

## DEVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DVM PROGRAM

Students entering the [Professional DVM Program](#) must purchase one of the configurations described below. To satisfy the "Buy-Your-Own-Device (BYOD)" requirement for teaching and examinations in the Professional DVM Program, your device must be one of the systems noted below. The cost of each system includes a four-year maintenance agreement to accommodate computer needs throughout the four-year program.

### Laptops Specifications (PC or Mac)

*The table below details the recommended and minimum specifications that must be met.*

Hardware	Recommended for PC	Recommended for Mac
Hard Drive	512GB or greater M.2 Solid-State Drive	512GB or greater Solid-State Drive
Memory	16GB – 32GB of RAM	16GB – 32GB of RAM
Operating System	64-bit versions of Windows 10 and Windows 11 (certified for Windows 10 22H2, Windows 11 21H2 and 22H2)	macOS 11, macOS 12, macOS 13 (Big Sur, Monterey, Ventura)
Processor	Intel 12 <sup>th</sup> generation i7	Intel 10 <sup>th</sup> generation i7, M1, M2 and Apple Rosetta 2
Screen	13"- 15"	13"- 16"
Hardware	Minimum for PC	Minimum for Mac
Hard Drive	256 GB hard drive	256 GB hard drive
Memory	16 GB of RAM	16 GB of RAM
Operating System	64-bit versions of Windows 10 and Windows 11 (certified for Windows 10 22H2, Windows 11 21H2 and 22H2)	macOS 11, macOS 12, macOS 13 (Big Sur, Monterey, Ventura)
Processor	Intel 8 <sup>th</sup> Generation i5	Intel 8 <sup>th</sup> Generation i5
Screen	13"	13"
Other Requirements	PC	Mac
Microphone	Required	Required
Webcam - External or built in to the top of the laptop screen	Required	Required
Internet Speed / Bandwidth	2.5 Mbps or better upload speed	2.5 Mbps or better upload speed
Privacy Screen – fit to your display screen	Required for on-campus assessments	Required for on-campus assessments
Software	PC	Mac
Office Suite	Microsoft Office (provided by TAMU)	Microsoft Office (provided by TAMU)
Anti-Virus Protection	TrendMicro Antivirus (provided by VMBS)	TrendMicro Antivirus (provided by VMBS)

Approved configurations along with purchasing information can be found here:

<https://vetmed.tamu.edu/technology-services/student-devices/>

## Mobile Devices (including iPads) Recommendations

***NOTE: Mobile devices are not supported with the test taking software. This software will be used for the majority of exams. Students must have a compatible device to use for exams, in addition to any optional mobile devices.***

The VMBS **strongly recommends** that all students with mobile devices such as an Android phone, Android tablet, iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch have the most recent operating system. Please make sure your devices are set to be *automatically* updated by the vendor to ensure that your devices are always on the most current operating platform. ***Mobile devices are not supported with the test taking software.***

## Security Recommendations

The VMBS strongly recommends that students ensure their personal devices specifically laptops, tablets, and phones have ***disk encryption toggled on***. This will keep your data safe should your device be stolen. Please keep your decryption key in a safe place.

### ***Things to Consider Regarding Security***

- All software and Operating Systems (OS) should be set to ***automatically*** update which will ensure you have the latest patches. It is recommended to check with the Texas A&M Technology Services – Veterinary Medicine team prior to upgrading the OS higher than these recommendations.
- The VMBS also recommends that students set their Screen Savers to the 10–15 minutes setting on all their devices. It is also suggested that students consider purchasing a privacy screen for laptops and or tablets.
- Make sure that passcodes and/or biometrics are enabled for devices to ensure data security.

## Additional Helpful Links

- **Texas A&M University Software Center** for purchasing software:  
<https://software.tamu.edu>
- **Texas A&M Technology Services – Veterinary Medicine Help Desk**  
The Technology Services – Veterinary Medicine Help Desk assists with VMBS-specific classroom or software issues: <https://it.tamu.edu/vetmed>
- **Texas A&M Technology Services Help Desk Central**  
Help Desk Central assists Texas A&M students, faculty, and staff with their IT questions by phone, email, chat, in person, and on the web. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year:  
<https://it.tamu.edu/help/>

## Financial Aid

Students who will be seeking financial aid should be aware that the cost of a laptop computer, up to certain limits, can be added to the student's budget for purposes of computing financial aid under the guidelines of the U.S. Office of Education. Please note that students can only utilize this **once** while they are in the DVM program.

If you have questions about the financial aid application process, please contact Jamie Kearney via email at [jkearney@tamu.edu](mailto:jkearney@tamu.edu) or call 979.845.5054 for information, before purchasing your laptop.

*NOTE: These requirements do not apply to students in the Graduate Programs at the Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (VMBS).*