Tech Recommendations

The Connect to Tech Guide (connect2tech.psu.edu) is a University-wide resource that describes computer specifications for students bringing a used computer with them. At Behrend, we recommend considering a new device that will last throughout the student’s college experience.

**New Computer Specification Recommendations (Good):**
- i5 processor, 16 GB of RAM and a solid state drive.

**New Computer Specification Recommendations (Better):**
- i7 processor, 16 GB of RAM, and an m2 drive.

**A common question is:** Windows or Mac? That’s up to you!

**Another note:** Although tablets are great secondary devices, they should not be relied on as a primary computer platform, with the exception of the Microsoft Surface units (discussed below).

**You should always purchase** business-grade laptops from an online source, as these are a step up from what you will find in most stores. Be wary of outstanding price offers on consumer-grade computers from chain store retailers. In most cases, you get what you pay for. You can expect to pay between $750 and $1,500+ for a good-quality business-grade computer. Products in this price range have higher quality internal components and will generally last four to five years or more with proper care.

**Some recommended computers** include HP Probook, HP Elitebook, Dell Latitude, Microsoft Surface Pro, Toshiba Tecra, Lenovo Thinkpad T, Macbook Air, and Macbook Pro.

University Resources

https://it.psu.edu/it-services-students

Access account settings/password changes and resets: accounts.psu.edu
Two-Factor Authentication (required for all students): 2FA.psu.edu
Free software downloads: downloads.its.psu.edu
Software Purchases: software.psu.edu
Wireless Network Connectivity: wireless.psu.edu
Microsoft Productivity Suite: office365.psu.edu
Free Microsoft Downloads: https://azureforeducation.microsoft.com/devtools
Google Productivity Suite: gsuite.psu.edu

Behrend Resources

Residence Hall Network Support

Connecting many students all at once can be a challenging process during move-in weekend, so Residence Hall Network Technicians (ResTechs) are available to help.

For Residence Hall Network Connections, go to rescom.psu.edu.
For IoT connections in residence halls, go to roomgear.psu.edu. Any registered wired device can use roomgear wired network ports, but laptops, smartphones, tablets, and other 802.1X capable wireless devices that can connect to the PSU wireless network must do so.

During the semester, ResTechs staff the Residence Hall Network Help Desk, located at the Hammermill Building Service Desk, Mondays through Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. ResTechs can perform OS re-installs, virus disinfections, anti-spyware work, and general hardware troubleshooting, in addition to assisting with network connection and router set-ups. Additional Help Desks are located in Hammermill, Burke Center, and Lilley Library, or visit the virtual help desk at https://psu.zoom.us/j/8142174357.

Need help? Call 814-898-6550 or go to behrend.psu.edu/ithelp and look for the Residence Hall Network support link.

Questions?

Email BDIHelp@psu.edu, call 814-217-4357, or go to behrend.psu.edu/bits or behrend.psu.edu/ithelp
Lab software locations: behrend.psu.edu/software
Remote Lab: cloud.bd.psu.edu
Print to selected campus printers: uniprint.bd.psu.edu

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