

WVU School of Nursing: Potomac State Campus

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Nursing Student Laptop Program 2025-2026

As a nursing student, you are required to have a serviceable laptop when starting sophomore year of the nursing program. This laptop will be required for coursework and testing in all nursing classes throughout the program. It is your responsibility to maintain your laptop in working order. Not having a working laptop may exclude you from taking nursing tests and, therefore, may result in failing nursing coursework. ***You are required to bring your laptop to all nursing classes, small groups, labs, and clinical. Make sure you also bring your power and Ethernet (network) cords for charging and connecting. Note: If your laptop does not have an Ethernet (network) port, you must purchase a USB-to-Ethernet adaptor.***

Note: Hardcopy handouts will not be provided in the nursing program. All class handouts will be uploaded to your online SOLE course shell, and you may take notes electronically by typing/highlighting directly in the electronic documents on SOLE. If you prefer a hardcopy handout, you may download/print them at home or at the library and bring them to class with you. If you choose not to take notes electronically, you are still required to bring your laptop every day.

Hardware

Below are the hardware/other computer requirements for nursing student laptops at WVU School of Nursing: Potomac State Campus. Students may use either PC or Mac laptops in the program but be advised that Mac laptops may require that you download special programs to be compatible with the learning management systems used at WVU.

If you plan to purchase a new computer, please take this information with you and show it to the person who will be helping you. Please note: IPAD, Surface, Kindle, and other small tablets do not meet the computer requirements of WVU School of Nursing: Potomac State Campus. ***Only regular-size laptops meeting the following specifications will be compatible with the learning management systems and acceptable for use by WVU School of Nursing students:***

	Windows (PC)	Mac
Operating System	<i>Windows 11</i>	<i>Mac OS15 or above</i>
Hardware	Minimum hardware requirements: Intel® Core i5/Ultra 5 or AMD equivalent 8 GB of Memory 1920 x 1080 screen resolution 100 BASE-T Ethernet For optimum performance, hardware that meets/exceeds the specifications below is recommended: Intel® Core i7/Ultra 7 or AMD equivalent 16 GB of Memory 1920 x 1080 screen resolution 1000 BASE-T Ethernet	Minimum hardware requirements: Intel® Core i5/Ultra 5 8 GB of Memory Newer versions available: Apple M1, M2, M3, or M4 chips

Where to find this information on your computer:

	Windows (PC)	Mac
	Go to the “Start” menu in the lower left corner, right click, and select “System.” In the “About” section, this will show your laptop specifications, processor type, and speed. Click on “Storage” to see your device’s total disk space available/used.	Go to “Apple Menu.” Click “About this Mac” and “More Info.” This should open the System Profiler and show your Mac’s specifications.

Privacy Screen or Privacy Filter

A student must have a privacy screen or privacy filter that fits their specific laptop. The student must have this privacy screen or privacy filter in place on their laptop for all quizzes and exams (including ATI) throughout the program.

Webcam and Microphone

For online-based activities and testing, you will need a **320 x 240 VGA resolution (minimum) internal or external web camera (webcam) and an internal or external microphone**. Work with your laptop sales provider to choose those that work best for you/with your PC or Mac. For further questions, contact the WVU Information Technology Service Help Desk at (877) 327 – 9260 or ITShelp@mail.wvu.edu.

Compatible Web Browsers and Internet Speed

It is wise to have at least two browsers installed on your computer to access SOLE, ATI, and Learning Space. In Windows systems, it is recommended to have both Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox operational. These free browsers may be downloaded at <http://soleportal.com/sole-documentation/general-help-info/help-center/supported-browsers/>. For ATI testing, you must use Google Chrome and your **internet speed should be at least 0.5 to 1 Mbps**; you may test your internet speed at www.speedtest.net.

Internet Plugins, LockDown Browser, and Microsoft Office Products

Plugins may be required to view certain content items displayed in SOLE, ATI, eCampus, and Learning Space. Examples of plugins are **Adobe Flash Player, Adobe Reader, Adobe Shockwave, Java, and Microsoft Silverlight**. As a nursing student, you must download and use **SOLE LockDown Browser** for all testing; download it to your laptop from here: <http://soleportal.com/documentation/assessment-tools/exams/lockdown-browser/installing-the-lockdown-browser/>. Current WVU students may download Microsoft Office products on up to five devices; see instructions at this link: <https://it.wvu.edu/services/student-resources> (scroll down to **Download Free and Discounted Software**).

Two-factor Authentication: Duo Display Token

Duo is the name of the software WVU uses for authentication of your login to secure services. It provides a second layer of security in addition to your Login password. You can ensure extra security for your account by confirming your identity in two ways – with something you KNOW and something you HAVE. Nursing students must purchase and use a **Duo Display Token** to access secure WVU sites and for testing; nursing students cannot use their mobile device or a YubiKey. Please visit the WVU Barnes and Noble Bookstore to purchase a Duo Display Token, then follow the instructions to set it up: <https://it.wvu.edu/services/student-resources> (scroll down to **Set Up Duo Two-Factor Authentication**). Please note: Without the token, you will not be able to access necessary sites for learning or for testing and, consequently, may jeopardize your progression in the nursing program. For further questions about the two-factor process, contact the WVU Information Technology Service Help Desk at (877) 327 – 9260 or ITShelp@mail.wvu.edu.

Virus Protection

As a nursing student, you are required to maintain up-to-date virus protection on your laptop. Current WVU students may download free Sophos anti-virus software on three computers at <https://freeav.wvu.edu/>. Other anti-virus software may be purchased from local/online stores.

Computer IT Support Services

For technical problems with your laptop, downloads, browsers, or learning management systems, you may contact the WVU Information Technology Service Help Desk:

Phone (304) 293 – 4444 or Toll Free at (877) 327 – 9260

E-mail ITShelp@mail.wvu.edu

If you need help with SOLE, please contact SOLE Support:

Phone (304) 293 – 2491, option 1

E-mail solesupport@hsc.wvu.edu