Student Computers: Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Recommendation

Emmanuel College recommends that every enrolled full-time and part-time student be equipped with a personal laptop for academic purposes. Individual access to a laptop with up-to-date specs ensures students are equipped to complete their coursework with as little difficulty as possible.

Laptop System Specification Recommendation

Emmanuel College Information Technology does not explicitly recommend any specific device *types* for student use, but suggests the following device requirements at a **minimum**:

Operating System	Latest version of Windows or macOS
Memory	8 GB *(16 GB recommended)*
Processor	Intel Core i5/5 or AMD Ryzen 5 or Apple M1
Storage	128 GB *(256 GB SSD recommended)*
*Wireless Networking	Wi-Fi 5 *(Wi-Fi 6 or 6E recommended)*
Antivirus	Bitdefender Antivirus *(recommended for Mac or PC)*
Other	Built-in webcam, microphone, and speakers; compatibility with Microsoft 365

Emmanuel College internet service is offered via a high-speed wireless network. Wired connections are not available.

Important Notes for Device Purchasing

Please review the following information regarding Chromebooks/Netbooks and desktop computers.

- Emmanuel College IT primarily supports Windows and macOS machines. We do not recommend the purchase and use of ChromeBooks/Netbooks. These devices do not support the download and use of academic software that may be required in Emmanuel College courses and are generally incompatible with high level audio/video/design work.
  - o Please note that the use of external academic software depends on your major and courseload – contact your advisor or professor for information.
- Emmanuel College IT only recommends desktop computers if they are equipped with wireless network adapters. For security purposes, ethernet ports in all residence hall rooms have been deactivated. Wired internet connections are not available in the residence halls.
- Some academic programs may require laptops with certain specifications. Check with program to confirm device needs.

Additional Considerations

- Emmanuel College IT recommends purchasing an extended warranty for your device. The IT department offers only limited support for hardware issues. While a warranty will incur an additional cost during the initial purchase of your laptop, it will provide you with the option of free device repair or replacement (depending on the vendor) if the device is damaged.
- Every Emmanuel College student is provided 5 free licenses for the download and use of Microsoft Office 365 on their devices. There is no need to purchase this software with your laptop.

- Refurbished laptops may present issues with processing speeds and memory. Generally, Emmanuel College IT uses the "4-year cycle" as a rule of thumb – our staff and faculty devices are replaced every four years to ensure up-to-date technology standards. We recommend the same standards for students purchasing laptops.

Student Technology Discounts

Many of the most popular technology vendors offer discounted hardware and software for students. Emmanuel College IT recommends inquiring about student discount programs before making purchases of any hardware or software. A sampling of such vendors includes:

- Apple Education Store
- Dell Technologies for Students
- HP Education Store
- Razer Education Purchase Program
- Microsoft Education Store
- ASUS Education Program
- Lenovo Student Discount

Emmanuel College Information Technology Helpdesk

The Emmanuel College Information Technology Helpdesk offers a range of services to its students, staff, faculty, and alumni. To get answers to any of your IT-related questions, please visit our IT Service Catalog or contact us!

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Have a technology question? Ask us!

400 The Fenway | Boston | MA 02115
Emmanuel College Information Technology

617-735-9966 | helpdesk@emmanuel.edu
Eisner Administration Building, Room 133
Monday – Friday, 8AM to 5PM

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