Recommended Laptop Configuration

School of Computing Sciences and Computer Engineering (CSCE)

Students in all CSCE majors are strongly encouraged to have regular access to a reliable laptop or computer. Having a personal computer makes it easier to complete programming, engineering, software development, and other course activities throughout the program. These recommendations are intended to help students who are purchasing a computer choose a system that should serve them well during their studies.

Suggested Configuration

Component	Recommendation
Processor	Intel Core i5 or AMD Ryzen 5 (minimum)
Memory (RAM)	16 GB minimum; 32 GB or more recommended
Storage	1 TB solid-state drive (SSD)
Graphics	Integrated graphics are sufficient for most coursework; a dedicated GPU is not required
Display	15-16 inch recommended
Operating System	Windows 11

Do I Need a High-End Laptop?

No. Students are not expected to purchase a high-end workstation or an expensive dedicated graphics card for typical coursework. Courses that require advanced computing resources, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, deep learning, parallel computing, or GPU programming, may use university-provided or cloud-based computing resources when additional computing power is needed.

How Much Memory Should I Choose?

16 GB of RAM is sufficient for typical undergraduate coursework. If you are purchasing a new computer and your budget allows, 32 GB or more is recommended. Additional memory can extend the useful life of the computer and provide greater flexibility when running multiple development tools, virtual environments, engineering applications, or other resource-intensive software.

Quick Recommendation

Core i5 or Ryzen 5 | 32 GB RAM | 1 TB SSD | Integrated Graphics | 15-16" Display

These are purchasing recommendations, not mandatory equipment requirements.