

Computer Specifications

Chicago-Kent College of Law has undertaken as its ongoing mission an effort to integrate technology with a law school education. This mission is twofold: 1) using technology in the three to four years of law school itself to help learn legal concepts and complete school projects; and 2) familiarizing students with the technology that they will be faced with in the practice of law in the 21st century. For these reasons, Chicago-Kent requires all law students to own a computer to complete their law school education.

Your life as a law school student is much easier when you have ready access to information using your own computer. You will be expected to check your email account daily since this is the main method of communication throughout the law school community. More and more professors are making their class materials available to their classes over the Internet and expect students to refer to them online. You will complete much of your legal research via computer using the online legal databases, LexisNexis and Westlaw, both from the school and at home.

These are guidelines of what you should consider if you are purchasing a new computer.

Minimum Required Computer Specifications:

Pentium IV or Pentium M processor
Available PC Card/Card Bus Slot: network card (notebook only)
2 GB RAM
80GB or larger Hard Drive
CD-ROM Drive
10/100 Ethernet Card or Integrated Ethernet connection (notebook only)
802.11b or 80211g Wireless Network Adapter (802.11n pending)
Windows XP Professional <i>*Note: Windows XP Home Edition will <u>not</u> work with our network and is <u>not</u> supported.</i>
Sound Card to support playback of media files & streaming media
15" or 17" monitor

Recommended Computer Specifications:

Core2 Duo or Core2 Quad processor
Card Bus or Express Card Slot: network card (notebook only)
4 GB RAM
160GB or larger Hard Drive
CD-ROM or DVD-ROM Drive (DVD required for Windows Vista)
10/100 Ethernet Card or Integrated Ethernet connection (notebook only)
802.11b or 802.11g Wireless Network Adapter (802.11n pending)
Windows XP Professional, Windows Vista Ultimate or Windows Vista Business <i>*Note: Windows XP Home Edition and Windows Vista Home Editions will <u>not</u> work with our network and is <u>not</u> supported.</i>
Sound Card to support playback of media files & streaming media
17" or 19" monitor (desktop only)
14" or greater display (notebook only)

If you have a computer that nearly meets the minimum requirements and is extremely costly to upgrade, please call the Center for Law and Computers at (312) 906-5300 or email us at helpdesk@kentlaw.edu, so that we can assist you in determining the best solution for both your short and long-term needs.

A word about specifications

Chicago-Kent does not support Linux, Windows 95 or Windows 98. Also, emulation environments under any of these platforms are not supported.

About Microsoft operating systems

Do not purchase Windows XP Home Edition, Windows XP Media Center Edition, or either of the Windows Vista Home Editions. They will not allow you to connect to Chicago-Kent's network resources. Only **Windows XP Professional, Windows Vista Ultimate, or Windows Vista Business** are fully supported.