

Barton College Hardware Specifications

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Minimum laptop Specifications

The following laptop configuration was developed by Barton College Technology Support Services (BCTSS). These are **recommended minimum** configurations. Certain academic programs may require a different configuration, so please check with your specific program for any additional requirements. Students may also want to consider a 1TB or larger USB external hard drive for backing up their computer system.

Important Notes:

- Nursing students are required to follow the PC purchase track. Macbooks are not allowed for the Nursing Program.
- Mobile phones, Tablets (iPad, Galaxy, Android, etc.) and netbooks (Chromebook), do not meet the specified requirements as listed below.

Minimum Recommended Laptop Specifications for PC

- Intel® Core™ i5 Processor or higher
- 8GB DDR3 SDRAM or higher
- Dedicated video card with minimum 1GB of video memory
- HDMI port for external monitor/projector
- HDMI cable
- 500GB+ (5400 rpm) hard drive
- DVD±RW (internal or external)
- 10/100/1000 Network interface
- Wireless 802.11g/n (minimum)
- Wireless 802.11 ac dual band
- USB 2.0 ports/3.0 ports
- OS: Windows 7 or 10, 64-bit

Minimum Recommended Laptop Specification for Mac OS

- 8GB RAM or higher
- OS: Yosemite (10.10) or higher
- 500GB+ (5400 rpm) hard drive
- HDMI port for external monitor/projector or adapter
 - Mini DisplayPort to HDMI adapter
- HDMI cable
- DVD±RW (internal or external)
- 10/100/1000 Network interface
- Wireless 802.11g/n (minimum)
- Wireless 802.11 ac dual band
- USB ports – at least 2 available

Additional Considerations

- Due to the nature of how laptops are used, an extended warranty may be an option to consider
 - Minimum 1 year parts and labor
 - Recommended 3 year parts and labor may be purchased at an additional cost
- BCTSS does not *officially* support Mac OS X. If a student chooses to purchase an Apple laptop, it should meet the similar specifications listed above. A VirtualBox **is required** on a Macbook to support mandatory software that would typically run from a Window's platform. See the documentation on [Installing Windows 7 VirtualBox on a Mac](#).
- There are no fixed requirements for display size. Larger screen implies larger visible image and greater laptop size and greater weight.

Software

- Microsoft Office 365 is provided free of charge for Barton students via Barton College's Microsoft Campus Agreement (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Etc.)
- Google Apps for Education - Free for Barton Students
 - Cloud-Based storage environment
 - Unlimited email and document storage.
- Virus Protection Software **MUST** be installed and up-to-date for every laptop that connects to our wireless network
 - AVG, AVAST, Microsoft Security Essentials - free downloads
- Acrobat Reader - free download

Residence Hall Router Specifications

Each residence hall room with the exception of Hackney Hall has two network ports (Hackney has one per room). Barton College allows students to install a personal router for wifi connectivity.

Router specifications are as follows:

- Follow the router setup procedures provided by BCTSS
 - See procedures for [Configuring a Wireless Router](#)
- Linksys or Cisco devices are preferred
 - There are compatibility issues with off brand devices
 - Belkin Routers are incompatible with our network equipment
 - If a Belkin is purchased, BCTSS will not support installation
- The router should not disrupt the campus network
- The router should be secured with a strong password

Best Practices for wireless routers in residence hall rooms are as follows:

- Do not give password information out to anyone.
 - The more traffic utilizing a router, the slower the connection speed
- Router naming convention should be in accordance with room assignment
 - E.g. Hackney302, ECS214, Waters502
 - Routers outside the typical naming convention will be monitored and the network port will be shutdown if naming is out of convention. BCTSS must be contacted to have the port re-enabled.