



## Laptop Computer Purchase Program and Recommended Systems

### Department of Art, Portland State University

#### Laptop Computer Ownership Requirement

Beginning Fall Term 2008, all *upper-division students* majoring in Art with a concentration in Graphic Design are **strongly advised** to own a laptop computer that meets minimum system specifications, including software required for courses in our program.

This recommendation will become a program requirement beginning Fall Term 2009. Owning a laptop as soon as possible will provide critical advantages in your progress through the Graphic Design program, especially the ability to work in any of our newly renovated classrooms that will not be equipped with computers.

Minimum system specifications for your laptop are described below, along with a set of recommended laptop systems designed to meet or exceed these specifications.

All *lower-division students* majoring in Art with a concentration in Graphic Design are also advised to purchase one of these recommended laptop systems. The sooner you make a commitment to your own system, the sooner the advantages of ownership will impact your ability to perform competitively and successfully in your studies.

#### Purchasing Your Laptop System

Portland State University and the Department of Art has worked with Powersource Electronics at the Portland State University Bookstore, Apple, and other PC companies to offer specially priced systems that fit these new recommendations. We strongly recommend that you purchase your new laptop from Powersource Electronics, as they know exactly which systems fit the new requirements. Consider these advantages of purchasing from our local bookstore:

- A convenient location to find information, advice, and additional products
- Systems that are specially configured for your specific needs and applications
- **A special pricing program** on these configured systems that beats ALL standard Education pricing from other sources
- Software prices lower than even standard Education rates
- A purchase confirmation that allows our PSU Help Desk to offer software installation services

For information on purchasing laptop systems, software, and peripherals, contact Powersource Electronics at (503) 546-1790.

**Buy A Mac For College And Get A Free iPod:** If you're a student, faculty, or staff member and you buy a Mac before September 15, you can get a free iPod touch or iPod nano. Special Summer deals from Powersource end September 15, 2008. Contact Powersource for details.

Your purchase of a laptop through this Laptop Computer Purchase Program may be eligible for an extension of any student loans you receive through the PSU Financial Aid Office. Attached to this document is a form you may complete and submit to the PSU Financial Aid office to request a loan extension. Please contact the PSU Financial Aid Office at (503) 725-3461 or toll-free: (800) 547-8887 (<http://www.pdx.edu/finaid/>). Purchasing through Powersource Electronics may require your PSUOne Card.

If you already own a laptop computer but it does not meet our minimum system specifications, you should be able to meet this requirement by upgrading your system. (See below.)

#### Working in our classroom and labs

Upper-division courses in our Graphic Design program meet in classrooms that do not provide a computer system for each student. Bringing your own system to class therefore provides a number of critical advantages, especially your ability to:

- review digital handouts and make notes during lectures
- obtain resources from our course servers
- complete tutorials and assignments in specific software and digital workflows
- research and develop projects during or outside class time
- collaborate with peers on group projects using chat and video conferencing
- deliver work on our network during or outside class time
- participate in critiques presented on either classroom projection screens or your own laptop display.

Shattuck 107 hosts upper-division design and digital media courses, especially those that provide specific instruction in software and digital workflow. In this classroom, laptops can be connected to our campus network through either a wired or wireless connection, providing access to network services such as printing, web, e-mail, messaging, and video conferencing.

The FPA Media Arts Center in Neuberger Hall, Room 251 and the Art Lab in Art Building Annex, Room 165 both continue to offer desktop systems with printers, scanners, and digital camcorders to use for course projects. However, these labs may be rather busy as they host lower-division digital media courses as well as courses in other Art programs such as Photography and Time Arts.

## **System support and technical services**

All recommended systems include extended warranty coverage to protect your investment and insure reliable warranty service. For instructions and advice on configuring your system to work efficiently in PSU facilities, please contact the PSU Help Desk at (503) 725-HELP.

Future plans for this program include:

- An authorized service center located at the PSU Help Desk to provide convenient vendor-certified repair for your system.
- Customized system and software installation by the PSU Help Desk that is designed especially to work in our labs and classrooms. For example, our installed system for Department of Art labs and classrooms may include specific printer drivers, color swatch libraries, font reference charts, web bookmarks, and other course-related resources. These resources could maximize your ability to work efficiently and compatibly in our classrooms. To request an Art System installation, you would bring confirmation of your purchase as well as all required installer discs and software license information to our Help Desk. This would allow us to authorize the installation of the Art System from our own discs, using your personal software serial numbers.
- Free clinics on system installation and configuration for maximum performance and computing safety, offered by our participating computer manufacturers to prepare you to install your own software.

## **Choosing your computer platform**

While the Department of Art expects that its students choose to work on the computer platform most comfortable to them, we strongly recommend Macintosh systems from Apple for the following reasons:

- Mac OS X running on Macintosh computers is the dominant industry-standard platform for design, illustration, publishing, photography, video, and animation. A majority of professionals in these fields have clearly recognized that graphics, multimedia, and Internet technologies on the Mac OS X platform are superior in many respects to those found on Windows running on PC systems.
- Current Macintosh laptop systems are capable of running both Mac OS X and Windows operating systems. In other words, if you are a Windows user, there is still a strong argument for using an Apple Macintosh computer, because it allows you to work on both platforms, thus extending the range of software you can use and providing the flexibility to work compatibly at all times with instructors, employers, labs, and colleagues. A Macintosh therefore provides the most cost-effective solution for developing cross-platform skills that are highly valued by your future employers.
- Running Windows on a Macintosh provides an additional layer of system safety and security, because it is installed on a disk partition, with these advantages:
  - boot the system completely in Mac OS X or in Windows; or, run both platforms simultaneously
  - seamless movement between applications and transfer of data between platforms
  - ability to navigate the web and download files in Mac OS X to protect Windows from viruses
  - ability to boot from Mac OS X to restore a clean Windows installation from an external backup in case Windows fails
- Our faculty are design professionals who use the Macintosh as their primary platform and will be most comfortable demonstrating software on a Macintosh.
- Our computer labs are standardized on the Macintosh platform, so using our labs to support your work will maximize compatibility with your laptop system.
- Mac OS X includes integrated peer-to-peer networking (iChat) with advanced yet simple-to-use capability to chat and video conference with colleagues and friends, including the ability to share files and screens online.
- Mac OS X provides automated backup software that is so easy to use that it insures you never lose valuable work.
- Repeated comparative studies show Macintosh computers typically have lower overall costs of ownership, based on the original cost of a system plus ongoing costs for support, maintenance, upgrades, repair, compatibility, and longevity.
- In 2007, PCWorld awarded the MacBook Pro the honor of being the fastest laptop for running Windows Vista.

There are two methods for running Windows on your Macintosh:

- Reboot your computer into Windows using Apple's BootCamp, which is included in Mac OS X.
- Use virtualization software such as Parallels or VMWare Fusion, which allows you to run Mac OS X and Windows simultaneously while switching between OS and all your applications.

To run Windows on your Macintosh, you will need to purchase and install a copy of Microsoft Windows XP. Extra cost: \$199.

## Minimum System Specifications

All laptop systems must meet the following minimum specifications:

- 1.8 GHz processor
- 14" display with 1280 x 800 pixel resolution
- 2GB system memory
- 120GB hard drive
- Video processor with 128MB video memory
- Optical drive supporting CD-R/RW and DVD+/-RW formats
- Wireless networking based on 802.11g or 802.11n standards
- Extended warranty for authorized service
- Required software packages

## Recommended Laptop Computer Systems for Art

The following systems offered by Apple and Windows PC vendors are designed to satisfy two different types of digital workflows, depending on your needs and interests.

### 1. The Design System

The Design System includes all software required for graphic design, illustration, photography, color pre-press, and web development. Software includes:

- Adobe Creative Suite Premium (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat Professional, Bridge, Dreamweaver, and Flash)
- Microsoft Office *or* Apple iWork

### 2. The Media System

In addition to the software included in the above Design System, the Media System includes software required for video production and animation. Software includes:

- Adobe Creative Suite Premium (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat Professional, Bridge, Dreamweaver, and Flash)
- Apple Final Cut Studio (Final Cut Pro, Motion, DVD Studio Pro, Soundtrack, Compressor, LiveType)
- Microsoft Office *or* Apple iWork

Each of these systems may be offered in a **Standard** or **Faster** configuration, which differ mainly in the speed of the processor, the amount of system memory and video memory, and the size of hard drive included. Please note that Standard configurations represent minimum system requirements, while Faster Configurations provide options exceeding these specifications. However, you may decide to exceed these specifications further by choosing additional options not listed here.

**Economy** systems from Apple and Windows PC vendors are also offered that nearly meet our minimum system specifications and are recommended only for students who cannot afford one of the systems listed above. This system may also be an excellent choice for those who already own desktop computers but recognize the advantage of also having a laptop to bring to campus.

To obtain the maximum discount on top of your regular Educational discount, contact Powersource Electronics for a complete listing of options and advice on how to build your system under the constraints of your budget.

**Buy a Mac for college and get a free iPod:** If you're a student, faculty, or staff member and you buy a Mac before September 15, you can get a free iPod touch or iPod nano. Special Summer deals from Powersource end September 15, 2008. Contact Powersource for details.

Purchase your laptop system and Apple software from Powersource, then purchase your additional required software through Techhead at <http://www.techhead.org/>.

**Powersource Electronics (PSU Bookstore)**  
(503) 546-1790  
1715 SW 5th Avenue Portland, OR 97201

**<http://www.techhead.org/> (Powered by OETC.)**  
8995 SW Miley Road, Suite 101, Wilsonville, OR, 97070  
503.694.4499 / [info@oetc.org](mailto:info@oetc.org)

**IMPORTANT: The following recommended systems are current as of September 15, 2008. However, major changes in laptop systems from our Windows PC vendors are expected in the summer of 2008. Please check our department office or web site to obtain a current version of this document with up-to-date recommended systems.**

# Apple Systems

	Standard	Faster
<p><b>Design Systems</b></p>  <p>Deadline: September 15, 2008</p>	<p><b>15-inch MacBook Pro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo</li> <li>-15" Widescreen Display (Matte/Glossy)</li> <li>1440 x 900 resolution</li> <li>-2GB memory</li> <li>-200GB Serial ATA Drive @5400 rpm</li> <li>-SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)</li> <li>-NVIDIA GeForce 8600M GT graphics with 256MB SDRAM</li> <li>-Backlit Keyboard</li> <li>-Built-in AirPort Extreme (802.11n)</li> <li>-Built-in Bluetooth 2.0+EDR</li> <li>-iLife 2008</li> <li>-AppleCare Protection Plan</li> </ul> <p><b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$1,888.00</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option) Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320</li> <li>-Office 2008 for Mac - Student Edition, \$69 or</li> <li>Apple iWork '08, \$59</li> </ul>	<p><b>15-inch MacBook Pro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2.5GHz Intel Core 2 Duo</li> <li>-15" Widescreen Display (Matte/Glossy)</li> <li>1440 x 900 resolution</li> <li>-2GB memory</li> <li>-250GB Serial ATA Drive @5400 rpm</li> <li>-SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)</li> <li>-NVIDIA GeForce 8600M GT graphics with 256MB SDRAM</li> <li>-Backlit Keyboard</li> <li>-Built-in AirPort Extreme (802.11n)</li> <li>-Built-in Bluetooth 2.0+EDR</li> <li>-iLife 2008</li> <li>-AppleCare Protection Plan</li> </ul> <p><b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$2,384.00</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option) Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320</li> <li>-Office 2008 for Mac - Student Edition, \$69 or</li> <li>Apple iWork '08, \$59</li> </ul>
<b>System+Software*</b>	<b>\$2,277.00 or \$2,267.00</b>	<b>\$2,773.00 or \$2,763.00</b>
<p><b>Media Systems</b></p>  <p>Deadline: September 15, 2008</p>	<p><b>17-inch MacBook Pro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2.5GHz Intel Core 2 Duo</li> <li>-17" Hi-Resolution LED Widescreen Display</li> <li>-1920 x 1200 resolution</li> <li>-2GB memory</li> <li>-250GB Serial ATA Drive @5400 rpm</li> <li>-SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)</li> <li>-NVIDIA GeForce 8600M GT graphics with 256MB SDRAM</li> <li>-Backlit Keyboard</li> <li>-Built-in AirPort Extreme (802.11n)</li> <li>-Built-in Bluetooth 2.0+EDR</li> <li>-iLife 2008</li> <li>-AppleCare Protection Plan</li> </ul> <p><b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$2,688.00</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option) Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320</li> <li>-Final Cut Studio 2 Academic, \$499.00</li> <li>-Office 2008 for Mac - Student Edition, \$69 or</li> <li>Apple iWork '08, \$59</li> </ul>	<p><b>17-inch MacBook Pro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2.5GHz Intel Core 2 Duo</li> <li>-17" Hi-Resolution LED Widescreen Display</li> <li>-1920 x 1200 resolution</li> <li>-4GB memory</li> <li>-250GB Serial ATA Drive @5400 rpm</li> <li>-SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)</li> <li>-NVIDIA GeForce 8600M GT graphics with 256MB SDRAM</li> <li>-Backlit Keyboard</li> <li>-Built-in AirPort Extreme (802.11n)</li> <li>-Built-in Bluetooth 2.0+EDR</li> <li>-iLife 2008</li> <li>-AppleCare Protection Plan</li> </ul> <p><b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$2,888.00</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option) Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320</li> <li>-Final Cut Studio 2 Academic, \$499.00</li> <li>-Office 2008 for Mac - Student Edition, \$69 or</li> <li>Apple iWork '08, \$59</li> </ul>
<b>System+Software*</b>	<b>\$3,576.00 or \$3,566.00</b>	<b>\$3,776.00 or \$3,766.00</b>

\* Visit Powersource Electronics to configure the exact system you need, based on your budget. Use a Standard configuration above as a starting point and then add capabilities accordingly. Or, begin with a Faster configuration and add or subtract. It's your system. System+Software price show the system price from Powersource plus the software price from techhead.org. Prices for these systems reflect special discount pricing only available for PSU students. Modifications of these configurations may alter this special pricing program. Prices above may change.


# PC Systems

(Note: These are sample systems only; actual systems will be available Summer 2008.)

	Standard	Faster
<b>Design Systems</b>	<p><b>14-inch PC Laptop</b>                      -AMD Turion 64 X2 mobile technology TL-64/2.2 GHz (Dual-Core)                      -14.1" TFT active matrix 1280 x 800 (WXGA)                      -2GB DDR2 SDRAM                      -120GB Hard Drive                      -256MB NVIDIA Quadro FX 1600M                      -DVD+/-RW DL with LightScribe                      -Gigabit Ethernet                      -802.11a/b/g/draft-n                      -Bluetooth 2.0                      -3 year warranty  <b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$xxxx</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option)                      Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b>                      -Microsoft XP                      -Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320                      -Office 2008 for PC - Student Edition, \$69</p>	<p><b>14-inch PC Laptop</b>                      -AMD Turion 64 X2 mobile technology TL-64/2.2 GHz (Dual-Core)                      -14.1" TFT active matrix 1280 x 800 (WXGA)                      -4GB DDR2 SDRAM                      -160GB Hard Drive                      -256MB NVIDIA Quadro FX 1600M                      -DVD+/-RW DL with LightScribe                      -Gigabit Ethernet                      -802.11a/b/g/draft-n                      -Bluetooth 2.0                      -3 year warranty  <b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$xxxx</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option)                      Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b>                      -Microsoft XP                      -Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320                      -Office 2008 for PC - Student Edition, \$69</p>
<b>System+Software*</b>	<b>\$xxxx.00</b>	<b>\$xxxx.00</b>
<b>Media Systems</b>	<p><b>17-inch PC Laptop</b>                      -Intel Core 2 Duo T7700 (2.4GHz)                      -17-inch WUXGA Display WVA anti-glare                      -2GB DDR2 RAM                      -120GB Hard Drive (7200RPM)                      -512MB NVIDIA Quadro FX 1600M                      -Blu-Ray Disc DVD+/-RW SuperMulti DL Drive                      -Intel 802.11a/b/g/draft-n                      -Bluetooth                      -Windows Vista Business                      -3 Year Next Business Day Onsite Warranty  <b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$xxxx</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option)                      Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b>                      -Microsoft XP                      -Adobe Creative Suite 3 Master Collection, \$499                      -Office 2008 for PC - Student Edition, \$69</p>	<p><b>17-inch PC Laptop</b>                      -Intel Core 2 Duo T7700 (2.4GHz)                      -17-inch WUXGA Display WVA anti-glare                      -4GB DDR2 RAM                      -200GB Hard Drive (7200RPM)                      -512MB NVIDIA Quadro FX 1600M                      -Blu-Ray Disc DVD+/-RW SuperMulti DL Drive                      -Intel 802.11a/b/g/draft-n                      -Bluetooth                      -Windows Vista Business                      -3 Year Next Business Day Onsite Warranty  <b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$xxxx</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option)                      Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b>                      -Microsoft XP                      -Adobe Creative Suite 3 Master Collection, \$499                      -Office 2008 for PC - Student Edition, \$69</p>
<b>System+Software*</b>	<b>\$xxxx.00</b>	<b>\$xxxx.00</b>

\* Visit Powersource Electronics to configure the exact system you need, based on your budget. Use a Standard configuration above as a starting point and then add capabilities accordingly. Or, begin with a Faster configuration and add or subtract. It's your system. System+Software price show the system price from Powersource plus the software price from techhead.org. Prices for these systems reflect special discount pricing only available for PSU students. Modifications of these configurations may alter this special pricing program. Prices above may change.

# Economy Systems

	Apple	PC (Sample system only.)
<p><b>Minimum Specifications</b></p>  <p>Deadline: September 15, 2008</p>	<p><b>13-inch White MacBook</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo</li> <li>- 2GB 667MHz DDR2 SDRAM - 2x1GB</li> <li>- 160GB Serial ATA Drive @ 5400 rpm</li> <li>- Combo Drive (DVD-ROM/CD-RW)</li> <li>- Keyboard/Mac OS - U.S. English</li> <li>- AirPort Extreme Card &amp; Bluetooth</li> <li>- AppleCare Protection Plan for MacBook - Auto-enroll</li> </ul> <p><b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$1,313.00</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$100 (option) Laptop Security cable, ~\$45 (option)</p> <p><b>Required Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320.00</li> <li>-Office 2008 for Mac - Student Edition, \$69.00 <i>or</i> Apple iWork '08, \$59.00</li> </ul>	<p><b>13-inch</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2.0GHz</li> <li>-2GB memory</li> <li>-80GB Serial ATA Drive @5400 rpm</li> <li>-CD-ROM, CD-RW drive, DVD-ROM</li> <li>-Keyboard</li> <li>-wireless</li> <li>3 year warranty</li> </ul> <p><b>POWERSOURCE PRICE!: \$x,xxx.00</b></p> <p>External hard drive for backup, ~\$170.00 Laptop Security cable, ~\$45.00</p> <p><b>Required Software</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Adobe Creative Suite 3 Design Premium, \$320.00</li> <li>-Office 2008 for Mac - Student Edition, \$69.00 <i>or</i> Apple iWork '08, \$59.00</li> </ul>
<b>System+Software*</b>	<b>\$1,702.00 or \$1,692.00</b>	<b>\$xxxx.00</b>

## Options for Macintosh or Windows systems

The following peripherals and software will certainly enhance and extend your laptop system. One or more may provide a critical advantage, such as providing a larger display at home, allowing you to print at home whenever you need, extending your design capability, or calibrating your display so that color is consistent wherever you work and print.

### Peripherals

External 20" or 23" LCD display (Apple 20" Cinema Display, \$450.00 or Apple 23" Cinema Display, \$650.00)

Bluetooth wireless mouse

Apple Mini-DVI to VGA Adapter *or* DVI to VGA Adapter

Laptop case

USB Memory Sticks - 2GB / 4GB

Digital camera

Ink jet printer and cable

ColorVision Spyder2 Express Win/Mac color calibration system, \$74

iPod or other music player

### Macintosh Software

Adobe Type Basics OpenType Edition, \$99.00

Apple Aperture 2, \$69.00 *or* Adobe Lightroom, \$99.99

Final Cut Studio 2 Academic, \$499.00

Adobe After Effects CS3 Professional, \$349.00

Maxon Cinema 4D XL, \$195.00 *or* Google SketchUp Pro, \$49 per year *or* Autodesk Maya Complete, \$284.00

Max/MSP/Jitter 9-month authorization), \$59.00

VMware Fusion - Academic, \$30 *or* Parallels Desktop for Mac, \$69.99

Microsoft XP (White Box), \$199.00

## Windows Software

Adobe Type Basics OpenType Edition, \$99.00

Adobe Lightroom, \$99.99

Adobe Premiere Pro CS3, \$349.00

Adobe After Effects CS3 Professional, \$349.00

Maxon Cinema 4D XL, \$195.00 or Google SketchUp Pro, \$49.00 per year or Autodesk Maya Complete, \$284.00

Max/MSP/Jitter 9-month authorization): \$59.00

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **I already have a desktop computer at home; do I still need to purchase a laptop computer?**

In order to participate fully in courses that meet in our classrooms, you will need a laptop. If your current desktop computer is an older model, perhaps you should consider selling it or using it as an auxiliary system. If you just purchased a new desktop system, take a look at the Economy systems offered above, to determine if they could meet your budget as a second system.

### **I just bought a new laptop computer, but it doesn't meet the minimum requirements—what do I do?**

The most typical upgrade is to increase the amount of RAM to facilitate work on larger files and keeping multiple applications running. A larger hard drive may also be an important upgrade. Upgrading the system processor (CPU), the video system, or display of your laptop is usually not possible. However, additional RAM and a larger hard drive can often compensate for a slower or less capable system. The system could still be acceptable in normal classroom use.

### **Should I buy a printer?**

Purchasing and using your own printer is highly recommended for these reasons:

- You can print anytime without worrying whether lab printers are available, working well, or in demand by other users.
- You can choose exactly the type of printer that is best for your own work.
- You can control the costs of printing yourself, rather than relying on lab managers to determine the price of your prints.
- You can still use campus computer labs to print through the campus quota system for black-and-white prints and the Art Labs print credit system for color prints. As a PSU computer lab user you have a 500 sheet per term quota for black and white laser prints and once you exceed your quota during a term, you are automatically charged an additional \$25 for a new 500 sheet quota. Fees for some Art courses provide a portion of your print credits in Art labs, but additional print credits for color prints made on our lab printers must be purchased from the PSU Cashier.

### **How long will this computer last me?**

It's difficult to say exactly how long a computer will last — mostly because you can tax the capabilities of your computer system more and more as you integrate it into your daily work. The recommended configurations are designed to last for a four-year stay on campus or to accompany you into your chosen profession after you complete your degree program. If in the future you expect to upgrade to the latest software or are going to use your computer for applications beyond its current capability, you may need to upgrade your hardware more frequently.

### **Where should I buy my computer? Does the university sell computers?**

We strongly recommend that you purchase your new laptop from Powersource Electronics, as they know exactly which systems fit the new requirements. However, you can purchase from any vendor you choose as long as the computer you buy meets or exceeds the minimum system specifications listed above in **Minimum System Specifications**. Powersource Electronics at our PSU Bookstore sells computers and Apple software that meet these minimum specifications. Techhead.org (<http://www.techhead.org/>) sells additional software at the best available prices. Purchasing at Powersource with your PSUOne Card may be the most convenient way to use the funds available to you.

### **Can I get financial aid to help purchase a computer?**

Eligible financial aid recipients may receive an increase in the amount of their loan package that will help with a computer purchase. Use the attached form to submit a loan request from the PSU Financial Aid Office. For more details, please contact the PSU Financial Aid Office at (503) 725-3461 or toll-free: (800) 547-8887 (<http://www.pdx.edu/finaid/>).

### **When should I get my computer?**

It's your responsibility to ensure you have access to a computer by your first upper-division term. The campus recommends you arrange this well before the Fall term.

### **Can I borrow a computer from PSU?**

No, the campus does not have a computer lending program.

**What's going to happen to the campus computer labs?**

We will continue to manage, maintain, and upgrade the General Access and Department of Art computer labs on the normal schedule. In fact, usage in these labs—which are already very busy—is expected to increase as more and more students integrate computers into their respective disciplines.

**I have a laptop computer; where can I use it on campus?**

There are many available network access ports in classrooms and labs in every building on campus. If you have a wireless-network card, there are wireless access points providing wireless access from most locations on campus. Please contact our OIT Help Desk for instructions on how to connect to our campus network.

**Where can I find technical and software support on campus?**

Our OIT User Support Services (USS) Help Desk is the central campus access point to help you with common computer problems or questions. Located in the basement of Smith Center, Room 18, our Help Desk provides consulting in person, over the telephone at 503-725-HELP (4357), and by email ([help@pdx.edu](mailto:help@pdx.edu)). Our Help Desk web site (<http://www.uss.pdx.edu/>) provides numerous articles that answer your questions, show you how to install and configure your computer, and assist you in troubleshooting problems. If you experience computer problems, this is the best place on campus to begin.

**Does the campus have printer repair services?**

Not at the current time.

**How can I find out about all the campus computing resources available to students at PSU?**

Go to the Help Desk in Smith Center Room 18 or visit <http://www.uss.pdx.edu/>online.

**Are there computer labs on campus?**

In addition to Department of Art facilities (See **Working in our Labs and Classrooms**), there are several General Access Labs:  
Branford Price Millar Library Lab Room 115, (503) 725-8425  
Broadway Housing Building Lab Room 226, (503) 725-2940  
Neuberger Hall Room 96, (503) 725-3288