



DONALD AND BARBARA
ZUCKER SCHOOL of MEDICINE
AT HOFSTRA/NORTHWELL

Student Laptop Requirements AY 23-24

Feature	Minimum Requirements	Preferred	Reasoning
General	MacBook/MacBook Pro/MacBook Air (Mid 2020 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 for exam use. If you choose to use one of these devices for studying purposes, please be sure you have a compliant device available when needed. Loaner systems are not available for this purpose.
Operating System	Windows 10 or 11 Professional, Home, Enterprise or Education (32-bit and 64-bit Versions) Mac OS 11 (Big Sur) or later	Windows 10 or 11 Professional, Home, Enterprise or Education (32-bit and 64-bit Versions) macOS Monterey (12.0) or newer	Unsupported operating systems no longer receive updates and are therefore more vulnerable to malware/viruses and cyber-attacks. The current versions of Windows certified must be updated Windows 10 22H2, Windows 11 21H2, or Windows 11 22H2. Window 8 or older and macOS 10.13 (High 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 (or better) (Window)	Intel i7 2.0GHz or higher	Advanced operating systems and associated applications require advanced processors to be used effectively

	Intel i5 or M1 processor (or better) (Mac)	~OR~ 3.2.Ghz 8-core Apple M1 chip	
Memory	8 GB RAM or higher (upgradable to 16 GB)	16 GB RAM or higher	Memory demands will require at least 16 GB. However, for better future performance a higher memory capacity will need to be available.
Hard Drive	512 GB SSD or more	1TB SSD 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	Microsoft Edge (latest version); Chrome 61 or higher; Firefox 54 or higher Safari 12 or higher		The browser versions are required to meet the minimum requirements of our web-based test systems and information portals.
Screen Sharing	Consider models with built-in HDMI ports.		All classroom and meeting spaces within the building will support HDMI connections to enable screen-sharing from personal laptops..
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. Student have access to online file storage systems via Google Drive and OneDrive.
USB Ports	At least one working USB-A port or USB-C port adapter for UBS-A. Newer MacBook devices will require purchase of a USB-C to USB adapter.		Recommended in order to troubleshoot software related issues and to transfer files when needed.

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.

Last Updated: March 2023