

Computer requirements for PharmD students

Laptop Specifications

- Intel Core i3, i5, i7, or i9 processor (other Intel or AMD Athlon processors of equivalent performance are acceptable)
- 256 Gb hard drive (or more)
- 8 Gb RAM
- Audio (*via* motherboard or SoundBlaster 16 equivalent)
- 802.11ac wireless network interface (NIC)
- Inkjet or laser printer for home use (a portable printer is not required)

Chromebooks, iPads, Android tablets, "netbooks" and other devices that cannot run the full version of Windows or Mac OS X may be useful but are not at the present time considered to be acceptable substitutes for a laptop computer meeting the above specifications.

Software

- Operating system:
 - WINDOWS: Windows 10 Build 1909 or later*
 - APPLE: Mac OS X 10.13 or later (10.15 Catalina recommended).
- An internet service provider (25Mbps download/2Mbps upload; broadband recommended)
- Productivity Software:
 - Microsoft Office365**
- Internet web browser:
 - Google Chrome is required for the Proctorio exam proctoring system.
 - You may also run other current web browsers, such as Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari, Microsoft Edge, etc.
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (may be downloaded at no charge from Adobe)
- **Current antivirus and antispyware software**

* Windows 10 can be upgraded by going to "settings" "security and updates" at no charge.

** The university offers Microsoft's [Office 365 Pro Plus](#) subscriptions to all enrolled students. As part of that subscription, students may download Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook on up to five devices at no charge and may use those applications while they are enrolled in good standing at the university. Students who wish to purchase permanent licenses for Microsoft Office may do so when they

graduate or otherwise leave the university. For instructions on installing the Office applications, [click here](#). You will not be able to connect and download the applications until your UCD account has been activated and you have [claimed it](#). Office 365 also includes 5TB of OneDrive storage.

Data back-up requirements for PharmD students

When a computer is stolen, malfunctions or becomes damaged, data loss can be a huge set-back. As such, beginning even prior to the first day of school, all students in educational programs in the SSPPS are required to make regular back-ups of documents and data related to their program and courses. Students are strongly advised against relying on a separate hard drive, thumb drive or local sources as backup; cloud-based back-up (see below) is preferred. For assignments requiring submission *via* E*Value, students are encouraged to load information into E*Value as soon as possible, not allowing it to accumulate for uploading at a later date. Please note that **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.**

Backup options:

Software:

These options can be used to backup data locally TO WHERE?:

WINDOWS:

- Windows Backup (included with your computer)
- [NovaBACKUP](#)
- [Backup4All](#)

APPLE:

- Time Machine (included with Mac OS X)
- [Carbon Copy Cloner](#)
- [SuperDuper!](#)

Your computer may come with other backup software. Consult your documentation or computer vendor.

Cloud-based:

These services store your data remotely on the service provider's servers, keeping it safe in the event of an unforeseen event, such as fire or theft. Many such services allow you to access your data from other computers anywhere in the world and automatically backup your computer at regular intervals (e.g. every 10 minutes). These include:

- [Carbonite](#)
- [MozyHome](#)
- [Norton Online Backup](#)

Microsoft OneDrive (included with Office365) can also be used for backup. However, it lacks the automated features a dedicated backup service (such as those listed above) may provide.

The SSPPS does not endorse any particular service or software. You are encouraged to evaluate the services and costs and select the one that best fits your needs. If you have any questions, please contact the [SSPPS IT Office](#).