Student Laptop Requirements AY 24-25

Feature	Minimum Requirements	Preferred	Reasoning
General	Windows PC Laptop (no older than 4 years old) MacBook/MacBook Pro/MacBook Air		Tablets with detachable keyboards, Chromebooks, Android/Linux laptops, are not supported for exam use. Please be sure you have a compliant device for exam use when needed.
Operating System	Windows 11 Professional, Home, Enterprise, or Education (64-bit Version only) macOS Monterey (12.0) or later	Windows 11 Professional, Home, Enterprise, or Education (64-bit Version only) macOS Sonoma (14.0) or later	Only genuine versions of Mac and Windows (64-bit) operating systems are supported. Window 8 (or older) and macOS 11 (Big Sur) or older is no longer supported by select software developers. Support for Windows 10 will end in October 2025. Updates for curricular software applications will be available for the supported operating system versions only. Use of virtual desktop environments for exams is not permitted.
Screen Size	13" or larger		The National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) requires a minimum of 13" monitor for online NBME exams. Screen Resolution should be at least 1024x768 or higher.
Processor	Intel Core i5 processor or AMD Ryzen 5 (or better) (Window)	Intel i7 Core or AMD Ryzen 7 or better	

	Intel i5 or M1 processor (or better) (Mac)	Apple M1 or M2 chip (or better)	
Memory	8 GB RAM or higher (upgradable to 16 GB)	16 GB RAM or higher	
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.
Browser	Latest versions of Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome; Firefox Safari 17 or higher		Updated browser versions are required to meet the minimum requirements of web-based test systems.
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 are wireless. Hard-wired internet ports are not available in classrooms or educational theatres.
Warranty	3-year parts and labor or Apple Care		Extended coverage ensures extended warranty, timely support, and protection against unexpected repair costs.
External Storage	Cloud or personal USB external hard drive		Safeguarding locally stored laptop data is crucial. Easy-to-use backup solutions like iCloud, Dropbox, and OneDrive, plus student access to Google Drive and OneDrive, enhance data backup methods.
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 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.

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