



**Louisiana Tech University  
College of Engineering and Science**

## **Laptop Requirements 2011-2012**

A laptop is REQUIRED for all students in the College of Engineering and Science. Recommended computer specifications are listed below.

### **Computer Configurations**

Windows 7

1.6 GHz processor (minimum)

2 GB of RAM (minimum)

Wireless networking capability

120 GB hard disk drive (minimum)

12 inch or larger monitor recommended

### **NOTES:**

1. Please remember that your laptop will often go wherever you go, so think twice before purchasing a heavy laptop. Also, it may be worth the investment to purchase a battery that provides extended life (if ordering a new laptop); this will prevent you from having to carry around the power supply.
2. If you will be purchasing a new laptop, models starting around \$500 are acceptable; purchasing a \$1,500 laptop will generally not help you be more successful in engineering.
3. If you come to Louisiana Tech with an Apple, please note that you will need to install Microsoft Windows (Boot Camp). Much of the required software is Windows based. If you do have an Apple, please be aware that technical support may be limited from the COES HelpDesk.
4. If you plan to use an older laptop, we recommend that you arrive at Louisiana Tech with a fresh installation of Windows 7. A computer service center in your town or a computer savvy friend should be able to help you with this installation if you have difficulty. Student discounts on Microsoft software are available ([www.microsoft.com/student/](http://www.microsoft.com/student/)).
5. We recommend that you use your computer primarily for academic purposes. If you choose to load a variety of games, movies, and other large media files, you should expect diminished computer performance when using Mathcad and SolidWorks.
6. The installation of antivirus/antimalware software is strongly encouraged before students arrive. We also strongly recommend that students avoid the installation and use of file-sharing programs such as LimeWire, not only to avoid issues with copyright violations while using the campus network, but also to avoid inevitable problems with corrupted files, computer slowdowns, virus activity, etc.

### **Printer**

Multifunction printer and scanner (laser or inkjet) recommended

### **Software**

Word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation programs equivalent to (or better than) MS Office 2010, specifically MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint are required. We recommend that you install these programs before coming to Louisiana Tech.

NOTE: For engineering majors, Mathcad and SolidWorks will be available for purchase at a significantly reduced rate at the COES Freshman Engineering HelpDesk (Bogard Hall 130). Your instructor will tell you more about this once you arrive at Louisiana Tech. These software packages are required for ENGR 120. Please be aware that a money order is required to purchase these items; we cannot accept credit cards, personal checks, or cash.