to access the article.

For detailed instructions on using Snagit's features—including screen capture, video recording, and image editing—please refer to the official [TechSmith Snagit Tutorials \(https://www.techsmith.com/learn/tutorials/snagit/\)](https://www.techsmith.com/learn/tutorials/snagit/). Live training webinars are also available via the [VTAC Events page \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/events\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/events).

For information on other D2L-related topics, please search this VTAC knowledge base.

September D2L Update Posted in D2L on Sep 24, 2024 8:00 AM

The next update for D2L is scheduled for **September 26th**.

Important information regarding the update:

Assignments - Bookmarks Removed

- Before this update, instructors could click **[Bookmarks]** to add bookmarks to pages of a PDF. However, these bookmarks were not saved. The **[Bookmarks]** option in **[Assignments]** → **[Annotations]** is now removed.

For information on other D2L-related topics, please search this VTAC knowledge base.

Labor Day Office Closure Posted in D2L on Sep 2, 2024 12:01 AM

Thank you for your hard work. Offices are closed for Labor Day on **Monday, Sept. 2nd**.

Previous announcements have been archived on other pages:

- [2024 \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2024-archived-announcements\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2024-archived-announcements)
- [2023 \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2023-archived-announcements\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2023-archived-announcements)

- [2022 \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2022-archived-announcements\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2022-archived-announcements)
- [2021 \(https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2021-archived-announcements\)](https://vtac.lonestar.edu/help/2021-archived-announcements)