

Computer Hardware and Software Requirements

Introduction

These recommendations cover computer hardware and software that you will need to participate in courses and view course materials. It also describes the minimum technical skills that you need to participate successfully in your nursing courses.

The recommended systems, devices, and software are intended to meet your needs throughout your time in the program. If you have any questions about the recommendations in this document or if you need technical support, please contact con-s-help@osu.edu. If you are on campus, you can also visit us in 260 Newton Hall.

Computer Recommendations

The College of Nursing uses both Windows and Apple computers. Chromebooks are not recommended because they can't support some of the software you may need to use during your time here. Otherwise, students may use whichever system they are more comfortable with.

	Windows Recommended	Windows Minimum	Mac Recommended	Mac Minimum
Operating System	Windows 10 or 11	Windows 10	MacOS 10.15 or later	MacOS 10.14
Processor	Intel i5/AMD Ryzen 5 or higher	Intel i3/AMD Ryzen 3	M1 or newer (newer systems)	Intel processor (older systems)
Memory	8GB or more	4 GB	8 GB or more	4 GB
Available Storage	256 GB or higher solid state drive (SSD)	128 GB SSD	256 GB or higher solid state drive (SSD)	128 GB SSD
Connection Speed	25 Mbps or faster	6 Mbps	25 Mbps or faster	6 Mbps

Software Requirements

Students should prepare their computer in advance to handle a variety of media and document formats. The required software follows, if students have any questions about meeting these guidelines, they should contact con-s-help@osu.edu for support.

Software Name	Windows Recommendation	Mac Recommendation
Office Suite*	Microsoft Office 365*	Microsoft Office 365*

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Web Browser	Current Microsoft Edge, Chrome, or Firefox	Current Safari, Chrome, or Firefox
Media Players	VLC Media Player	QuickTime VLC Media Player
Virus Scan	Microsoft Security Essentials or Windows Defender	AVG or Avast (both offer free versions for Mac users)
Adobe PDF Reader	Current Version (https://get.adobe.com/reader/)	Preview (Part of MacOS) or Current Version (https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
Zoom Client for Meetings	Current Version (https://zoom.us/download)	Current Version (https://zoom.us/download)

*Microsoft Office 365 is free for students. See <http://go.osu.edu/office> for more information.

Minimum Technical Skills (for success in the program)

Recommended technology skills include the following Internet and computer competencies:

- Ability to use a web browser—such as Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox
- Knowledge of search engines and how to search efficiently
- Ability to download and view files in Adobe PDF format
- Competence with using e-mail and protecting against viruses
- Competence with Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- Competence with Ohio State's [CarmenCanvas](#) and [CarmenZoom](#) platforms. If you need basic instruction and troubleshooting assistance, please refer to the [Teaching and Learning Resource Center](#)