

STUDENT COMPUTER RECOMMENDATIONS

2022-2023

Pittsburg State
UNIVERSITY



2022-2023 RECOMMENDATIONS

1 Before purchasing a computer, check the college/department computer requirements for your field of study. You can find contact information to Academic Departments in our [University Directory](#).

Engineering Tech Majors: The Dept of Engineering Technology has created a recommendation page for all [ETECH Majors](#).

If you are looking for a midline machine and don't need a specific machine tightly connected to your major, please see the following recommendations.



Save on your computer purchase by ordering through [PSU's Pitt Start Page!](#)

**Questions?
Contact the Gorilla Geeks
620.235.4600 or
geeks@pittstate.edu or
109 Whitesitt Hall**

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Decide on your Operating System (OS). The most commonly used OS's at PSU are Windows and Macintosh.

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Our Recommendations on the details:

Operating system:

Windows 10 or 11 (Professional, Education, Enterprise, or Home)
OR the Latest Mac Operating System.

Processor:

Laptop: Intel Core i5 / Ryzen 5 or better.

Desktop: Intel Core i5 / Ryzen 5 or better.

Monitor and video card:

Laptop: LCD 1280x800 resolution or higher.

Desktop: 1080p/FHD or better.

If doing a lot of 3D rendering or other graphic processing-intensive tasks, Preferred to have dedicated graphics card for either laptop or desktop.

Storage: 250 gigabytes or more solid-state drive. *1TB of cloud storage is included with your FREE Microsoft Office 365 account (more info below).

Memory: (RAM) 8 gigabytes or more for typical use. 16 gigabytes or more for AutoCAD, Adobe Creative Suite applications, and other graphic and video-intensive applications.

Multimedia: Speakers, microphone, and webcam. (These are generally included with new laptops.)

****Microsoft Office/Office 365:*** There is no need to purchase this. As a student, you will receive FREE local installs of Office and a login to Office 365. Learn more at our Office 365 page.



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More Key Recommendations:

Netbooks and tablet computing devices (like Chromebooks, iPads, etc.) do not have the computing power of a normal laptop or desktop computer. For this reason, these tools are not recommended for use as a primary computer at Pittsburg State.

Anti Virus Software: 3rd party antivirus can be installed on your computer, BUT if you have a Windows computer, ensure that it is up to date and that Windows Defender is enabled.

Browsers: Web applications occasionally do not work well with all browsers. Individuals are encouraged to install an alternative browser such as Google Chrome, in addition to the default browsers provided with the operating system.

Backup: Use a backup program like Windows Backup or Mac OS Time Machine, with an external hard drive, to ensure file recovery in the event of a system malfunction. *The utilization of One Drive (with your FREE MS Office 365 account) is encouraged.



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RECOMMENDATIONS

More Key Recommendations (continued):

Warranty: Add an extended warranty to cover the length of your academic use of the computer. Check with your homeowner's or renter's insurance to see if your computer is covered for damages or theft and get additional coverage if needed.

Security: Consider adding security hardware, such as a security cable or software.

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Key Purchasing Tips:

Get Your Media: When purchasing a computer, make sure it includes copies of all media disks or download links (operating system, drivers, and applications) and bring copies of these disks/links with you.

Double-check price quotes as sometimes prices don't include a keyboard, mouse, monitor, or the recommended operating system.

Printers are usually sold separately. Inkjet and laser printers provide high-quality printing. Before you buy, compare prices, features, and cartridge replacement costs. Wireless printers are not permitted in the dorms. Dorm print stations are provided. Learn more about Student Housing technology in the PSU [Housing Move-In Guides!](#)

Cables: Ensure you have everything needed to connect and use your systems, including power cables and USB cables.

Cost: The estimated cost for a midline machine, with the basics, ranges from \$1,000 - \$1,500. Again, check out [PSU student discounts!](#)

