

## LAPTOP COMPUTER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

**Anti-Virus Software:** Stetson University College of Law makes McAfee VirusScan Enterprise Edition with Spam protection available to all students at no additional charge.

All student laptop computers must have an up to date, actively running anti-virus program installed and have a valid subscription for obtaining updated virus definition files. The software must be configured to scan and obtain virus definition updates on a regular basis. McAfee VirusScan meets this requirement and it is compatible with all College of Law provided software. You may choose to use an anti-virus program other than the one provided by the College of Law, but should be aware that not all anti-virus programs are compatible with other provided software. McAfee VirusScan will be installed during the orientation laptop configuration session.

The Office of Information Technology reserves the right to deny network access to any computer not meeting this requirement.

**Manufacturer:** You may purchase your laptop computer from the store or manufacturer of your choice. We do recommend you choose a well known and respected brand name from a reputable retailer.

**Operating System:** The operating system requirement is Windows XP with Service Pack 3 and above, Windows Vista with Service Pack 1 and above (Vista Home edition is not recommended), Apple Mac OS X Leopard and above with BootCamp.

**Processor:** Any Intel or AMD processor 1.3 GHz or faster strongly recommended.

**Memory (RAM):** 1 GB (1024mb) for Windows XP operating systems. 2 GB up to 4 GB of Ram for Vista operating systems. In general, more memory will provide faster response from your laptop.

**Hard Drive:** A minimum of 80 GB for programs, documents, media and spare storage

**Optical Drive:** A CD/RW Drive is recommended for backup of your documents.

**USB Removable Drive:** This is also known as a Thumb Drive, Jump Drive, Memory Key or Flash Drive. Optional but highly recommended. They are available from 256mb to over 8GB. The size of drive would be dependent on your individual needs.

**Networking-Wired:** Newer model laptops that were released 3 years or later already have a built-in network adapter. If your laptop does not have an integrated network adapter, you will need to purchase an external card. Please be sure to purchase a network card (sometimes called NIC or Ethernet Card) designed for a laptop (usually referred to as a PCMCIA card). Our network uses TCP/IP Protocol set for DHCP.

**Cables:** You will need a network cable also known as a CAT5/CAT5E RJ45 straight-through patch cable.

**Networking-Wireless:** To connect to our wireless network your laptop will need to have a built-in or optional PCMCIA WLAN card with 802.11b/g wireless capability.

If you plan on buying your own wireless card, here are a few important points to keep in mind:

- Please purchase a card that is 802.11g compliant, and not 802.11b.
- Make sure that the wireless card is capable of 128-bit WEP (wireless encryption protocol) encryption and 802.1x authentication.
- Although most Wi-Fi 802.11g-compliant wireless cards should work within the wireless network, there is always the possibility that a generic card will not function properly. We recommend that you purchase a name-brand card. If you need help with the selection process, please let us know and we will be happy to assist. The Technology Support Center staff can provide you with documentation and will assist you with the configuration process as needed.
- Check for and update the drivers for your wireless card.

### **Miscellaneous Recommendations**

**Warranty:** A warranty package adds to the existing manufacturer's warranty. We recommend a three year extended warranty with screen damage replacement that provides coverage for the length of time you expect to be enrolled. The screen damage warranty provides for the replacement of a broken screen at a lower cost than the replacement part. The most expensive part of your laptop to replace is the screen. Check to see if the warranty provides for on-site service and support. Please carefully review the coverage offered by the warranty and shop carefully for the warranty that best meets your needs.

**Insurance:** Check your homeowners or renters insurance policy to see if it covers your laptop. If not you may wish to purchase a computer insurance policy online.

**Carrying Case:** Durable and well-padded.

**Word Processing Software:** The most recent version of Microsoft Office Enterprise Edition that has been adopted for distribution by the College of Law is made available to all Stetson University College of Law students at no additional charge. This software will be installed during the orientation laptop configuration session.

### **Questions?**

Please contact the IT Technology Support Center (TSC) at (727) 562-7323 or email [it@law.stetson.edu](mailto:it@law.stetson.edu).