School of Accountancy
Student Computer Requirement

Computers are an essential tool accountants use to collect, analyze, summarize, and communicate information. The faculty of the School of Accountancy recognizes the need for students entering today’s accounting profession to have a thorough knowledge of the computer applications used in professional accounting.

The School believes that the efficiencies provided by computers are maximized by students having 24-hour access to a computer, printer, and Internet access. Computers are required of all accounting majors enrolled in upper-level undergraduate and graduate accounting courses. Although not required, the School strongly encourages students to have a computer during their freshman and sophomore years.

Hardware
The University provides minimum configuration recommendations for both laptop and desktop computers at http://www.its.msstate.edu/support/desktop/specsstudent/. The following additional specifications and related information will impact the computer configuration:

- Both laptop or desktop computers are acceptable, but laptops are recommended.
- Select an IBM compatible system
- Add a printer

Software
The following software should be installed:

- Microsoft Office Professional 2007 (includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access)

Other software will be provided by textbook publishers.

Printer
Although some computer applications can be submitted electronically, the need to frequently print draft and final copy of documents necessitates the immediate access to a printer.

Financial Aid
Students may qualify for financial aid depending on level of income and need. Students should apply for financial aid at the Department of Student Financial Aid when a student applies for admission. Students should indicate to that office that they are accounting students and wish to be considered for additional aid due to the computer requirement. Students may or may not qualify for additional aid depending on several factors. In general, any additional aid will most likely be through student or parent loans.

E-Mail
Students may use any e-mail system. The University provides students with a NetID address used for gaining access to the University intranet used for registration, financial transactions, etc. The intranet also provides students with access to an e-mail system. This e-mail system is an official means of communication with students and will be used by faculty, staff, administrators, and other students. Students are obligated to read their email and keep their mailboxes cleaned up so that messages do not bounce Policy 91.126.