

# Minimum computer requirements



Northern Lights  
College

All programs require students to have their own computers.

## Minimum requirements

- A laptop (if program includes on-campus courses)
- Microsoft Windows 10 – 64bit
- Intel i5 OR equivalent AMD Ryzen processor
- 13" screen (laptop) OR 19" monitor (desktop)
- 8 Gigabytes of RAM memory
- 1TB Gigabyte hard drive
- Audio and video required (including webcam, microphone, and speakers/headphones)

\*Some [information technology](#) programs have higher technology needs. See your program information for details.



## Software

As a student of NLC, you have free and legal access to the **Microsoft 365** suite, including MS-Word, MS-Teams, MS-Excel, MS-PowerPoint, and MS-Access, and more, so there is no need to purchase a Microsoft 365 application.

We recommend using Google Chrome for the best experience.

**A NOTE ABOUT PIRACY:** Ensure your operating system (MS-Windows 10) is properly licensed and up to date on patches. Office 365 and other applications NLC licenses on your behalf will not install on an unregistered version of Windows.

## Internet connectivity

Most NLC programs rely heavily on internet connectivity; ideally students will have high speed internet. However, while traditional dial-up is unlikely to be fast enough, cellular connections such as Telus LTE are proving to be adequate.

Please refer to the document, [Video Conferencing Tips](#), to get tips on getting the best possible experience with online delivery.

## Not supported

There are many alternatives to traditional Windows-based personal computers. However, NLC recommends against purchasing one of the following for course-work as they have not met the needs of current students:

- Tablet computer (iPad, Samsung Galaxy, etc)
- Apple iMAC
- Chromebook
- Windows 10 S
- Mobile phone (iOS, Android, etc)

## Financial assistance

Students receiving financial aid (BC Student Loan/Canada Student Loan) can use a portion of their textbook amount towards the purchase of a computer, if it is required by the program.

Some NLC Foundation entrance awards may also be used towards the purchase of a computer.

