

## Student Laptop Policy at the Department of Mechanical Engineering

### Laptop System Requirements for Undergraduate Programs

Students taking courses from Mechanical Engineering (ME) are expected to have a laptop at their disposal. Certain courses may require that a laptop be brought to class or lab sessions.

### Operating System Requirement

Undergraduate students will be required to install specific software packages on their laptops. Some of the software packages used in our program are **only** available on the Microsoft Windows Platform. Due to this need, all students are required to have a laptop with a **Windows** operating system. Required software for courses are **not** fully compatible with macOS devices.

### PC Minimum Requirements

To accommodate software used in teaching Mechanical Engineering courses, a minimum level of hardware capacity is expected to be available in students' laptops. Consequently, students are advised that a new laptop may be required if their current system is more than three-years old, or if it fails to meet certain minimum specifications. Table 1 summarizes ME recommended minimum specifications for students purchasing a new computer for the upcoming academic year. If your current computer does not meet these minimum requirements, you may find that your system will need to be upgraded or replaced within three years and/or may not provide acceptable performance for some or all ME courses. ME does not recommend purchasing a new laptop with specifications less than those shown below.

*Table 1: Recommended hardware specifications for ME students' laptop*

Computer Spec	Minimum	Recommended
<b>OS</b>	Windows 10 64-Bit	Windows 10 64-Bit
<b>Processor</b>	Intel Core i5 (8 <sup>th</sup> gen or higher)	Intel Core i7 (8700 or higher)
<b>Memory (RAM)</b>	16 GB	32 GB
<b>Hard Drive</b>	500 GB with 100 GB free for courseware	500GB Solid State Drive (SSD)
<b>Graphics</b>	Integrated graphics card	Dedicated graphics card for engineering/science applications
<b>Port</b>	Minimum of: 1 USB Port, 1 HDMI port	
<b>Wireless</b>	802.11 ac, Bluetooth 4.1	
<b>Other</b>	Built-in HD webcam with microphone	
<b>Warranty</b>	An extended warranty with accidental damage coverage is highly recommended	An extended warranty with accidental coverage is highly recommended
<b>Backup</b>	USB external hard drive, Microsoft One Drive	USB external hard drive, Microsoft One Drive

## Required Software

All computers must have an active antivirus subscription before being connected to the campus network. Systems running Windows 8 and above have the built-in Microsoft Defender installed. In addition, many other software packages are available at steep discounts and further information is available at IT Purchases (<https://www.uttyler.edu/it/it-purchases.php>).

Package	Availability
Microsoft Office	Free to students ( <a href="https://www.uttyler.edu/it/office365/365-students.php">https://www.uttyler.edu/it/office365/365-students.php</a> )
Anti-Virus	Free
MATLAB	Free students' install option – Request link from instructor
NI Labview	Free students' install option – Request link from instructor
Ansys	Free students' install option – Request link from instructor
Autodesk Inventor	Free students' install option – Request link from instructor
Arduino IDE	Free students' install option – Request link from instructor
Solid works	Special price students' option – Request link from instructor

## Financial Aid

Students receiving aid and that are loan eligible may contact the Financial Aid Office <https://www.uttyler.edu/financialaid/> to check if their aid can be adjusted to include the cost of their laptop.

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