

Technology Requirements, Recommendations and Support

Updated 07_2021

Students entering the ABSN, BSN, RN-BSN and MA programs (effective August 2020) will be required to possess a Windows or Mac based laptop that complies with the technical **requirements** identified below. (For all other students, the items bulleted below are not required but will best support success in coursework at TCCNHS.) Laptops unable to meet hardware and software requirements are not acceptable for use. Public computers, Chromebooks, tablets, virtual machines and smartphones will not suffice as a primary device.

Hardware and Software Requirements

- **RAM:** Minimum 4GB; 8 GB preferred or higher
- **Hard Drive:** Minimum 125GB Hard Drive
- **Sound – Video Recording:** Working speakers and headphones are required. Some courses will require a webcam and microphone, additionally. Course-specific technology requirements can be found in course syllabi.
- **Screen:** Screen resolution should be at least 1280x768 or higher
- **Microsoft Office:** The web-based version of Outlook 365 is accessible via the College Computer Lab(s) and/or Citrix. A subscription or local install of Microsoft Office is the responsibility of the student to provide. If you are unable to purchase a subscription or local install of Microsoft Office contact your financial advisor.
- **Wireless Network, On Campus:** When on campus, students have access to the Wi-Fi network CON-Student. For best results in connecting, students should have an 802.11ac WiFi adapter, or an 802.11n adapter with support for the 5 GHz frequency band. Student laptops are not permitted to be used on other TCHHN Wi-Fi networks or the TCHHN wired (Ethernet) network.
- **High-Speed Internet Connection:** For online learning activities completed off campus, DSL or cable is strongly recommended. A direct connection to a modem/router is also recommended for best results, when off campus. Dial up and satellite internet connections will not suffice for all online learning activities.
- **Plug-Ins:** The most recent versions of the following plug-ins are required for use in TCCNHS courses: Adobe Reader, JavaScript, Adobe Flash, and Adobe Shockwave. Uncheck any additional offers prior to updating or installing the plug-ins listed above.
- **Operating System: Windows 10 or macOS 10.13 or newer.**
- **Virus/Malware Protection:** Students are **required** to have current antivirus protection installed and running on their laptops.
 - For Windows 10 users Windows Defender Antivirus is already installed. If you feel you need something more robust Sophos is an alternative.
 - For Mac users, Sophos is a highly regarded free antivirus program.
 - For malware concerns Malwarebytes is recommended for Windows and Mac users. It does not run in the background, so a scan should be initiated on a regular basis (eg., daily/weekly/monthly) or if malware is suspected.

NOTES:

- Blackboard (Bb) is the Learning Management System for TCCNHS.
- Specific curricula for TCCNHS courses may require additional software purchases. These requirements will be provided in the course syllabi.
- The Plug-Ins and Virus Protection listed above can be easily accessed on the BYOD page in Blackboard.
- Students are expected to bring their laptops fully charged for classroom activities and must have administrator access (i.e., the ability to install software). Tips for maximizing battery life can be found on the BYOD page in Blackboard, and use of a portable charger is strongly recommended (more details, below). Testing periods can be lengthy (four hours or more), and while some charging stations are available in instructional spaces, they are limited. Faculty have no obligation to allow students to re-test or make up other classroom activities should a student's battery fail.
- No student will be denied admission to Christ College based on an inability to purchase a laptop. Financial aid funding may be available to assist students with their computer purchases. Contact advisor for more information.

Recommendations

For the full policy on technology requirements, recommendations and support, in addition to Acceptable and Responsible Use, please refer to the College Catalog.