College of Veterinary Medicine Student New Computer Requirements

The College of Veterinary Medicine requires professional students to own a notebook computer—either a tablet PC or a traditional laptop. Required MINIMUM system configuration for NEW purchases:

- Windows 7 or 10 Professional / Mac OS X 10.11 El Capitan
- Intel Core i5 processor (2.5 GHz) equivalent or higher
- Memory (RAM): 4GB for 32-bit OS and 8GB 64-bit OS
- High Definition (HD) Graphics card
- 320 GB hard drive (Solid State hard drive recommended but not required)
- WPA2-capable wireless connectivity (external link) and a/b/g/n wireless card 5GHz preferred
- 3 year complete coverage or accidental care warranty
- 500 GB external backup hard drive or sufficient cloud based storage

Note: Please be aware that machines with 4K displays (Lenovo Yoga, Microsoft Surface Pro, etc.), while compatible with college applications, will require additional software and setup to function within the college environment.

New computers and accessories can be purchased online at a variety of retailers; below are a few suggested:


Computing Services also recommends a 3-year complete/accidental care warranty with on-site repair. The complete care warranty is an extensive service contract that both extends the initial manufacturer warranty and provides protection for accidental damage such as drops and spills. Many complete care warranties also offer the option of at-home service or replacement so that you will not need to send your computer off for repairs.

Finally, the purchase of an external hard drive or comparable cloud based storage to back up class and personal is highly recommended. Should your computer experience hardware problems or data loss, regular backups kept on an external drive or cloud will allow you to quickly retrieve your data once your computer is repaired.

Please contact the Computing Services Help Desk with any questions at: net@vetmed.illinois.edu.

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