

College of Social Sciences and Public Policy Laptop Purchasing Information

When ordering a Windows laptop, below are suggested minimum requirements in order to make sure the system will be able to operate in our IT environment for at least 3-5 years. These requirements are higher than minimums for most current software, but we suggest these specifications to avoid early obsolescence and room for growth as computational demands grow over the life of the unit. Please refer to below requirements:

- 1) Ram 8GB min
- 2) Hard Drive 500 GB SSD minimum (All SSD is important as this is now the biggest driver in system improvement).
- 3) CPU i5 minimum, i7 preferred.
- 4) Preferred platform is Dell Latitude. XPS systems have some incompatibilities with our load and support systems. In addition, Dell is discontinuing the XPS line. As of 06/11/19 there appear to be some inexpensive deals on the XPS, this is in part due to discontinuation of that product line. If you can't find a fit for your needs in the Latitude option online, please send us your specifications via the ticketing system and we can make a special request with Dell for a Latitude that can meet them.
- 5) Warranty Minimum ProSupport, Next Business Day Onsite, 3 years or more if it can be afforded (Cheaper mail-in or one-year support may create increased risk for major loss of use time and data loss).
- 6) The operating system NEEDS to be Windows 10 Pro for technical reasons. Win 10 Home can cause incompatibilities with our platform and support issues.
- 7) Systems with specifications that cost in excess of \$3,000.00 will require the purchaser to provide a business use justification statement with a description of software needs and the type of computational work to be performed that would require higher than the current standard hardware configurations.

If you are purchasing a laptop with personal funds to possibly avoid FSU policy, please pay close attention to the below:

- 1) Any system not purchased with University/College resources is still subject to University/College policy(s) and procedure regarding use of FSU networks
- 2) College computing resources are managed by FSU/COSPP IT staff in terms of security patching, OS updates, antivirus software and other software installs. At a minimum, we require that the Windows 10 professional education build be installed along with our Kace management agent and enterprise antivirus client. IT staff must have access to the machine initially to create an account that can be used to log into the system along with the other

user accounts and install necessary software. There are multiple security and practical reasons for this policy. If we do not manage a system, it will not be supported by FSU/College IT staff. This includes but may not be limited to varied support issues of software, printing resources, Ethernet connectivity, password issues and use of college specialty software purchased with college funds. It WILL NOT be connected to the FSU Ethernet environment.

- 3) The FSU secure network will be the only way to access the internet. While using the FSU secure network, the system will not be supported regarding future technical requests for software, printer access, shared drives and other network resources. In short, if the college does not manage the security of said device it WILL NOT be supported by FSU staff.

If you are unfamiliar with the ticketing system you can find step by step instructions at this link:

<https://coss.fsu.edu/support/>

As always if you have questions you can contact Shawn Lewers at slewers@fsu.edu