

HARDWARE & SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS 2017/18
School of Architecture | College of Design | Georgia Institute of Technology

Institute Requirements:

Georgia Tech's computer ownership guide (<http://www.sco.gatech.edu/>) describes the Institute's requirements for hardware and software. You can find support and security guidelines as well as financial aid information in the Student Computer Ownership Guide (http://sco.gatech.edu/downloads/SCO_2016_final.pdf). [Please note that the SOA requirements overwrite the Institute's requirements].

School of Architecture Requirements:

As an array of digital design applications have become standard tools within the contemporary discipline of architecture, the School of Architecture (SOA) requires all incoming SOA students (Bachelor of Science in Architecture, Master of Architecture (2-year and 3-year program), Master of Science, dual Master of Architecture and Master of City and Regional Planning, and PHD in Architecture) are required to own a personal laptop computer with minimum specifications outlined in this document. While the College of Design does have many outstanding digital resources collectively available to the active student body, it is crucial that individual students have the appropriate tools to facilitate both productive study and digital agility while immersed within the design culture of the School.

Financial Aid:

Most incoming students receiving financial aid are eligible for a one-time credit of \$1,100 that may be directed towards the purchase of a new laptop computer within the first year of enrollment. Students are advised to verify eligibility and procedures with the Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid (www.finaid.gatech.edu) prior to purchasing a new laptop computer.

Digital Technology Resource Orientation:

A digital technology resource orientation will be scheduled for all incoming SOA students during the first week of classes in the Fall 2017 semester. Topics will include an overview of the required hardware specifications, software applications and digital resources within both the College and Institute (printing / plotting protocols, network protocols, IT support, 3d-printing resources, Digital Fabrication Lab, etc.), along with a presentation of exemplary SOA student and faculty work produced primarily through digital means. Details of this orientation meeting will be announced in August, 2017.

Laptop Purchase:

More detailed information on purchasing a laptop computer can be found under <http://techstuff.gatech.edu>.

Laptop computers currently owned by incoming students that meet or exceed the following performance specifications are sufficient for use while enrolled, pending SOA verification of the hardware configurations as installed on those computers. Please contact helpdesk@design.gatech.edu with any questions regarding specification verification for currently owned laptops computers.

**SOA REQUIREMENTS: CALLED ARCHITECTURE LAPTOPS AT GT TECHNOLOGY STORE
2017/2018 [updated: 5/24/2017]**

HARDWARE

Processor

Intel Core i7 3.5 Ghz or higher

Memory

16 GB/ 32GB or higher

Graphic card

2GB or 4GB discrete graphic card or higher

Primary Storage

500 GB drive or higher

Backup

External Hard Drive or cloud service

Networking

Dual-Band (2.4GHz/5GHz) Wireless 802.11n

Recovery option

Highly recommended

I/O devices Physical

keyboard and mouse (trackpad not sufficient)

Extended Warranty

Highly recommended

Optional accessories

Ethernet cable, webcam and microphone, headphones

Recommended

Kensington laptop lock

OPTION I: Dell Mobile Precision 5520



Intel Core i7-7700HQ (Quad Core 2.80GHz, 3.80GHz Turbo, 6MB 45W)
Win 10 Pro 64 English, French, Spanish
Intel Core i7-7700HQ w/Intel HD Graphics 630
NVIDIA Quadro M1200 w/4GB
15.6 UltraSharp FHD IPS (1920x1080) Wide View
16GB (2x8GB) 2400MHz DDR4 Non-ECC SDRAM
512GB M.2 PCIe Solid State Drive Class 40
Dell Limited Hardware Warranty Plus Service
ProSupport: 7x24 Technical Support, 4 Years
Accidental Damage Service, 4 Years

GT Technology Store [5/24/2017]: **\$2,080.22**
with 32 GB SDRAM: **\$2295.00**

OPTION II: Lenovo P51



Intel Core i7-7700HQ Processor (6MB Cache, up to 3.80GHz)
Windows 10 Pro 64
NVIDIA Quadro M1200 4GB GDDR5
Display 15.6 FHD(1920x1080) IPS Non-Touch
16GB DDR4 2400MHz SODIMM
512GB SSD
Think 3 Year On-site

GT Technology Store [5/24/2017]: **\$1,680.00**

SOFTWARE REQUIRED PC

Operating System

Windows 10 _____ free
<http://onthehub.com/download/free-software/windows-10-education-for-students/>

Adobe

Creative Cloud _____ US\$19.99/mo
<http://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/buy/students.html>

Autodesk

3ds Max _____ free
AutoCAD _____ free
A360 _____ free
Inventor Professional _____ free
Maya _____ free
Revit _____ free
Robot Structural Analysis Professional _____ free
Stingray _____ free
FormIt Pro _____ free
and more _____ free
<http://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/all>

McNeel

Rhinoceros 5 _____ US\$195
https://www.rhino3d.com/sales/north-america/United_States

Grasshopper

Windows Version _____ free
<http://www.grasshopper3d.com/page/download-1>

175+ Plugins for Grasshopper _____ free
[http://www.food4rhino.com/browse?sort_by=ds_changed&f\[0\]=im_field_unified_type%3A773&f\[1\]=im_field_platform_app%3A720](http://www.food4rhino.com/browse?sort_by=ds_changed&f[0]=im_field_unified_type%3A773&f[1]=im_field_platform_app%3A720)

OIT

EndNoteX8 _____ free
Microsoft Office 365 Pro Plus _____ free
<https://software.oit.gatech.edu/request.php?platform=win8&audience=students&filter=>

ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE

Chaosgroup

VRay _____ US\$103.00/year
http://www.chaosgroup.com/en/2/vray_academic.html

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Recovery option

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I/O devices Physical

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Extended Warranty

Highly recommended

Optional accessories

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Recommended

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OPTION III: MacBook Pro 15"



2.6GHz Intel quad-core i7 (Turbo Boost up to 3.5GHz, 6MB L3 cache)
16GB 2133MHz onboard memory (32 GB not available currently)
512GB PCIe-based flash storage
15.4" (diagonal) Retina Display (2880x1800)
Radeon Pro 450 graphics (2GB) w/ Intel Iris Graphics 530
802.11ac wireless with Bluetooth 4.2
AppleCare Protection Plan

GT Technology Store [5/24/2017]: **\$2668.00**

+ Safeware (accidental damage and hardware failure)

GT Technology Store [5/24/2017]: **\$2968.00**

SOFTWARE REQUIRED MAC

Windows partition is required and all software listed in SOFTWARE PC is required to be installed on the windows partition

Operating System

Parrallels Desktop 12 _____ US\$39.99

<http://onthehub.com/download/software-discounts/parallels-desktop-for-mac>

Bootcamp _____ free

<https://support.apple.com/boot-camp>

Software available for MAC:

Adobe

Creative Cloud _____ US\$19.99/mo

<http://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/buy/students.html>

Autodesk

AutoCAD for MAC _____ free

<https://www.autodesk.com/education/free-software/autocad-for-mac>

McNeal

Rhinoceros 5 _____ US\$195

https://www.rhino3d.com/sales/north-america/United_States

Grasshopper

MAC Version _____ free

<http://www.grasshopper3d.com/page/grasshopper-for-mac>

5+ Plugins for Grasshopper _____ free

[http://www.food4rhino.com/browse?sort_by=ds_changed&f\[0\]=im_field_unified_type%3A773&f\[1\]=im_field_platform_app%3A785](http://www.food4rhino.com/browse?sort_by=ds_changed&f[0]=im_field_unified_type%3A773&f[1]=im_field_platform_app%3A785)

McNeal

Rhinoceros 5 _____ US\$195

https://www.rhino3d.com/sales/north-america/United_States

OIT

EndNoteX8 _____ free

Microsoft Office 365 Pro Plus _____ free

<https://software.oit.gatech.edu/request.php?platform=osx&audience=students&filter=>