



## College of Engineering and Science Laptop Requirements 2017-2018

A laptop is REQUIRED for all students in the College of Engineering and Science. Recommended computer specifications are listed below.

### **Minimum Computer Configurations**

Windows 8.1 or 10

Intel or AMD with SSE2 support (examples: Intel Core, Core 2, i5, i7; AMD K8 & Phenom CPUs)

64-bit operating system required

8 GB of RAM

Wireless networking capability

256 GB hard drive or more

12 inch or larger monitor recommended

**Netbooks are not recommended**

### **NOTES:**

1. Please remember that your laptop will often go wherever you go, so think twice before purchasing a heavy laptop. Also, it may be worth the investment to purchase a battery that provides extended life (if ordering a new laptop); this will prevent you from having to carry around the power supply.
2. If you will be purchasing a new laptop, models starting around \$500 are acceptable; purchasing a \$1,500 laptop will generally not help you be more successful in engineering.
3. If you come to Louisiana Tech with an Apple, please note that your machine **MUST** boot into Microsoft Windows. Much of the required software is Windows based. If you do have an Apple, please be aware that technical support will be limited from your instructor and the COES First-Year Engineering HelpDesk.
4. If you plan to use an older laptop, we recommend that you arrive at Louisiana Tech with a fresh installation of Windows 8.1 or 10. A computer service center in your town or a computer savvy friend should be able to help you with this installation if you have difficulty. Student discounts on Microsoft software are available (<https://products.office.com/en-us/student/office-in-education>).
5. We recommend that you use your computer primarily for academic purposes. If you choose to load a variety of games, movies, and other media files, you should expect diminished computer performance when using Mathcad and SolidWorks.
6. The installation of antivirus/antimalware software is strongly encouraged before students arrive. We also strongly recommend that students avoid the installation and use of torrent based file-sharing programs such as LimeWire, not only to avoid issues with copyright violations while using the campus network, but also to avoid inevitable problems with corrupted files, computer slowdowns, virus activity, etc.

### **Printer**

Multifunction printer and scanner (laser or inkjet) recommended

### **Software**

Word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation programs equivalent to MS Office 365, specifically MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint are required. We recommend that you install these programs before coming to Louisiana Tech.