

Laptop Computer Requirements

For All Public Health Students

The privacy and the protected health information (PHI) governed by federal HIPAA law and monitored by the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is of critical importance to the entire OU Health Sciences community. University policy requires students to have a university compliant Laptop for University related activities including academic course work, testing, classroom notes, OUHSC email, accessing ePHI, creating, storing, or sharing, treatment notes, medical records or case notes from classroom, clinical or research activities prior to the start of your academic program.

See <https://www.ou.edu/ouit/cybersecurity/policies/> for a list of all applicable policies and standards.

The OU Health Sciences recommends that students purchase a new laptop computer for the start of their academic program with the University. Experience has shown that older, heavily used devices can be ineffective, potentially impacting the time required to complete assignments etc. which can have an impact on your overall student experience.

The Hudson College of Public Health requires each student to have access to a laptop that meets the requirements below to have the best possible experience with the University's required security tools and your academic, clinical, and research activities.

Please check with the [OUHSC Office of Financial Aid](#) about the availability of financial aid funds for a laptop computer purchase.

Minimum Computer Requirements

The Hudson College of Public Health requires each student to have access to a laptop that meets the computer requirements below to have the best possible experience with the University's required security tools and your academic, clinical, or research activities.

For Biostatistics and Epidemiology Degrees and Courses:

Students are required to have a laptop with a Windows operating system, with the below specifications. **MacOS is not compatible with SAS and other software used in the Department.**

(cont'd next page)

Platform	Windows	MacOS
Operating System	Minimum OS: Windows 10 or Windows 11*	Minimum OS: MacOS 13 (Ventura) or newer
Computer Specifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ i5 or i7 Intel™ Processor ▪ 13-inch display or greater ▪ Minimum 8GB RAM or greater ▪ Minimum 256GB SSD Hard Drive ▪ Minimum of 2 USB Ports ▪ Webcam ▪ Microphone ▪ Speakers ▪ Wireless Internet Connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ i5 or i7 Intel™ Processor ▪ 13-inch display or greater ▪ Minimum 8GB RAM or greater ▪ Minimum 256GB SSD Hard Drive ▪ Minimum of 2 USB Ports ▪ Webcam ▪ Microphone ▪ Speakers ▪ Wireless Internet Connectivity
Internet Connectivity	Reliable Broadband Internet Connectivity of at least 15Mbps Download and 4Mbps Upload	Reliable Broadband Internet Connectivity of at least 15Mbps Download and 4Mbps Upload
Software Requirements	<p>Microsoft Office365* with Outlook, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint</p> <p><i>* Microsoft Office is available for free to current OUHSC students here:</i> https://www.ou.edu/ouit/workanywhere/O365</p> <p>Antivirus software</p> <p>Other important software: Mozilla Firefox Adobe Acrobat Reader VLC Media Player Respondus LockDown Browser</p>	<p>Microsoft Office365* with Outlook, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint</p> <p><i>* Microsoft Office is available for free to current OUHSC students here:</i> https://www.ou.edu/ouit/workanywhere/O365</p> <p>Antivirus software</p> <p>Other important software: Mozilla Firefox Adobe Acrobat Reader VLC Media Player Respondus LockDown Browser</p>

Student Computer Encryption and Compliance

OU policy requires device encryption on laptop computers that may store sensitive or confidential information (e.g., SSN and financial information, patient information). For laptops used by OU Health Sciences Students, the presumption is that the device may be used for this purpose; therefore, OU policy requires all student devices have the built-in encryption always turned on while you are a Health Sciences Student. Proof of encryption must be uploaded to Complio for device compliance.

Instructions for OUHSC Student Device Encryption and Compliance can be found here:
<https://itsupport.ou.edu/TDClient/30/Unified/KB/ArticleDet?ID=3016>

Windows Encryption requires a Windows Pro or Windows Education Operating System. All OU students are provided with a free upgrade to Windows 10 or 11 Education:
Instructions for Upgrading your Windows Operating System can be found here:
<https://itsupport.ou.edu/TDClient/30/Unified/KB/ArticleDet?ID=3012>

Student Virtual Desktop

This service allows you to access secure university resources usually used in research, experiential learning, and to access other special software your degree program may require.

Students can log in at <https://mydesk.ou.edu>.

For log in details, check out the MyDesk article here:

<https://itsupport.ou.edu/TDClient/30/Unified/KB/ArticleDet?ID=2340>.

Work that does not require PHI (Protected Health Information) or other regulated data, such as attending Zoom lectures or accessing coursework on Canvas, can be completed on the student's computer without connecting to the Virtual Desktop

Need Help?

For support with the new Student Virtual Desktop contact the OU IT Service Desk through phone or email below.

Computer Technical Support

COPH-IT (College Support)

COPH-IT@ouhsc.edu

(405.271.8001) (x50108)

IT SERVICE DESK

Location: Student Union, Room 105, 1106 N. Stonewall

Phone: 405-325-HELP (4357) (Toll Free 1-888-435-7486)

Office Hours: 8:00AM – 5:00PM, Monday – Friday

OU-Tulsa IT Service Desk

ou.edu/tulsa/it/help

(918) 660-3550

Additional Software Requirements for Specialty Degrees

For Biostatistics and Epidemiology Degrees/Courses:

- **SAS statistical package** – SAS can be installed by CPH IT. A SAS installation can be scheduled at <https://calendly.com/coph-it/>. A Windows computer is now required to install SAS on student personal computers. IT Service Desk is no longer able to install Statistical Analysis Software.

- **JMP**—JMP software can be installed from <https://itsoftware.ou.edu/>.
- **NVIVO** – Nvivo software can be installed from <https://itsoftware.ou.edu/>.

For Health Promotion Sciences Degrees:

- **SPSS** – The SPSS software can be installed from <https://itsoftware.ou.edu/spss> on Mac and Windows computers.

All laptop computer hardware and software requirements are subject to periodic revisions >>
<https://itsupport.ou.edu/TDClient/30/Unified/KB/ArticleDet?ID=2340>.

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