Mobile Computing Program

2014-2015

It’s more than just a great laptop!
We offer this outstanding package for much less than the retail cost of the laptop computer alone. An equally powerful and portable machine complete with software would be difficult to find at this price; a less powerful laptop may put you at a disadvantage in your course work.

From computer-aided design to word processing, Rensselaer’s laptop is loaded with software that’s ready for your Rensselaer course work. It has also been tested and is specially configured for easy connection to the Rensselaer network.

A valuable asset of using Rensselaer’s laptop is that your classmates and instructors will be using the same system and software. As a result, you’ll be able to easily turn to them to get help and to share solutions.

Rensselaer’s laptop is fully supported by on-campus consulting and Lenovo-certified repair services. The consultants at the Help Desk in the Voorhees Computing Center (VCC) are ready to help you in person, on-line, or by phone. And if anything should go wrong with your laptop, you’ll be able to get it fixed right here on campus. We also have a pool of loaner machines available to program participants, if needed.
This year's Mobile Computing Package will include a Lenovo ThinkPad T440s Ultrabook laptop computer, which offers these hardware features:

- Intel Core i7-4600U processor, 4MB cache, up to 3.3 GHz
- 8 GB PC3-12800 (4GB base and one 4GB SoDIMM)
- 14.0" HD+ WWAN (1600 x 900), color, anti-glare, LED backlit, 250-nit display
- ThinkLight backlit keyboard
- 256GB solid-state SATA3 hard drive
- Intel HD Graphics 4400
- Gigabit wired RJ45 Ethernet network connection
- Intel Centrino Ultimate N6300 3x3 802.11 na/g/n wireless / WWAN upgradable
- Ports: Three USB 3.0, one VGA, one Mini-DisplayPort with audio, one ExpressCard 34mm slot, one SmartCard reader, one 3.5mm headphone/microphone jack, and one 4-in-1 SD/SDHC/SDXC/MMC Multiread card slot
- UltraNav multi-touch Touchpad/TrackPoint pointing device
- Integrated 720p HD resolution wide-view angle webcam camera with face tracking
- UPEK fingerprint reader
- Intel dual-band wireless LAN adapter with Bluetooth 4.0
- 6-cell Lithium-Ion battery with one-year warranty

But you don’t just get a laptop when you participate in this program. We offer a complete package which also includes all of the following, in addition to the full on-campus support and laptop loaner pool:

✔ A 10-foot Ethernet cable..........(a $4 value)
✔ A security cable and lock...........(a $7 value)
✔ An iClicker Plus classroom personal response unit, required for many classes..........(a $32 value)
✔ A pre-installed software suite (some software is listed below; please see following page for more details)
✔ Microsoft Windows 8.1 Enterprise, which has an approximate $100 upgrade price from the Home Premium edition. Students who participate in the Mobile Computing Program are also entitled to free Windows OS and Office upgrades for as long as they’re enrolled at Rensselaer!
✔ Microsoft Office 2013 Professional, which has an approximate $150 upgrade price from the Office Home 2013 edition
✔ A forty-nine month manufacturer’s warranty and protection against accidental damage, which may cost up to $399 for some laptops

And as if all this isn’t enough, because all Rensselaer students are required to have a laptop and this is an academic program, no 8% sales tax is applied to the cost of the package, which means you’re saving even more! Quite literally, you’re all set as soon as you take your new laptop out of the box.

So what’s the bottom line?

We’re pleased to offer this entire laptop package for $1,620. We think that once you consider everything you get along with the laptop, you’ll agree that this package is an excellent value!
What software is included?
The following software comes pre-installed on all Fall 2014 Mobile Computing laptops. Educational licenses are included, but not installation CDs.

- Microsoft Windows 8.1 Enterprise (64-bit)
- Microsoft Office Professional 2013 (32-bit; 64-bit available for user installation)
- Maplesoft Maple symbolic algebra program (64-bit)
- MathWorks MATLAB (64-bit)
- Siemens NX CAD package (64-bit)
- National Instruments LabVIEW (local install)

Windows Defender Antimalware Client virus protection is included as part of the laptop operating system.

Please note that this listing does not include all pre-installed software, nor does it include other software packages that some students may need to purchase for their specific coursework. Please consult with your academic advisor to determine what, if any, additional software is required.

Should I buy a printer?
There are many public networked printers across campus, so we recommend that you wait until you’ve settled in before you make that decision. If you do decide to buy one, the Rensselaer Campus Computer Store – which is located on the main level of the VCC – sells compatible printers, as well as many other peripherals and software, at educational discounts. Visit their website at http://computerstore.rpi.edu for details! NOTE: If your printer is a wireless variety, you should plan on using Bluetooth as the connection between your device and your printer.

Can I set up my own wireless router?
As of Fall 2014, student-run wireless routers or access points are not allowed in residence halls having Rensselaer wireless service.

What if I have questions or trouble with my laptop?
The consultants at the Help Desk on the main floor of the VCC can assist you with problems. In addition, Rensselaer Computer Repair (RCR), which is located on the basement level of the VCC, is an authorized Lenovo repair center. This means you’ll be able to have your laptop repaired here on campus by certified, professional repair technicians. A laptop loaner program is also available for students participating in the Mobile Computing Program.

Check our website at http://www.rpi.edu/laptops for more frequently-asked questions.