

University of South Alabama College of Nursing

Summer and Fall 2020 Graduate Technical Requirements Policy

Introduction:

All incoming graduate nursing students are required to purchase a computer that conforms to the current college minimum standards by the time classes begin. Below is the 2019-2020 list of minimal computer capabilities necessary for enrollment in the graduate program of nursing at the University of South Alabama, College of Nursing. Students will additionally be required to meet basic software requirements identified below.

The minimum 2020-2021 computer expectations are as follows:

1. **Wireless capabilities:** Wi-Fi (if purchasing a laptop)
2. **Installed Memory Size:** 4GB (minimum)
3. **Hard Drive:** 250 GB or larger
4. **Operating System:** Microsoft Windows 10 (or newer version) or macOS 10.13.6 High Sierra (or newer).
 - a Windows RT and Windows 10 S (Silver) are not acceptable alternatives for an operating system.
 - b Android, Chrome, Linux, Apple iOS (Apple's mobile operating system for tablets and phones), or a bootstrapped version of Windows on macOS are not acceptable alternatives for an operating system.
5. Traditional laptops with a touchscreen are acceptable.
 - a Hybrid laptops, 2-in-1s, or tablets are not acceptable
6. Ethernet connection/receptacle
7. Built-in or external Web Camera
8. Built-in or external Microphone

** Hybrid laptops and 2-in-1s are laptops that function as laptops with keyboards that can be converted into tablets by removing or bending back the keyboard.

NOTE:

- Due to a recent policy change, the University of South Alabama's College of Nursing is allowing graduate students to use macOS based computers starting in the spring of 2019.
- All specifications are subject to be updated periodically, as the capabilities of technology advance, so students should review these specifications just prior to entry into the graduate nursing program.

PC Support Statement:

Current technologies used by the College of Nursing are not supported by Apple iOS or Linux based computers. Therefore, a personal computer (PC) based computer running a Microsoft Windows 10 or macOS 10.13.6 Sierra (or newer) is required. No remedy or support can be provided by the College of Nursing should a student choose to use a computer running an operating system not supported by the above requirements.

Required Software Statement:

In order to maintain consistency across the curriculum, it is necessary to require the use of common software by all faculty and students. This practice helps ensure all students are able to complete required tasks with minimal technical difficulty.

Below are the general requirements that apply to all students in the nursing programs. It should be noted that individual courses or sub-specialties may add to this requirement as necessary.

- Microsoft Office Standard 2016, 2019 or Office 365
 - University of South Alabama students can obtain a free version of Office 365 from the South Alabama website by signing up with their school email. Just follow this link to get started: <https://www.southalabama.edu/msoffice>
- Adobe Acrobat Reader DC
 - Download instructions can be provided upon request.

Internet Connection:

A cable modem or DSL connection is required. The use of dial-up or satellite internet service may not provide appropriate speed for the online learning and testing environments. Hotspots also may not provide appropriate speed or a stable enough connection for testing.

Suggested purchase: Headphones with built-in microphone.

For questions related to these technology requirements, please email calebhoward@southalabama.edu or call: 251-460-6161.