



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

**Biological
Sciences
Division**

Computing Device Standards

Introduction



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Introduction

The purpose of this standard is to ensure that all computer hardware and software acquired for BSD's use is sourced from the preferred suppliers and meets the technical needs of the faculty and staff for the 5-year lifespan directed by the university.

Benefits:

- For office computer standards, stock will be maintained to speed up the deployment process for new staff as well as replacing aged out computers.
- Standard model configurations will be refreshed every six months to maintain current technical standards.
- Reduces the overall turn around and ordering process to expedite equipment deployments.

Standards Overview



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Standards Overview

Each faculty and staff member will be provided with the following equipment based on their position. There is a process for requesting exceptions.

Equipment:

- 1 laptop
- 1 docking station
- 2, 27" monitors
- 1 keyboard
- 1 mouse
- 1 external webcam



Standards Overview

Office Compute Standard

Manufacture = Dell and Apple
Formfactor = Laptop

- **Dell minimum Intel Core i5 or AMD equivalent, 16GB RAM, 256GB SSD.**
- **Apple minimum M2 processor, 16GB RAM, 256GB SSD.**

Heavy Compute Standard

Manufacture = Dell and Apple
Formfactor = Laptop

- **Dell minimum Intel Core i7 or AMD equivalent, 32GB RAM, 1TB SSD.**
 - Dedicated GPU
- **Apple minimum M3 Pro processor, 32GB RAM, 1TB GB SSD.**

Operating System Standard

- Windows 10/11 Pro = Fully Supported
- Windows 10/11 Enterprise = Fully Supported
- Windows 11 Pro for Workstations = Fully supported
- MacOS 13 (Ventura) or newer = Fully Supported
- Ubuntu = Limited support
- RedHat = Limited support

Peripherals

- 1 docking station
- 1 webcam
- 2, 27" monitors
- 1 keyboard and mouse

Image Standards



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Image Standards

Security and management

CrowdStrike – university antivirus solution

BigFix – used for remote management such as pushing applications to a computer when requested as well as managing software patches.

Jamf for Apple devices - used for remote management such as pushing applications to a Mac when requested as well as managing software patches.

CrashPlan – used for workstation and laptop data backup.

Cisco AnyConnect – VPN client used to access several university resources from off campus.

Productivity

Office 365 - Office package containing Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc...

Microsoft Teams – Used for chat and collaboration at the University of Chicago

Microsoft OneDrive – Collaborative storage space

Zoom – Used for video web conferencing at the University of Chicago

Chrome – Internet browser

Firefox – Internet browser

Box – Collaborative storage space

Cisco Jabber – softphone client used in replacement of hard phone hardware.

Appendix



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Office Compute Standards



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Office Compute Standards Overview

Office Compute Standard - Dell

Formfactor = Laptop

Dell minimum Intel Core i5 or AMD equivalent, 16GB RAM, 256GB SSD.

- 802.11ax compliant wireless card
- 1Gbps compliant network card in docking station
- Graphics: Integrated graphics card suitable for general office tasks.
- Displays: 2, 27-inch Dell Full HD monitors.
- Docking station that supports two external monitors.

Office Compute Standard - Apple

Formfactor = Laptop

Apple minimum M2 processor, 16GB RAM, 256GB SSD.

- 802.11ax compliant wireless card
- 1Gbps compliant network card in docking station
- Graphics: Integrated graphics card suitable for general office tasks.
- Displays: 2, 27-inch Dell Full HD monitors.
 - Apple Studio displays are excluded unless approved by department head.
- Docking station that supports two external monitors.

Computational Compute Standards



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Computational Compute Standards Overview

Computational Compute Standard - Dell

Formfactor = Laptop or Desktop

Dell minimum Intel Core i7 or AMD equivalent, 32GB RAM, 1TB SSD.

- 802.11ax compliant wireless card
- 1Gbps compliant network card in docking station
- Graphics: Dedicate GPU with minimum 6GB of video memory.
- Displays: 2, 27-inch Dell Full HD monitors.
- Docking station that supports two external monitors.

Computational Compute Standard - Apple

Formfactor = Laptop or Desktop

Apple minimum M3 Pro processor, 32GB RAM, 1TB SSD.

- 802.11ax compliant wireless card
- 1Gbps compliant network card in docking station
- Graphics: Integrated graphics are of high performance on Pro level processor.
- Displays: 2, 27-inch Dell Full HD monitors.
 - Apple Studio displays are excluded unless approved by department head.
- Docking station that supports two external monitors.

Operating Systems Standards



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Operating System Standards Overview

Operating System Standard

- Windows 10/11 Pro = Fully Supported
- Windows 10/11 Enterprise = Fully Supported
- Windows 11 Pro for Workstations = Fully supported
- MacOS 13 (Ventura) or newer = Fully Supported
- Ubuntu = Limited support
- RedHat = Limited support

Best effort is provided when supporting Linux systems. There may be situations where an outside contractor will need to be brought in at the expense of the department using Linux.

The two distributions of Linux that have limited internal support are Ubuntu and RedHat at the workstation level. For Linux server needs, resources are available through the BSDIS Infrastructure team.



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