Starting Fall Semester 2013, the South Carolina College of Pharmacy required incoming P1 students to
begin classes equipped with a laptop or notebook computer. This requirement is necessary for computer
based testing, research, in-class access of electronic course materials and for the viewing of lecture
recordings. During fall orientation P1 students will be assisted in setting up their computers with access
on the University wireless networks.

Only laptop or notebook computers are acceptable. IPads, Smartphones, Kindles and other tablet
devices are not acceptable and will not meet the requirement.

**Meeting the Requirement**

**Purchase**

1. Options for purchasing a recommended computer system:
   a. University of South Carolina - [http://uts.sc.edu/computerpurchase/index.shtml](http://uts.sc.edu/computerpurchase/index.shtml)
   b. Medical University of South Carolina - Purchased directly from vendor of choice

**Existing**

2. Verify your computer meets the minimum standards listed below.

**Hardware Standards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PC</th>
<th>Mac</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Processor</strong></td>
<td>Intel i3, i5 or i7</td>
<td>Intel i5 or Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(i5 or higher recommended)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Memory</strong></td>
<td>4 GB or more</td>
<td>4-8 GB or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(8 GB or higher recommended)</td>
<td>(RAM cannot be upgraded after purchase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hard drive</strong></td>
<td>300 GB or greater</td>
<td>256 GB or greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wireless</strong></td>
<td>WiFi (802.11g/n)</td>
<td>WiFi (802.11g/n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wired Card</strong></td>
<td>100/1000 Mbps Ethernet Port</td>
<td>Apple Thunderbolt to Gigabit Ethernet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adapter (MacBook Pro only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Network Cable</strong></td>
<td>3’ or 5’ Patch Cord</td>
<td>3’ or 5’ Patch Cord</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The South Carolina College of Pharmacy administers computer based testing through Blackboard using Respondus
Lockdown browser. Online testing requires a continuous, uninterrupted connection and thus students are required
to use a **WIRED** connection during exams.

**Software Standards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PC</th>
<th>Mac</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating System</strong></td>
<td>Windows 7, 8.1 (Recommended: Professional Edition)</td>
<td>OS 10.8, 10.9 or Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Windows RT is NOT recommended</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Productivity</strong></td>
<td>MS Office 2010 or 2013</td>
<td>Microsoft Office for Mac 2008 or 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Student pricing available. See below)</td>
<td>(Student pricing available. See below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Antivirus</strong></td>
<td>Current antivirus software</td>
<td>Current antivirus software</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommended Items (Optional)

| Warranty         | (PC) 3 Year, On Site Warranty  
|                 | (Mac) AppleCare Protection Plan |
| Insurance        | If your computer is not covered by your homeowner's or renter's policy against theft or damage, you should consider purchasing a computer insurance policy. Several companies write this type of insurance which can cover repairs or complete replacement of damaged or lost/stolen computers. Companies worth considering are:  
|                 | - Safeware (www.safeware.com)  
|                 | - CSI Insurance Agency (www.collegestudentinsurance.com) |
| Carry Case       | Protective case which is large enough to carry computer and some supplies |
| Portable Storage | Portable USB key or external storage device for transfer and backing up of data |
| Cloud Storage    | Sign up for file hosting service for the purpose transferring and backing up of files.  
|                 | Cloud Storage Services  
|                 | - SkyDrive (www.skydrive.com)  
|                 | - CloudMe (www.cloudme.com)  
|                 | - Dropbox (www.dropbox.com)  
|                 | - Google Drive (drive.google.com)  
|                 | - iCloud (www.icloud.com)  
|                 | - SugarSync (www.sugarsync.com) |

Software Purchasing
Software discounts are available to students for Microsoft Office and other products

**MUSC Campus**
- Microsoft Office: Contact Compusult at 1-800-992-6058 or online at [http://www.compusult.com](http://www.compusult.com)  
- Antivirus: Virus protection software is provided to students at no cost.

**USC Campus**
- Microsoft Office: Students can purchase Office at a discount by logging into VIP ([http://my.sc.edu](http://my.sc.edu)).  
- Antivirus: Students who have Windows 7 or earlier, or a Mac, can get free antivirus software from UTS or use one of the many antivirus programs available online and in retail stores.
  
  Windows users are already protected by Microsoft’s Windows Defender, a built-in feature of Windows. If you choose to install a different antivirus program, be sure to disable Windows Defender first.

Instructions can be found here: [http://www.uts.sc.edu/support/instructions.shtml#antivirus](http://www.uts.sc.edu/support/instructions.shtml#antivirus)
Support

The South Carolina College of Pharmacy IT Support team is prepared to provide assistance with getting student laptops connected to the University of South Carolina and Medical University of South Carolina wireless networks and preparation for use with Exam software.

The South Carolina College of Pharmacy IT Support Team will **NOT** provide support for the following:

- Internal or External Hardware repair
- Warranty coordination
- Computer Partitioning and reformatting
- Virus/Malware/Spyware removal or remediation
- Operating System installation/reinstallation
- Software installation or uninstallation
- Backing up and restoring of computer
- Wired or Wireless connectivity beyond initial connection to University networks during orientation
- Operating system optimizations or configuration changes

Students requiring additional support beyond network connectivity should contact their respective University campus helpdesk for further support

**MUSC Campus**

Student Technology Support Services desk

*Location:* 4th floor of the Library

*Hours:* Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 -3 pm

Additional information can be found at [http://stss.library.musc.edu](http://stss.library.musc.edu) OR send e-mail inquiries to mstusuppt@musc.edu.

**USC Campus**

iCare Center

*Location:* First Floor of UTS, 1244 Blossom Street (corner of Blossom and Sumter streets)

*Hours:* Monday thru Friday, 9am – 5 pm

Phone: (803) 777-1800

Additional information can be found at [http://www.uts.sc.edu/support/icare.shtml](http://www.uts.sc.edu/support/icare.shtml).