# Operating System

The HPC environment is built on [Rocky Linux 8](https://rockylinux.org/) as the base operating system. A full suite of OS supplied software is installed, including most expected Linux/Unix tools, several desktop environments, Office and Internet applications and development libraries and tools. Where there is an option to install a package using a supported RPM for [Rocky Linux 8](https://rockylinux.org/), this is the preferred way to get the application into the cluster environment.