



DONALD AND BARBARA
ZUCKER SCHOOL of MEDICINE
AT HOFSTRA/NORTHWELL

Policy on Student Laptops

The Zucker School of Medicine is a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) school; therefore, every student must bring their own laptop computer to the program. Student laptops are required for examinations and must be in good working order. There are a limited number of backup laptops that are available for major computer malfunctions during examinations and the usage of these laptops is not guaranteed. A student who reports to an examination without a laptop may not be able to take the examination. If a student reports to an examination without a functioning laptop more than once, the student will be directed to the Office of Student Affairs for additional support. The Offices of Student Affairs and Student Finance, will work with the student to determine temporary and long-term solutions. Students with barriers to purchasing a laptop will not be penalized.

A student may choose his/her own laptop, as long as it meets the following minimum requirements: [Download Requirements](#).

Educational discounts are available for medical students through Hofstra University and are listed on the [myHofstra portal](#).

Feature	Minimum Requirements	Preferred	Reasoning
General	MacBook/MacBook Pro/MacBook Air (Mid 2015 or later) Windows PC Laptop (no older than 5 years old)		Surface Pro tablets, or any tablets with detachable keyboards, Chromebooks, Android/Linux laptops, are not supported. If you choose to use one of these other devices, please be sure you have a compliant device available when needed. Loaner systems are not available for this purpose.
Operating System	Windows 10 Professional, Home, Enterprise or Education (32-bit and 64-bit	Windows 10 Professional, Home, Enterprise or Education (32-bit and 64-bit Versions)	Unsupported operating systems no longer receive updates and are therefore more vulnerable to malware/viruses and cyber-attacks.

	<p>Versions)</p> <p>Mac OS X 10.13 (High Sierra) or later</p>	Mac OS X 10.15 (Catalina)	Window 8 or older and macOS 10.12 (Sierra) or older will not be supported. Updates for curricular software applications will be available for the supported operating system versions on your device.
Screen Size	13" or larger		The National Board of Medical Examiners requires a minimum of 13" monitor for online NBME exams. Screen Resolution should be at least 1024x768 or higher.
Processor	Intel i5 2.0 GHz or equivalent	Intel i7 2.0 GHz or equivalent	Advanced operating systems and associated applications require advanced processors to be used effectively
Memory	8 GB RAM or higher (upgradable to 16 GB)	16 GB RAM or higher	Memory demands will require at least 8 GB. However, for better future performance a higher memory capacity will need to be available.
Hard Drive	250 GB or more	500 GB or more	Almost all curricular materials are online. Some courses use multimedia content or high resolution images, which greatly increase storage needs. NOTE: SSD storage provides the best performance but has a higher cost per gigabyte (GB) than traditional hard drive storage. All current Mac computers come with SSD storage.
Browser	<p>Internet Explorer 9.0 or higher; Chrome 61 or higher; Firefox 54 or higher</p> <p>Safari 8 or higher</p>		The browser versions are required to meet the minimum requirements of our web-based test systems and information portals.
Screen Sharing	VGA ready or VGA adapter or HDMI (some models may require a VGA or HDMI adapter)		Synchronous online meeting technology with screen sharing capability may be used by instructors. All classrooms are equipped with VGA and HDMI connections.
Wireless Capability	802.11ac Wi-Fi/wireless (802.11a/b/g/n compatible)		The entire building and campus is wireless. Hard-wired internet ports are not available in classrooms or educational theatres.
Warranty	3-year parts and labor or Apple Care		Your laptop will be heavily used; invest in a good warranty program. Consider adding accident protection.

External Storage	Cloud or personal USB external hard drive	Backing up data that is stored locally on your laptop is extremely important. Products such as iCloud, DropBox, and OneDrive are examples of backup solutions that are easy to use.
USB Ports	At least one working USB port. Newer Macbook devices will require purchasing a USB-C to USB adapter.	In order to troubleshoot software related issues, you must have at least one working USB port available to transfer files.
Audio	Integrated microphone/speakers	Most laptops come with an integrated microphone and this is highly recommended with web-conferencing software for virtual meetings.
Video	Integrated web camera or external web camera	The availability of a video camera is required for web-based video conferencing meetings/webinars for class learning session or other related meetings.

References to Regulations and/or Other Policies:

N/A

Last Updated: March 2021