Nursing Student Computing Requirements

The School of Nursing requires all students, except for those enrolled in fully online programs, to have a laptop and use it for specific educational purposes during their program.

Minimum Windows Laptop Specifications

- Intel Core i5 processor 2GHz or better.
- 8 GB RAM minimum. 12 GB recommended.
- 250 GB hard drive minimum. A solid-state drive (SSD) is preferred.
- A wireless network adapter that supports 802.11n or higher.
- Screen resolution of 1280x768 or higher.

Required Software

- Before you arrive on campus, you must update your virus protection software and operating system to its latest service pack using Windows Update.
- PCs must have Microsoft Windows 10 (Update 22H2 or later) Home or better. Windows 10 Professional is recommended. Windows 11 (Update 22H2 or later) is also acceptable.
  - Important: Windows S edition cannot be used.
  - CPU Processor: Non-ARM processor supported by your operating system.
- A reputable virus protection software (e.g., Windows Defender).
- Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome web browsers.
- Current version of Microsoft Office 365. Microsoft Office can be downloaded as part of your Office 365 license.
- As a part of your education, you will be required to install various applications to participate in certain required and elective courses. Examples are Java for Blackboard and Adobe Reader to access PDFs, and Examplify for examinations.

Web Camera and Microphone

- A compatible web camera and microphone are required. If the laptop has a built-in webcam, a separate one is not required.
- A headset or headphones with a microphone is recommended.

Recommended Warranty Coverage

It is highly recommended you obtain a warranty that will cover your laptop while in your program at the School of Nursing. If an accidental damage warranty is available, it is recommended to add that as well.

What if I Want to Use a Mac?

The minimum Mac laptop requirements are:
- 8 GB RAM minimum. 12 GB recommended.
- 250 GB hard drive minimum. A solid-state drive (SSD) is preferred.
- A wireless network adapter that supports 802.11n or higher.
Required Mac software:

- macOS 11 (Big Sur) or Later – Intel, M1 or M2 - **earlier versions are NOT compatible.**
- Current version of Microsoft Office 365 for Mac. Microsoft Office can be downloaded as part of your Office 365 license.

Software used in certain classes may require you to be able to run Windows. Apple’s official recommendation is to run additional software called **Parallels**, as well as a separate ARM based copy of Windows 11 Pro (purchased separately).

**What if I want to use a tablet?**
The only compatible tablet is the Microsoft Surface Pro (or similar Windows tablet), with full Windows 10 or 11 operating system installed on it.

- Any tablets running Windows RT or S edition, Android tablets, and iPads (all models) with iOS are NOT compatible.
- Chromebooks are NOT compatible.