2016-2017 LAPTOP SPECS
Computer-Aided Drafting

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The Western Dakota Tech CAD Program utilizes high-end, 3D design software. In an effort to avoid difficulties resulting from insufficient or incompatible hardware, Western Dakota Tech recommends that students purchase a laptop with specs that exceed the capabilities of a typical office-based computer. The requirements detailed below are not Western Dakota Tech requirements, but are those set forth by the software developers, Autodesk, Inc.

System Requirements

Western Dakota Tech recommends purchasing a laptop with a 17" monitor. The following configuration is taken from the system requirements page for Autodesk Revit 2016 at Autodesk.com. For a complete list of system requirements, go to: http://knowledge.autodesk.com/support/revit-products/troubleshooting

Value: Balanced price and performance	
Operating System [1]	**Microsoft® Windows® 7 SP1 64-bit:** Windows 7 Enterprise, Ultimate, Professional, or Home Premium **Microsoft® Windows® 8 64-bit:** Windows 8 Enterprise, Pro, or Windows 8 **Microsoft® Windows® 8.1 64-bit:** Windows 8.1 Enterprise, Pro, or Windows 8.1
CPU Type	Multi-Core Intel® Xeon®, or i-Series processor or AMD® equivalent with SSE2 technology. Highest affordable CPU speed rating recommended. Autodesk® Revit® software products will use multiple cores for many tasks, using up to 16 cores for near-photorealistic rendering operations.
Memory	8 GB RAM • Usually sufficient for a typical editing session for a single model up to approximately 300 MB on disk. This estimate is based on internal testing and customer reports. Individual models will vary in their use of computer resources and performance characteristics. • Models created in previous versions of Revit software products may require more available memory for the one-time upgrade process.
Video Display	1,680 x 1,050 with true color DPI Display Setting: 150% or less
Video Adapter	DirectX® 11 capable graphics card with Shader Model 3 as recommended by Autodesk.
Disk Space	5 GB free disk space
Media	Download or installation from DVD9 or USB key
Pointing Device	MS-Mouse or 3Dconnexion® compliant device
Browser	Microsoft® Internet Explorer® 7.0 (or later)
Connectivity	Internet connection for license registration and prerequisite component download

Software

Students are not required to purchase any of the required design software (Autodesk or PTC). Western Dakota Tech will be providing Microsoft Office 365 University. The software is only valid while you are a current student attending Western Dakota Tech.