

Problem Background

- *With an increasing number of cases of the Covid-19 virus during the pandemic and with the increase in difficulty to find a test kit or to schedule a test there's an increased risk when students attending class to fulfill the attendance requirements are being careless about having the virus or feeling mild symptoms.*
- *There is not an accessible platform to keep track of each person's symptoms or to easily report test results and communicate them to the professors corresponding to each student's presential courses.*
- *If there was a platform to report student symptoms and or Covid-19 test results the process of excusing a student to class attendance would be simple and accessible as well as keeping track of spread.*

Target

- Students can successfully report their symptoms at least once a week reliably to the campus. In the case of a positive test or covid symptoms the process of reporting to the corresponding professors and submitting evidence is facilitated and a student can fulfill assistance requirements after being excused. The campus can submit and present case reports via the platform to better inform students by other methods separate to email announcements.

Causes:

- *Problem: Increase in Covid-19 cases makes it harder to get tested and follow up symptoms and to report to each professor or for students to fulfilled attendance.*
- *Why?: It is rather hard for students to communicate to each professor and to do so in an automated manner.*
- *Why?: There is no standardized or default way that is easily accessible for students to report weekly symptoms or to submit evidence of a positive test result.*
- *Why?: Previous to this health crisis there hadn't been a previous disease that could spread as fast and still be asymptomatic as Covid-19 so the existing measures of reporting a disease case were sufficient to deal with control of virus spread.*

Countermeasures

1. Send a weekly notification to fill in a quick form or report of how the student feels.
2. Have an easy access platform feature to report a positive test result to have a quickly and smooth process and to make case tracking more effective.
3. Based on government guidelines have each student get tested 10 days after a positive result to follow up on each case and take the safety measures in order to keep spread to a minimum.
4. Possibly to make filling for a medical excuse to be tested more accessible given a student symptom report having the campus access to the student report and giving priority to ill feeling students.

Check/Evaluate

- Ease of access and connection between the already existing campus platform will determine the fluent exchange of information and usefulness of the web application. Also the background processes like sending a report with test evidence to the corresponding professors might prove difficult since it can be considered private information and need a secure connection between the campus and the web application.
- If professors and student don't approve of said platform or refuse its use and the university is not willing to promote whether because the user interface is not simple or user friendly and if said platform doesn't prove reliable it would be a failure.
- Each semester the platform would need to update each student's enrolled coursed in order to signal the corresponding professors and to keep a set of scheduled reminders for students to file in a status report.
- Because our presented issue has a lot to do with the spread of covid-19 cases enabling students with a tracking and report tool this would make tracking student assistance more possible as well as providing a platform to record and organize the overall symptoms and positive test results for the student community almost a necessary resource for the participation of presential courses.

Act/Standardize

- Since the pandemic has lasted well over two years it's the perfect opportunity to create a platform that can track a student's inability to attend class due to illness and a way to submit evidence in a well organized accessible manner.
- Getting feedback specially on making the user interface friendly to all student audiences could result in the growth and potential improvement of the platform, definitely a feature to be considered in any modern web application while working on its dependability will be a crucial step for the utilization of the platform.
- Adding the campus covid case and other information report available on the platform could help further push our objectives and result in more awareness if at least every week each student reports symptoms or enters the platform.