

Computer Requirements for Nursing Students

**Provided by SON University Technology
Case Western Reserve University School of Nursing**

For students attending the School of Nursing, in Academic Year 2019 – 2020, the following laptop computer policy will apply.

The School of Nursing requires that all students have a laptop computer for school use and the School of Nursing will determine the minimum specifications required. Only laptops with Core i-series 5th generation or newer processors and Microsoft Windows version 10 or Apple Macintosh OS 10.12 (Sierra or newer. MacOS 10.14.x (Mojave) is preferred.

School Orientation starts at various times for each program. Instructions will be sent to students in late July on how their laptops should be configured for school use before attending orientation. Students having difficulty configuring their laptops may receive help at the Tech Bar in the Health Education Campus.

For questions, please contact Caron Peoples, IT Director, University Technology, via email: fbhelpdesk@case.edu.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the minimum recommended specifications for a laptop?

A: While you are a student here at CWRU, you will have a good amount of reading, working, and participating to manage. We strongly recommend that you purchase a computer that will perform adequately as a tool for your entire program of education. Worrying about upgrading things or replacing things and moving data and installing applications is a major investment of time that could be better spent on your studies. With that in mind, the following minimum specifications will help you to acquire a laptop that will meet or exceed your needs. If you have other computing needs outside of pursuing your education, it is our recommendation that you use a separate computer for that work. You will not want to risk being without your school computer on the days that you need to take an exam.

Hardware	Comment
4th Gen core i5 or i7 processor	These processors were released in the spring of 2013, and are now 4 years old. At the end of your time at medical school, these processors will be 8 or 9 years old.
• 8GB RAM or more	Radiology imaging software currently requires a minimum of 6GB RAM to perform and will not run reliably on less RAM. While using the radiology program a student will likely have a note-taking application, a calculator app, and perhaps a few other productivity tools running as well. 8GB is the minimum that a student should consider.
• 1TB standard drive or 256 GB HD or larger (SSD strongly recommended)	Windows and Mac OS use approximately 40GB of storage and we've found that students accumulate 50-100GB of materials associated with their curriculum. Computer performance is optimal when the primary hard drive volume in the system is a minimum of 30% free space. Solid State Drives (SSD) are an amazing performance boost, far more of a return on investment than any other upgrade currently available.
• Screen resolution 1024 x 768 or better	While few screens have smaller resolutions than this, at least one application has this minimum specification.
• Wireless 802.11ac or better	AC wireless will afford you the greatest likelihood of always being able to connect to wireless internet service on campus. We've recently had the wireless upgraded in-house and continue to take advantage of new technologies where available.
• Gigabit Ethernet built-in or with adapter	Required for exams
• Screen 13" or larger	A smaller screen will make taking exams a challenge as you will have to scroll up and down a lot more.
• 4 hour or better battery life (buy a new one, if you can't meet this requirement)	You will spend long stretches of time in which you are expected to be able to use your computer and without access to AC power. If your battery cannot sustain 4 hours of regular use, it will have a detrimental affect on your ability to participate.
• Windows 10 (not home edition) or newer	<p>Earlier versions of Windows will reach End Of Service Life before you finish your program at CWRU.</p> <p>Recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dell Inspiron 5000 or 7000 series with full 4-year Premium Support Plus Warranty • Dell XPS 15 with full 4-year Premium Support Plus Warranty

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dell G3 with 256GB SSD and 1TB SATA Drive with full 4-year Premium Support Plus Warranty
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MacOS 10.12 or newer 	<p>Earlier versions of Mac OS will reach End Of Service Life before you finish your program at CWRU. Recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apple MacBook Pro with 256GB SSD with AppleCare

Q: Besides a laptop, what other items are recommended?

A: Backpack carrying case
 Built-in Ethernet port or Ethernet adapter
 1TB External hard drive
 Wireless optical mouse
 Security cable (except for Retina Display Macs)
 Accidental Damage insurance/warranty

Q: What are the differences between Windows and AppleOS laptops concerning my work at school and studies?

A: There are a number of differences, which are mostly inconveniences. Some lectures that were recorded and made available via the LMS (Canvas) may not be compatible with Macs.

Q: Can I buy a laptop through Case?

A: If you want to purchase a Dell or Apple laptop through the university, you may do so here:

<http://www.case.edu/its/estore/>

Q: I would like more information.

<https://case.edu/utech/new-to-cwru/equipment-and-software>