Students / Parents

We recommend making sure your computer meets the minimum requirements below in order to be able to run Brown services, but it's not necessary to buy the exact models listed below.

- The Bookstore Technology Center lists some models for students.
- The Bookstore Technology Center is authorized to provide Dell warranty repairs, so that's a compelling reason to buy a Dell. They can also repair other PC models, but for a fee.
- Don't forget to bring your Windows and software installation disks and warranty information / receipts!

Faculty / Staff

The following recommended configurations are for existing and newly purchased Windows computers. We make these recommendations because lesser machines may not work with Brown services and CIS cannot easily support systems that are no longer supported by hardware and software vendors. CIS strongly recommends purchasing Windows computers manufactured by Dell.

Windows Desktops

Recommended Desktop Specifications

- Dell Optiplex chassis
- Seventh generation Intel Core Processor
- 8GB RAM
- 1920x1200 (or greater) Dell "UltraSharp'' monitor with DisplayPort or Mini DisplayPort inputs
- 120 GB SSD (or more, depending on user data needs and redirection configuration.)
- Intel-based Gigabit Ethernet
- Ethernet
- Windows 10 Enterprise (not upgraded in-place from Windows 7 or 8)

Minimum Desktop Specifications

The MINIMUM Service Desk supported specifications for this semester are:

For Windows 10 Desktops
Recommended Dell Desktop Models

Dell has specific Smart Select models on their Premier page. The Smart Selects from Dell provide standard configurations that are acceptable for most Brown faculty and staff, and ship in an expedited time frame. The current model is the Dell OptiPlex 5050. To get a Dell account, please contact the CIS IT Service Center.

OptiPlex 5070

The Optiplex 5070 is available in the following “form factors”:

- Micro Form Factor
- Small Form Factor
- Mini Tower

Minimum Specifications:

- i5 Intel Processor
- 8GB Memory
- 256GB Hard Drive
- Windows 10 Enterprise

Windows Laptops

Recommended Specifications

- Modern Processor such as the Intel i5
- 8GB RAM
- 256GB Solid State Drive
- Ethernet
- WiFi wireless
- Windows 10 Enterprise

Minimum Specifications

The MINIMUM Help Desk supported specifications for this semester are:

For Windows 10 Laptops

- Modern Processor such as the Intel Dual Core
- 4GB RAM
- 256GB hard drive
- Ethernet
- WiFi wireless
- Windows 10 Pro/Enterprise

Recommended Dell Laptop Models

Latitude 7400

Minimum Specifications:

- i5 Intel Processor
- 8GB Memory
- 256GB Solid State Drive
- Windows 10 Enterprise
Latitude 5400

Minimum Specifications:

- i5 Intel Processor
- 8GB Memory
- 256GB Solid State Drive
- Windows 10 Enterprise
- Ethernet/WiFi

- Tags
- ITSC