Pennsylvania College of Technology
A Penn State Affiliate

Tools & Supplies List

Information Technology

School of Engineering Technologies
Industrial, Computing & Engineering Technologies Division

Hager Lifelong Education Center, Room B1134 – 570.327.4520

Welcome to the Information Technology department in the School of Engineering Technologies: Industrial, Computing & Engineering Technologies Division. Students enrolling in an information technology major must have a laptop/notebook computer for IT major courses (CIT/IAS) 160 and higher. Placement test results determine eligibility for enrolling in these courses.

Enrollment Year – 2027-2028		
	Minimum Requirements	***Preferred Requirements***
CPU	Intel® Core™ i5 (12th Gen or newer) or AMD Ryzen 5 7000 Series	Intel® Core™ Ultra 7 *or* better, or AMD Ryzen 7 8000 Series or better
Virtualization Support	Intel VT *or* AMD-V	Intel VT *or* AMD-V
BIOS Access	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
Memory	16 GB	32 GB
Storage	512 GB SSD	1 TB NVMe SSD
Wi-Fi	802.11ac	802.11ax
Wired Connectivity	Gigabit Ethernet	Gigabit Ethernet
Graphics	Integrated *Students enrolling in the Game and Simulation Programming degree should possess a laptop with a gaming level video card with at least 1GB of RAM.	Integrated *Students enrolling in the Game and Simulation Programming degree should possess a laptop with a gaming level video card with at least 4GB of RAM.
Ports	Ethernet** & USB ** Dongle/adapter can be used in lieu of Ethernet port	Ethernet** & USB Gaming and Simulation Programming students only: USB upstream for video

Note: As of October 2023, the IT faculty does not recommend purchasing a laptop with an ARM processor. Courses in this major will require students to run multiple Linux and Windows virtual machines. At the time of drafting these specifications, virtualization technology on ARM processors does not support the execution of these virtual machines.

Due to the rapid advancements in computing technology, the IT faculty recommends that all students plan to upgrade their laptop prior to the start of their third year of study. This can be accomplished by purchasing two modestly priced laptops (during years 1 and 3) rather than one expensive laptop (in year 1).

Software requirements:

- Most recent version of Microsoft Office. This software is provided to you at no cost as a PCT student.
- Penn College provides a suite of utility software that you should download and install on your laptop prior to the first day of classes. This software can be found at: http://www.pct.edu/its/FreeDownloadsDiscounts.htm
- Authentication may be needed for some downloads. This can be accomplished by logging into the site with your Penn College network username and password, which you will receive in the mail after your tuition deposit is satisfied. Some downloads may not be authorized until after your tuition bill is satisfied.
- Additional software requirements will be specified on individual CIT course syllabi.

Purchase Options:

- As a Penn College student, you are eligible to purchase software through the Penn State Computer Store. For more information, visit http://software.psu.edu/