Student Guide to Purchasing a Computer, Fall 2019

We strongly recommend that you bring your own laptop to help ensure your success as a Wellesley student. Most courses will require daily online access to course resources in Sakai, Google, and other online systems.

Recommended Specifications:

- Windows 10 64-bit, or MacOS Mojave (macOS 10.14).
- 8 GB or more of RAM.
- Intel Core i5 or i7 processor.
- 500GB or larger hard drive, or 256GB or larger SSD.
- Wireless (WiFi), 802.11n and/or 802.11ac, dual band (2.4GHz & 5Ghz) preferred.
- A complete backup solution for your entire computer:
  - An external hard drive for a complete backup of your computer that is at least twice the size of your computer’s internal drive, to be used with programs such as Time Machine on MacOS.
  - Or a subscription to an online cloud backup service, such as Carbonite or Backblaze.
  - *Your free, unlimited Wellesley College Google Drive account can be used to store important files such as documents, photos, and videos, but it is not a replacement for a complete backup solution.*
- Four year warranty that covers both manufacturer and accidental damage.
- Microsoft Office 365 University -- a free annual subscription through the MyWellesley Software Store.

What to bring with your computer:

- All documentation and software license information for your computer.
- Case or sleeve to protect your laptop.
- Surge protector.

What NOT to bring:

- Internet of Things (IoT) devices, such as video & audio streaming boxes and remote-controlled lights, typically do not work on our campus WiFi network.
- Wireless printers and routers will not work with our WiFi network.
  - 24/7 printing is available in the Stone-Davis, Tower, Bates, and Shafer Residence Halls, and printers are also available in the libraries. You can print from computers or mobile devices.
  - If you want to bring a personal printer, you should connect it to your computer with a USB cable.

Get connected with more campus technology resources

- Visit the Entering Students website on campus technology for tips on getting connected on campus.
- Visit our Computer Purchases website for discounts on software, computers, and accessories.
- The Wellesley College Bookstore sells computer accessories.

Where can I ask questions about campus technology?

- E-mail your questions to helpdesk@wellesley.edu
- Call the Computing Help Desk at (781) 283-7777, Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm.
- For more information, search the Wellesley website for “technology orientation”