

Student Guide to Purchasing a Computer

for Fall 2012

Wellesley strongly recommends that each student bring a notebook computer to campus with the following specifications (*acceptable older specs that function at a minimal level are in italics*).

- ___ Operating system: Windows 7 64-bit (32-bit, *Vista*) or Mac OS X 10.7 (*10.5 or higher*)
- ___ Memory: 4 Gb or more of RAM
- ___ Processor: 2.4 GHz or higher
- ___ Hard drive: 500 Gb or more
- ___ Wireless (WiFi): 802.11n (*802.11g*)

Strongly recommended:

- ___ Warranty: 4-year warranty (for Macs, AppleCare Protection Plan) to last to graduation
- ___ Accidental Damage Protection (not available from Apple) from computer vendor or home insurance
- ___ Some software installations will require your computer to use a DVD drive
- ___ Software: MS Office (discount available, see below)

What else to bring:

- **All documentation and discs** that may have come with your computer; the College can not provide these if your computer has to be reset to factory settings
- External hard drive (at least as large as computer's internal drive) for backups of important files
- Case; lock to secure laptop to table/desk
- Surge protector
- USB flash drive to carry files around campus

What *not* to bring:

- Wireless router or access point; **wireless** access is provided **in residence hall rooms**
- Wireless printer (bring a USB cable to connect if you bring a personal printer)

Get online on campus fast

Check out these tips for getting online fast when you arrive: new.wellesley.edu/esp/entering/tech

Software and computer purchase discounts and accessories

Discount information can be found at new.wellesley.edu/lts/techsupport/purchase.
The Wellesley College Bookstore stocks security locks and some other computer accessories.

Where can I get more information about campus technology?

Additional information is available by searching the Wellesley College web site.

You may also:

E-mail your questions to helpdesk@wellesley.edu

This summer, entering students may **post** in the **Technology and Libraries Google Group**

Or telephone the Computing Help Desk, Wellesley College at (781) 283-7777

Got this on paper? For the most up-to-date version of this guide (updated each spring and into the summer), search the Wellesley College web site for "computer purchase guide"