



**DATE: Tuesday, October 5, 2021**

**SUBJECT: Distance Degrees and Programs Technical Requirements**

All programs offered by the Distance Degrees and Programs office (DDP) are distance-based programs where students attend classes online and participate in activities in an online synchronous manner. As such, a reliable computer and internet connection are essential for students to be successful in their academic studies.

**Computer and Data Back-Up Requirements**

All students will own a computer that meets or exceeds the specifications as outlined in the [Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences \(SSPPS\) Technical Requirements policy](#). In addition, students are required to make regular back-ups of documents and data related to their programs and courses. Students will follow the data back-up requirements as provided in the [SSPPS Technical Requirements policy](#).

**NOTE:** Loss of data due to computer difficulties will not be considered a valid excuse for failure to meet requirements, such as completing an assignment, meeting a deadline or performing on an exam.

**Internet Connection Speeds**

Students must ensure that reliable, fast internet connection is readily available for successful delivery of the curriculum. Required speeds and supplemental education technology requirements are provided below:

<b>Required Connection Speeds</b>	<b>Minimum Requirements</b>
Internet Download Speed	1Mbps or more
Internet Upload Speed	1Mbps or more
<b>Educational Supplements</b>	
Webcam	1280x720 image resolution
USB Headset	Must be hands-free, can connect to your computer via a USB port, and feature a microphone

Students will check their internet connection at <http://www.speedtest.net/> to confirm their upload and download speeds. If the connection does not allow the student to connect with the minimum speeds listed above, the student will contact their internet service provider to explore more options.

The DDP office uses the University approved platform Zoom to conduct online didactic curriculum assignments and to complete student services-based activities. Students with tight bandwidth are encouraged to set Zoom to “speaker view” instead of “gallery view” to reduce internet connectivity interferences.

The DDP office strongly recommends all students secure a “backup” internet connection, such as a mobile phone WIFI hotspot, 3G dongle or other mobile internet solution, which meets the above requirements.