



CHADRON STATE COLLEGE TECHNOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENTS

Chadron State College encourages new students to bring a computer to campus for coursework, research and electronic interaction among students, faculty and staff. The specifications below are intended to provide helpful recommendations that assist in selecting computers compatible with the technology at CSC and that meet general computing requirements for a student pursuing a 4-year degree.

GENERAL TECHNOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENTS

Feature	Specification
Operating System	Windows 10 or 11 Mac OS 10 or 11 (Big Sur or Monterey) or higher
Processor (CPU)	Intel Core i5, i7, or higher M1 or higher
Memory (RAM)	8GB or 16GB preferred or higher
Storage (hard drive)	256GB solid state or higher
Networking	Wireless Card - 802.11ac (WiFi 5) Ethernet Card & RJ45 Port – Ethernet port on device or adapter
Multimedia	Internal camera, speakers and microphone

Degree, Program or Department Specific Technology Recommendations for Students

- CSC [Art Program](#) Specific Technology Recommendations for Students

Computer Labs

- CSC offers several general-use, multi-use and specialized [computer labs](#) on campus

Education Pricing for Technology

(Use .edu email address)

- [Dell](#)
- [Apple](#)

Other purchasing considerations

- Wireless and Wired Connections – Ensure computer is equipped for both wireless (WiFi) and wired connections. While WiFi is available across campus, wired connections in the dorms are recommended for taking exams, completing online assignments, and the like. Note that wired connections require an Ethernet port on the computer.
- Extended Warranty – Verify warranty will cover the length of academic use of the computer (typically four or five years). Check with your homeowner's or renter's insurance to see if your computer is covered for damages or theft, and get additional coverage if needed.
- Port/Jack Accessibility – Consider the location of frequently used ports, such as USB ports and audio jacks, to ensure they are easily accessible. Apple devices tend to require adapters for USB, Ethernet, etc.
- Backup & Recovery – A backup program like Windows Backup or Mac OS Time Machine with an external hard drive ensures file recovery in the event of a system failure.
- Security – Consider encrypting mobile devices, such as laptops using BitLocker for Windows and FileVault for Macs.
- Peripherals – Make sure systems include desired peripherals, such as keyboard, mouse, monitor, etc.
- Productivity Software – CSC offers [Microsoft Office](#) for free through duration of enrollment at CSC, which includes Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more.
- Antivirus Software – CSC requires an anti-virus program to connect to the CSC network and recommends the free anti-virus, [Avast](#).

Additional Information:

- Alternate Browsers - Install at least one alternative browser (either Chrome or Firefox) in addition to the default browsers provided with the operating system.
- Surge Protection – Use a surge protector or uninterruptible power supply (UPS) when the device is plugged into power.
- Cables – Be sure to have everything needed to connect and use your systems, including power cables, USB cables and Ethernet cables.

Please remember that these are general recommendations. If you have questions regarding this information or about technology at CSC, please contact the IT Help Desk at 308-432-6311 or helpdesk@csc.edu.