

Computer Standards for Brandman University

Brandman University is committed to providing superior education that seamlessly integrates the best aspects of technologically enhanced learning and personalized education lead by world class faculty members with real world career experiences. Because we value innovation as part of the dynamic learning experience, every class at Brandman University will include a substantial computer based learning component. To help achieve these learning expectations, we have developed this guide to selecting a personal computer.

Computer System Requirements

Most computers sold within the last three years will provide an optimal online learning experience. Even most tablet computers would work well for the online course components. Reliable high-speed internet access makes the online learning experience more robust and interactive and is highly recommended. Students without a regular high speed internet connection may visit wireless hotspots at public libraries and at a wide spectrum of local businesses.

Minimum Hardware Requirements	
Windows PC\Laptop\Tablet	Apple iMac\Macbook\iPad
Windows 7 or higher	Mac OS X 10.11 or higher
Webcam and Speakers/Headset	Webcam and Speakers/Headset
Internet Capable	Internet Capable

Minimum Software Requirements	
Web browser: the latest version	Web browser: the latest version
MS Office 2013 or higher	MS Office 2016 or higher

Microsoft Office Suite version 2013 Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (.docx, .xlsx and .pptx formats are standard). The .docx format is native to Microsoft Office Word, but other software, such as the free software word processors OpenOffice.org Writer, and AbiWord, can create and read .docx files. Microsoft Office may also be freely available to students through <https://products.office.com/en-US/student/>

Supported Operating Systems and Compatible Browsers

	Firefox (Version 56+)	Chrome (Version 56+)
Microsoft Windows 7	Compatible	Compatible
Microsoft Windows 8.1	Compatible	Compatible
Microsoft Windows 10	Compatible	Compatible
Apple Mac OSX 10.10	Compatible	Compatible
Apple Mac OSX 10.11	Compatible	Compatible

The browsers listed above have been validated with the course platform. A user risks running into problems with the course software if they choose to use a non-supported browser.

Accessibility and JAWS

Blackboard strives to make all its products as accessible as possible. JAWS for Windows versions 11 and 12 were used during accessibility testing in Blackboard Service Pack 11.

Wireless Access (Wi-Fi Hotspots)

Reliable high-speed internet is the preferred method to access internet-based course content. Many local libraries and businesses provide wireless access for free (or for a nominal fee). A listing of free wireless hotspots is available at <http://www.wififreespot.com/> In Orange County, California, all of the County library branches offer this service. Branch hours and locations are posted at the following link: <http://ocgov.com/residents/communities/libraries>.

Purchasing Agreements

Being a student can get expensive fast. Fortunately, Brandman has your back. Students can purchase, for personal use, a variety of computers, peripherals, and software at reduced prices through agreements Brandman has set up with the vendors below. So don't pay more than you have to! Note that these purchases are not reimbursable by the university.

PC's are available from [Dell](#)

MAC's are available from [Apple](#)

Software is available through [CollegeBuys.org](#) and [JourneyEd.com](#)