Computer Requirements for Students

Minimum Recommended Configurations for Windows and Macintosh Computers

Operating System (OS): Windows 10   or   Apple: macOS X 10.12 or higher

Storage: at least 256Gb

RAM: 4GB

Recommended Configuration for New Purchases

Operating System (OS): Windows 10 or Apple macOS 10.13

Storage: a Solid State Drive (SSD) with at least 256Gb

RAM: 8GB

Additional Considerations

Antivirus Software: The use of a well-known, highly regarded, anti-virus/anti-malware product is strongly recommended for MacOS and Windows. Windows 10 does have Windows Defender pre-installed.

Backup: Highly recommend backing up to an external hard drive/flash drive and/or cloud-based storage.

Dongles and Adapters: An HDMI adapter, depending on the laptop, may be necessary in order to give presentations or connect to external monitors and classroom projectors.

Network: Wireless network card (802.11 n/ac) to connect to Finger Lakes Health's Visitor Network.

Internet Browsers: Both MacOS (Safari) and Windows (Edge) have built-in browsers. For the most compatible browsing experience on both platforms, we recommend the latest version of Google Chrome**.**

Office Suite: MS Office compatible productivity suite that edits and view XML formatted documents (.docx, .xlsx, .pptx). Examples of compatible productivity suites are MS Office 365, OpenOffice, LibreOffice and Google Docs (cloud based).

Operating System: Student computers must be able to run a full version of macOS or Microsoft Windows in order to meet the variety of software needs they will encounter. **Note:** Other operating systems such as Chrome OS or mobile/tablet platforms might be insufficient to adequately run needed software or incompatible with online applications.

Updates/Configuration Changes: It is recommended to apply all updates, security patches and hot fixes in a timely manner to ensure the computer is protected from vulnerabilities.

At the same time, we recommend caution - when applying upgrades to the Operating System (also known as the OS) or make significant changes to the device during the Semester. Upgrades to the OS are updates that would change the version of the OS (ie Windows 1809 to 1903 or MacOS 10.12 to MacOS 10.13).