Class of 2021 Required Laptop Computer Specifications

Computer Component	Mandatory Minimum	Additional Information
Computer's Operating System	Windows Based Professional Edition OS (7, 8.1, or 10) • Apple/Macintosh OS Not Recommended • Linux OS Not Recommended	Windows OS required by Computer Science Department
Computer's processing power	Intel or AMD i5, 6th Generation Dual or Quad Core Processor Chip	i7 Chip recommended for students interested in graphic design, animation, CAD/CAM, high processing demand applications
Computer's Memory	8GB	
Computer's Video Capabilities	Intel HD (High Definition) Integrated Graphics Processor	AMD or Nvidia Independent Graphics Processors recommended for students interested in graphic design, animation, CAD/CAM, high processing demand applications
Computers Internal Storage – Hard Drive	128GB Hard Drive	SSD type drive recommended for processing power and reliability
Computer's Wired Ethernet Connection	Optional, but strongly recommended.	Wired network connections are 10x faster than wireless network connections
Computer's WiFi – Internet Access Card	Intel Brand – Dual Band Wireless Card capable of 802.11ac 2.4/5.0GHz Band Wireless Network Card	We do not recommend other wireless network card brands, Intel is the only one that works reliably in the IMSA environment
Computer's WebCam	Optional	
Computer's USB Ports	3- USB Ports supporting a combination of USB 2.0 and 3.0	Required by Computer Science and Science departments for connecting various equipment
Computer's BlueTooth Connection	BlueTooth 4.0	Required by Computer Science and Science departments for connecting various equipment
Computer Software – Required Purchase (Available for free from Microsoft)	Microsoft Office 2016/365 (Excel, OneNote, PowerPoint, Word) https://products.office.com/en-us/student/office-in-education?tab=students	Required by all departments for assignments

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Computer's Warranty	3 Year Manufactures Parts and Labor Warranty	Covers technical failures during the student's entire time at IMSA.

Optional but recommended additions	
Warranty: 3 Year Accidental Damage Protection Warranty	Protecting the computer from accidental physical damage (liquid spills, drops, falls, etc…) during the student's entire time at IMSA
External Storage: External USB Hard Drive	Used to backup documents, pictures, video, in case internal laptop hard drive fails
External Storage: USB Flash/Thumb Drive	Used to backup/transfer documents, pictures, videos, etc…
Ethernet Network Cable: 15ft	Used to connect computer to in-room Ethernet (wired) network connection