

## Laptop Requirement

All Montserrat students are required to arrive on campus with a laptop that meets their curriculum requirements and an external hard drive for transferring and backing up work\*\*. We have outlined the basic requirements for a laptop below, along with some model recommendations if you will be purchasing a new computer. Models listed here are suggestions, any laptop that meets hardware requirements will suffice.

Meeting the minimum requirements is essential to a successful educational experience - increasing the specifications beyond the minimum required can prove helpful over the course of the program, especially for students that have an interest in digital concentrations and may need a high-performance computer as their work progresses over the years. **Montserrat provides the full Adobe Creative Cloud Suite (\$55/mo value) and Microsoft Office Suite for the duration of your time here.**

### Mac Suggestions:

#### Low-tier (General use, Adobe basics)

*Please note, these are bare minimum requirements. If you are planning on purchasing a laptop, we strongly encourage you to seek the mid-tier range.*

#### MacBook Air (M2, 2022)

M2 chip

8-Core CPU

10-Core GPU

16GB Unified Memory

512GB or 1TB storage

<https://www.apple.com/us-edu/shop/buy-mac/macbook-air/midnight-apple-m2-chip-with-8-core-cpu-and-10-core-gpu-512gb#>

\$1579 (512GB storage) or \$1759 (1TB storage [*highly recommended*]) with Apple Education discount (plus \$209 for 3-years of AppleCare+ or \$79/year)

#### Mid-Tier, Recommended (especially for photo/video/animation)

#### MacBook Pro (14-inch, 2023)

M2 Pro chip

12-Core CPU

19-Core GPU

16GB Unified Memory

1TB SSD Storage

<https://www.apple.com/us-edu/shop/buy-mac/macbook-pro/14-inch-space-gray-apple-m2-pro-with-12-core-cpu-and-19-core-gpu-1tb#>

\$2299 with Apple Education discount (plus \$249 for 3-years of AppleCare+ or \$99/year)

## High-tier

### MacBook Pro (14-inch, 2023)

M2 Max chip  
12-Core CPU  
30-Core GPU  
32GB Unified Memory  
1TB SSD Storage

<https://www.apple.com/us-edu/shop/buy-mac/macbook-pro/14-inch-space-gray-apple-m2-max-with-12-core-cpu-and-30-core-gpu-1tb#>

\$2799 with Apple Education discount (plus \$249 for 3-years of AppleCare+ or \$99/year)

Additionally, many students find use with drawing tablets, such as the Wacom or an iPad with an Apple Pencil.

Wacom Cintiq 16 - \$649.99

[https://estore.wacom.com/en-US/screens/screens-displays/wacom-cintiq-16-dtk1660k0a.html?gclid=CjwKCAjw9pGjBhB-EiwAa5jl3JXDIBal8g1v7YtahVCWIUWDo6EpZIJxnA4fFRqH8LBU8CgboAG2SBoCo04QAvD\\_BwE](https://estore.wacom.com/en-US/screens/screens-displays/wacom-cintiq-16-dtk1660k0a.html?gclid=CjwKCAjw9pGjBhB-EiwAa5jl3JXDIBal8g1v7YtahVCWIUWDo6EpZIJxnA4fFRqH8LBU8CgboAG2SBoCo04QAvD_BwE)

Please check <https://www.wacom.com/en-us/promos/education-discount> for education discount.

iPad Air with M1 chip – 64GB storage – Wi-Fi only - \$549 with Apple Education discount

<https://www.apple.com/us-edu/shop/buy-ipad/ipad-air>

\$69 for AppleCare+

iPad Pro with M2 chip – 11-inch display – 128GB storage – Wi-Fi only - \$749 with Apple Education discount

<https://www.apple.com/us-edu/shop/buy-ipad/ipad-pro>

\$119 for AppleCare+

Apple Pencil 2 - \$119

<https://www.apple.com/us-edu/shop/product/MU8F2AM/A/apple-pencil-2nd-generation>

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*\*\*Recommended External Hard Drive: [Toshiba 1TB External Hard Drive](#)*

*We provide a 1TB external HD in the starter kit for all incoming students that purchase one.*

If you have financial concerns, please reach out to the Financial Aid office to discuss options:

[sfs@montserrat.edu](mailto:sfs@montserrat.edu)

Montserrat students are eligible for computing discounts through most laptop providers by proving their enrollment status. Reach out to [cts@montserrat.edu](mailto:cts@montserrat.edu) with any questions.

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