

Computer Purchase Recommendations 2011-2012 Minimum Standards

At the beginning of each fall semester, Information Technology Services publishes computer purchase recommendations for UWF students and employees. They are designed to ensure greater product reliability, usability, quality, functionality, support, and cost control. Please be aware that configuration upgrades may be required for specific applications, research projects, and other requirements. **Students should consult with their faculty, department technology support staff, and Residence Hall Coordinator for assistance choosing computer configuration options and peripherals.**

WINDOWS STANDARDS			
	Desktop	Laptop	Netbook*
Processor/CPU	Intel Core 2 Duo / AMD; 3.0GHz (3M L2 Cache)	Intel Core 2 Duo / AMD; 2.6GHz (2M L2 Cache)	Intel Atom / AMD; 1.6GHz (512K L2 Cache)
RAM	4GB (2 DIMMs)	4GB (1 DIMM)	2GB
Drives (CD/DVD)	16X CD-RW/DVD	16X CD-RW/DVD	External Optical Drive (Recommended)
Video Card	256MB RAM (non-integrated; Dual DVI or Display Port support)	128MB RAM (non-integrated)	Integrated Media Accelerator
Display	20" Widescreen LCD (DVI & Display Port Support)**	14.1" Panel	8.9" (Minimum)
Hard Drive	250GB (SATA /7200 RPM)	160GB (7200RPM)	Rotational / Solid State (160GB / 64GB)
Operating System	Windows	Windows	Windows
Network Adapter	10/100/1000Mbps	10/100/1000Mbps	10/100/1000Mbps
Battery	N/A	9-cell Lithium-Ion (90WHR)	4-cell Lithium-Ion (29WHR)
Wireless	N/A	802.11 g/n	802.11g/n
Warranty	3 Yr. (Minimum)***	3 Yr. w/Accidental Coverage***	1 Yr. Limited
Additional Recommended Peripherals			
Webcam	30FPS/1.3MP w/Microphone****	30FPS/1.3MP w/Microphone (Integrated)****	30FPS/1.3MP w/Microphone (Integrated)****

* Netbooks are "mini-laptops" often used by travelers with limited space. They are suitable for web browsing and email, but are not equipped to run all standard computer applications.

** If you use Noliq or Tableau, 24" widescreen is recommended.

*** If you are considering more than a 3 year warranty, a 5 year warranty is often a better value than a 4 year warranty.

**** Most webcams come with a microphone. Headset with microphone recommended for some applications.

MACINTOSH STANDARDS		
	Desktop	Laptop
Processor/CPU	Intel Core 2 Duo 3.0GHz (3M L2 Cache)	Intel Core 2 Duo 2.6GHz (3M L2 Cache)
RAM	4GB (2 DIMMs)	4GB (2 DIMMs)
Drives (CD/DVD)	Super Drive*	Super Drive*
Video Card	256MB RAM (Dual DVI support)	128MB RAM
Display	21.5" LCD Display**	13" LCD Display
Hard Drive	250GB (SATA/7200RPM)	250GB (SATA/7200RPM)
Operating System	Mac OS X	Mac OS X
Network Adapter	10/100/1000Mbps	10/100/1000Mbps
Wireless	N/A	802.11 g/n
Warranty	3 Yr. (Minimum) w/Apple Care Protection Plan	3 Yr. (Minimum) w/Apple Care Protection Plan
Additional Recommended Peripherals		
Webcam	30FPS/1.3MP w/Microphone***	30FPS/1.3MP w/Microphone***

*Super Drive refers to DVD +/- RW.

**iMac displays start at 21.5". Other Mac displays start at 27", but smaller displays may be purchased from other vendors.

***Webcams and microphones are built into every new Apple laptop as well as iMacs. Headset with microphone recommended for some applications.

Personal Purchases: Most computer manufacturers offer educational discounts on their websites. Shop around for the best price and warranty before purchasing.

Student Purchases: These recommendations are based upon typical computing use. Students interested in purchasing a computer should consult with their faculty, department technology support staff, and Residence Hall Coordinator for assistance choosing computer configuration options and peripherals.

Microsoft Office: Microsoft Office can be purchased at a student discount from the UWF Bookstore and other websites. Microsoft Office is also available for free online use through UWF's eDesktop Virtual Computer Lab.

Personal Anti-Virus Software: It is the responsibility of each student to keep their computer free of viruses and spyware. To help, UWF provides free McAfee anti-virus software. Most new computers come with a trial copy of anti-virus software, but when it expires the computer becomes vulnerable. It is important to use a non-trial version such as the software available from UWF. Download McAfee for your personal computer from MyUWF (my.uwf.edu) – search for "Software." In addition, all computers should be regularly scanned for spyware with a legitimate anti-spyware program such as Malwarebytes' Anti-Malware (www.malwarebytes.org). More information on protecting your PC is available at <http://uwf.edu/helpdesk/computersecurity/>.

Departmental Purchases: Departmental purchases must follow the procedure listed on the [UWF "Buy a Computer" website](#). ITS will review all departmental purchases to ensure that they meet the standards outlined here.

Computer Labs: Purchases for student computer labs should also adhere to these specifications; however, ITS should be consulted to assist with determining exact specifications prior to making computer lab purchases. ITS will ensure that lab computers are compatible with anticipated lab activities, ArgoNet infrastructure, and software requirements.