# Laptop Requirements

Students entering the Cockrell School of Engineering are required to have a laptop for use in coursework, including testing scenarios. Laptops do not need to be brought to campus on a daily basis, but individual courses may require that a laptop be brought to class, lab sessions, or tests.

Microsoft Windows 10/11 is the de facto standard. You will not be able to complete your coursework with a MacBook laptop unless you are able to install a virtual Windows environment (VMWare Fusion, Parallels, BootCamp, etc.). Be aware these options require extra processing power, RAM, HD space, and time and effort to install. MacBook laptops are STRONGLY DISCOURAGED. As Windows 10 is set to go out of support in the fall of 2025, we recommend getting a new laptop that supports Windows 11 now if possible.

| Hardware | Required | Recommended |
|---|---|---|
| CPU Processor | Intel i7 | Intel i9 (or AMD equivalent) |
| OS | Windows 10/11 | Windows 11 |
| Screen | 1920×1080 | 1920×1080 or greater |
| RAM | 16GB | 32GB or greater |
| Hard Drive | 500GB SSD | 1TB or greater SSD |
| Wireless | 802.11ac | 801.11ac or Wi-Fi 6 |
| Video (GPU) | Integrated | Discrete card (Nvidia, AMD, etc.) |
| Camera | Front facing camera w/mic | Front facing camera w/mic |
| Warranty | n/a | 3-to-4-year warranty w/accidental |

**Warranty**
An extended warranty with accidental damage coverage is HIGHLY recommended.

**Financial Aid**
Students who are receiving aid and who are loan-eligible may contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids to have their aid adjusted to include the cost of their laptop. Students not eligible for aid can apply for alternative or short-term loans through the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

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*Last updated Aug. 19, 2024*