

LAPTOP PARTNERSHIP

As an AAC student, you are required to provide your own laptop computer for the 2019-2020 academic year. The AAC maintains three integrative computer labs, a general lab for basic computing, an illustration lab equipped with large-format Wacom tablets, and a motion graphics lab for high-end animation and video. Widespread access to a range of personal devices across various platforms has prompted the college to embrace a campus technology model that requires all students to provide their own devices for the 2019-2020 academic year. Key components of the Laptop Partnership include: students' in-depth engagement with curricular projects via their chosen devices; students' in-class access to the AAC's evolving hardware and software applications options; access to integrative output options through the Derrick Dankwa Sound Studio, the Art Academy's full-time Lead Systems Engineer, the AAC's Help Desk, which is available 24/7, and Adobe Creative Cloud subscriptions, which the AAC provides to all enrolled students. Creative Cloud includes many Adobe software including, but not limited to, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere, and others with ability to install on up to two devices for each student, as well as 100GB of cloud storage space per student. The AAC provides each student a Microsoft Office 365 account that includes an internal email account, the current Microsoft Office software suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook), up to 1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space, and continual, seamless software and security updates.

To complete the required coursework, you need to provide your own Apple or Windows laptop. Recommendations and specifications for these computers are given below. Campus computer labs are outfitted with up to 18 computers for student use. The following are the minimum and recommended system requirements for your own device:

Apple

Minimum

- MacBook Air
- OS X 10.10 or higher
- 4 GB of RAM
- 256 GB or higher of hard drive space
- 1024x768 display
- 1 GB of VRAM

Recommended

- MacBook Pro
- Intel i5 or higher multicore processor
- Latest OS release (currently Mac OS 10.13)
- 8GB of RAM or higher
- 500 GB - 1 TB of hard drive space
- 1280x800 or higher display
- 2 GB of VRAM

Windows

Minimum

- Intel Pentium 4 or AMD Athlon 64-bit pro
- Windows 7 w/Service Pack 1 or
- Windows 8 & 8.1
- 4 GB of RAM
- 256 GB of hard drive space
- 1024x768 display
- 1 GB of VRAM

Recommended

- Intel i5 or higher multicore processor
- Windows 10
- 8 GB of RAM
- 500 GB – 1TB of hard drive space
- 1280x800 or higher display
- 2 GB or more of VRAM
- Internet connectivity

Vendors

Many vendors offer student discounts. Be sure to check with them to see what is available. While your computer may be purchased at any location that suits your personal preference, here is a list of possible vendors:

Apple Vendors: Apple, SellYourMAC, Micro Center

Windows Vendors: Dell, HP, Lenovo, Toshiba, Micro Center

Economy End/Used

Mac: \$1200 for a good MacBook Air / Used models vary widely but typically hover around \$700-\$800

PC: Usually around \$500

High End

Mac: \$2000 - \$2500 MacBook Pro

PC: Models vary in price but expect to pay anywhere from \$900 - \$1500