

# WINTER WEATHER

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE WINTER WEATHER

When university officials think weather conditions pose a significant threat to the safety of students, faculty and staff who drive to campus, UNT will delay its opening time, close early or close for the day.

University officials make every attempt to decide about the need for delayed-openings or closures as early as possible.

Online classes taught via Canvas are not affected by weather delays and closings, unless the course instructor otherwise informs students.

## CHECK UNT WEBSITE, FACEBOOK AND LOCAL MEDIA FOR WEATHER INFORMATION

When inclement weather conditions exist, visit [www.unt.edu](http://www.unt.edu), check the UNT Facebook page or listen for weather details on local media outlets before you begin driving to campus. You can also follow @UNTEagleAlert and @UNTSocial on Twitter to get emergency updates in real time.

Current UNT students, faculty and staff should receive an Eagle Alert message notifying them that the university is closing or if the opening time is delayed. Before severe or winter weather arrives, be sure your contact number is correct. Faculty and students should update their information at [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu) and staff should update their information at [my.untsystem.edu](http://my.untsystem.edu).

If the weather conditions could make driving dangerous, please check local media reports or the web site before setting out for campus. **Only delayed openings or closures are announced. If an announcement is not made, then the university will be open.**

## MIDDAY CLOSURES

The university may close and cancel classes in the middle of the day if weather conditions deteriorate. In those cases, in addition to the Eagle Alert, Facebook and Twitter messages, the university also will issue an Official Notice via Outlook and main telephone numbers for UNT departments may be forwarded to the university's Broadcast Notification System. The system will provide callers with up-to-date information.

## CONSECUTIVE CLOSURES

If the university is closed for more than one day or if its opening is delayed, you should check the UNT web site at [www.unt.edu](http://www.unt.edu) or check the [UNT Facebook page](#) for the latest information. The university also will provide the information to campus telephone operators, and news media will be informed.

## INFORMATION ABOUT ROAD CONDITIONS

Sometimes the university remains open during wintry weather conditions. Individuals who commute long distances to campus may want to contact the [Texas Department of Transportation's](#) area hotline for information on road conditions at (800) 452-9292. The 24-hour recording is updated regularly and includes information on highways in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Kaufman, Navarro and Rockwall counties.

For information on road conditions in other counties, call the Texas Department of Transportation directly at (800) 452-9292. [View a detailed report of road closures that you customize based on your location.](#)

To access the Broadcast Notification System or to reach the university switchboard, call (940) 565-2000 or metro (817) 267-3731.

## FOR UNT EMPLOYEES

If you are considered an essential staff member, check with your supervisor about whether you should report to work.

To accommodate UNT employees who must leave early for work, UNT will make every effort to make decisions about delayed openings and closures before 3 a.m. At that time, the university will notify the campus telephone operators, post a message to the university web site and begin informing news media.

When inclement weather conditions exist, visit [www.unt.edu](http://www.unt.edu) or listen for announcements on local media outlets before you begin driving to campus. View a list of media outlets that will announce closures in the extended entry.

If your department does not have an updated calling tree to notify staff members about delays and closures, this is a good time to revise your document and distribute it to all your departmental members.

## BUSES AND SHUTTLE SERVICE

UNT's shuttle services is operated by Denton County Transportation Authority. [Check the DCTA site for weather- related service status.](#)

## WINTER WEATHER TERMS

It may be helpful to learn these weather terms. A few important terms are:

- A "**freezing rain advisory**" means that periods of freezing rain or freezing drizzle will cause travel difficulties.
- A "**winter storm watch**" means conditions are right for ice and snow to develop.
- An "**ice storm warning**" means severe winter weather conditions are expected or occurring. Significant amounts of ice accumulations will make travel extremely dangerous or impossible.
- A "**winter storm warning**" means that an ice storm or snowstorm is entering the area.
- A "**winter weather advisory**" indicates that winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and hazardous driving.

## DRIVE SAFE IN WINTER WEATHER

During winter weather conditions, it is best to stay off the road. However, for those times when you must get behind the wheel, make sure you know how to operate your vehicle safely. [Check out this video to learn about how to drive safely during inclement weather conditions.](#)