

## **MPP Student Laptop Recommendations**

For the 2020–21 academic year, the Public Policy Program strongly recommends that all students have a personal laptop computer powerful enough to support the computational and video requirements necessary for coursework, as well as adequate storage to accommodate new software releases. All students will use statistical analysis software (R or Stata), spreadsheets (Microsoft Excel), word processing and email software. Some students will use geographic information system software (ArcGIS, QGIS), and graphics tools that require significant memory and computing power (Rhino, Grasshopper, Sketchup, Autodesk Suite, Adobe Acrobat Creative Suite, VRAY for Rhino 6, Sketchbook Pro).

The Bloustein School provides and maintains two high-end computer labs for classes, but is moving steadily toward a mobile computing environment. *Given the uncertainty regarding access to these facilities during the current COVID-19 pandemic, we advise students to ensure that their personal laptop is capable of running all software required for their chosen course of study.*

Laptops running the Microsoft Windows operating system are compatible with all of the software students are likely to use in the program. Laptops running the Apple Macintosh operating system will work well except for students who will be taking classes that use GIS or advanced graphics software. Using a Mac laptop for these courses will require the use of Bootcamp to install Microsoft Windows for running ArcGIS. This will also require a Windows license and additional hard drive space.

Any questions related to these hardware or software requirements should be sent to [help@ejb.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@ejb.rutgers.edu).

### **MPP Students**

**\* Students who anticipate taking electives in GIS or Graphics should use the recommended specifications available for our MCRP students.**

#### Minimum Windows Laptop Specifications

Intel Core i5 processor

Windows 10 x64

8GB of RAM

256 GB SSD hard drive

Integrated graphics

Screen Resolution 1080p

Webcam

Three-year warranty recommended

Total estimated cost: \$750

### Minimum Mac Laptop Specifications

MacBook Air or MacBook Pro with Intel Core i5 processor

macOS Sierra

8GB of RAM

256 GB SSD hard drive with at least 50GB of free space for Bootcamp

Integrated graphics

Apple care recommended

Microsoft Windows License for Bootcamp (not needed for initial installation)

Total estimated cost: \$1800

### Accessories

\*USB thumb drive (32 GB)

\*USB storage hard drive (500 GB)

\*Backup battery for extended mobile work sessions

Headset

\*these items are not required for remote learning

### Software

Most of the software packages used in the program are freely available under student licensing from manufacturers, trial licenses, open source initiatives, or through licenses provided by the Bloustein School. However, some software packages may need to be purchased by students. Incoming students should receive communications about what software is available for the upcoming school year at least 30 days in advance of the start of the fall semester. Please contact [help@ejb.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@ejb.rutgers.edu) if you plan on purchasing any software prior to receiving such communications. Some packages that may need to be purchased include:

Stata/IC \$94 per year

**\* Students who anticipate taking electives in GIS or Graphics should review the MCRP Student Laptop Recommendations Software list.**