



BFA GRAPHIC DESIGN / ADVERTISING - TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Laptop Requirements

Every design student is required to have a personal laptop that meets the required minimum specifications for their academic program before they begin their coursework.

- The Robert Busch School of Design (RBSD) Graphic Design / Advertising faculty strongly recommend a Macbook Pro as your laptop solution as a student.
- Professional groups and agencies will expect you to have proficiency with using the macOS. However, you can use either a MacBook Pro laptop or Windows-based laptop, but the laptop must meet the following system requirements:

System Requirements – MacBook Pro		
Built-in Specs	Minimum	Recommended
RAM	16 GB (Unified Memory)	RAM: 32 GB (Unified Memory)
Processor	M1 Pro Chip, 12-Core CPU or above	M2 Pro Chip, 12-Core CPU or above
Hard Drive	512GB	512GB
GPU	19-Core GPU	30-core GPU
Screen Size	16 inch	
OS Version	MacOS 13 (Ventura) or the latest version	

System Requirements – Windows		
Built-in Specs	Minimum	Recommended
RAM	16 GB	RAM: 32 GB
Processor	AMD Quad-Core or Intel Processor i7 or above	i7 8 Core Processor or above
Hard Drive	500GB	1TB
GPU	2 GB VRAM	4GB VRAM or more
Screen Size	15-inches or more	
OS Version	Operating system: At least Microsoft Windows 10 (64-bit)	

Software Requirements

In addition to the laptop requirements above, students must also have the following access/memberships when they start as a student in the program:

- Adobe Creative Cloud Student Edition:
<http://www.adobe.com/products/creativecloud/students.edu.html>
- Other software and memberships may be required throughout your coursework.

Backup/Peripheral Requirements

- As a student, having a backup method for your work is required. You are responsible for ensuring that your work is regularly backed up to avoid losing it in case of laptop or storage device damage.
- Many students leverage the Adobe Creative Cloud storage to back up their work (dependent on WiFi connection). However, external solid-state drives may be needed for larger projects. Once you have selected your laptop, find an external solid-state drive option that works with your laptop, we recommend these: <https://a.co/d/ftxsaQK>, <https://a.co/d/aLUVkrA>.
- A three-button mouse may be needed for your motion graphics and time-based courses.
- Other peripherals may be required throughout your coursework (Mouse, external keyboard, headphones, etc.)

Recommended

- An Apple iPad Pro, Apple Pencil, along with the ProCreate App (for iPad only) is an excellent collection of tools for design ideation and creating assets for a variety of projects.
- AND/OR consider a portable graphics tablet that works with your Adobe apps. Examples: <https://www.wacom.com/en-us/products/pen-tablets>
<https://www.xencelabs.com/>