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Georgia Institute of Technology



STUDENT COMPUTER OWNERSHIP INITIATIVE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Basic Computer Functions	2
Minimum Software Bundle	3
Minimum Platform Requirements	4
Financing Options	5
Computer Support	7
Policy Questions & Answers	8
Georgia Tech Computer Store Purchase Options	10
Basic Packages	11
Required Software Bundle	13
Computer Store Questions & Answers	14
Computer Store Order Form	16

Georgia Tech students, graduates, faculty and researchers have long been recognized for their innovative problem-solving. Faculty are known for their creative teaching methods, including project-based education, which teaches students teamwork and group problem-solving skills and provides students with transferable skills which will be used throughout their careers. Believing that the time had come for the “next step” in creative learning and academic success in an increasingly technologically-based society, President G. Wayne Clough appointed a Student Computer Ownership Committee, composed of students and faculty, to study the issue of required computer ownership by all students. After careful study and extensive deliberations by the Student Computer Ownership Committee, the Georgia Tech faculty recommended that all students be required to own a computer. With the approval of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, Georgia Tech has adopted a policy requiring all freshmen, beginning with those entering in the summer of 1997, and all students joining the class of 2001 (and all subsequent classes) to own a computer.

This booklet contains Georgia Tech policies regarding the computer ownership initiative (found on pages 2-9). It also contains order and purchase information should you decide to purchase your computer hardware, software, or peripherals, from the Georgia Tech Computer Store (found on pages 10-17). While the policy and purchase information are two very separate issues, they have been combined in this single booklet for your convenience.

STUDENT COMPUTERS: WHAT THEY NEED TO DO

The basic computer functions are as follows:

Network Needs

- Ethernet connection for on-campus students¹

OR

Modem and Internet service provider for students not housed in campus residence halls²

- E-mail
- Web browser
- File upload/download capability
- Remote login: text and graphics

Productivity Needs

- Word processing
- Graphical plotting and drawing
- Calculation and data analysis

Educational Needs

- Sound player
- Video player
- Graphical web page creation
- Mathematical manipulation and calculation

¹ All rooms in campus residence halls are wired for computer network access. Each room has as many connections as beds. Access and basic usage charges are covered by housing fees. There is no additional charge.

² The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia currently has an agreement with MCI Telecommunications Corporation to provide dial-in TCP/IP access service to GTNet. This agreement provides a premium (PPP) dial-in connection via two applications. Students not living in campus residence halls may purchase accounts directly from MCI for a fixed fee of \$12 per month for up to sixty peak hours (6 am to 1 am) per month. Additional charges of \$0.95 per peak hour apply for more than 60 hours of peak time usage. Software, installation assistance, and billing are also provided by MCI. The number to call for more information is listed under "Important Phone Numbers" on the back cover of this brochure.

Cost and functionality were the key factors in choosing software to meet the minimum network, productivity and educational needs articulated above. Students may choose to purchase additional capability beyond the minimum bundle outlined, particularly as they progress in their studies. However, at this time, the recommended minimum software bundle is:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Software Title</u>
Microsoft	Office ³
Synergy	Kaleidagraph 3.0
Adobe	Pagemill 2.0
Waterloo Maple	Maple 5 Release 4
Mathworks	Matlab 4.0
Qualcomm	Eudora-lite 3.0
Netscape	Navigator 3.0
NCSA	Telnet 2.7

While these are the most current versions of the recommended software at the time of this printing, at the time of purchase students should acquire the latest versions for Macintosh or PC environments.⁴

³ Office 97 for Windows 95 *or* Office Mac 4.2.1

⁴ If the software is purchased from the Georgia Tech Computer Store, you *will* receive the version most current at the time of the purchase. In addition, the software will be provided to students by the Tech Computer Store either distributed on CDs or with instructions on how to load the software electronically.

MINIMUM PLATFORM REQUIREMENTS

The minimum specifications for the two types of computers with relatively equivalent computing power and cost which are capable of running the minimum software bundle are:

<u>System I: Windows 95</u>	<u>System II: Mac OS</u>
133 Mhz Pentium processor processor	120 Mhz 603e Power PC
32 MB memory	32 MB memory
1 GB hard drive	1 GB hard drive
15 inch color monitor	15 inch color monitor
Sound Card and speakers speakers	Sound card (standard) and
8x CD ROM	8x CD ROM
Twisted pair (10Base-T) ethernet interface ⁵	Twisted pair (10Base-T) ethernet interface ⁶

PRINTING

Although owning a printer is not required, many students may wish to purchase printers for their own convenience⁷. Printers will be available for purchase in the Georgia Tech Computer Store at very competitive prices. Currently there are printers⁸ available to students in the public computer clusters located on campus and in the campus central computing facility.

⁵ Students not living in campus residence halls will need to purchase at least a 28.8K modem instead of the ethernet interface. 3COM is the recommended and supported brand of ethernet card and is available for purchase at the Georgia Tech Computer Store.

⁶ Students not living in campus residence halls will need to purchase at least a 28.8K modem instead of the ethernet interface.

⁷ A list of printers available from the Georgia Tech Computer Store is included with this packet.

⁸ These printers are all 17 page per minute, 300-600 dpi.

Need-Based Financial Aid.

Georgia Tech prospective freshmen who have applied for financial aid and were accepted for admission have automatically had \$2,000 added to their student budget. Thus, the cost of a computer was considered when financial aid awards were made.

As a public institution Georgia Tech is not in a position to fully fund its financially needy students. As set forth in both Admissions and Financial Aid publications, “Georgia Tech offers a variety of financial aid programs to assist students in meeting normal college expenses; however, the amount of aid granted seldom meets all educational expenses.”

The Institute, in an attempt to see that the additional cost of a computer does not prevent students from enrolling, has committed additional onetime funding—grant and loan—to assist financially needy students. These funds will be distributed as equitably as possible to on-time financial aid applicants qualifying for need-based aid. Funds designated for computer purchase will be available to the student at the beginning of the student’s first quarter of enrollment. (This funding is included in the financial aid award letter which the student receives in early April. Once the award letter is received, questions should be directed to the student’s financial aid counselor.)

Other Financing Options.

Parents of students who wish to finance a computer purchase are encouraged to pursue financing through the federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) program. The PLUS program offers credit-worthy parents¹⁰ of undergraduate students the opportunity to borrow up to the student's cost of education (less any financial aid received). The interest rate on these loans is variable¹¹ but is capped at 9%; one-third of the loan amount is available at the beginning of each quarter; and repayment may be extended for up to ten (10) years. Detailed information on the PLUS program and application procedures is available from the Office of Student Financial Planning and Services.

Personal loans are available through several local banks, including Wachovia and NationsBank. Apple also offers loans for the purchase of their brand. Contact telephone numbers are listed on the back of this brochure.

¹⁰ Students whose parents apply for a PLUS and are turned down may secure a long-term, low-interest institutional loan to cover the cost of a computer.

¹¹ The rate is based upon the annual T-bill rate plus 3.10%

COMPUTER SUPPORT

Georgia Tech will actively support the recommended computers and minimum software bundle.

Resident Technical Advisors¹² (RTAs) are available in every residence hall to provide first level support to residents on networking questions. RTA's assist with the how to's, "this won't work", and "what is wrong" questions.

Computer Support Specialists are also available in the computer clusters on campus.

Tech's Office of Information Technology (OIT) Customer Support Center is available to students to answer questions about hardware configuration and software applications. During the warranty period, students who have purchased their computer through the Georgia Tech Computer Store will have hardware service provided by the manufacturer or through the Georgia Tech Computer Store, which will utilize OIT's Field Services.

After the warranty period, the Georgia Tech Computer Store will provide repair services and hardware and software installation on any brand computer for a fee.

In addition to service/repair support, Georgia Tech will provide the following support facilities/services:

- Printing
- Internet access
- Clusters for short-term access to computers running minimum software bundle
- Departmental clusters with major-specific software (e.g., mathematical manipulation and calculation, CAD, compilers and data-base)
- Servers with licensed software for key courses
- Special classrooms and labs for computer-enhanced presentations

¹² Knowledgeable students in residence halls who provide residents with technical assistance regarding networking questions .

POLICY QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Q: If I don't own a printer, how will I print my documents?
A: Printing is available at one of several public computer clusters on campus. The computer clusters on campus currently have 155 Macintosh compatible computers and 87 PC compatibles. The Office of Information Technology will provide students with information as to the location of clusters on campus and the types of machines which will be found in each cluster.
- Q: If printers are optional, is it worth it for me to buy my own?
A: While printers are available in the computer clusters on campus, it is definitely more convenient to have your own printer.
- Q: I have some of the required software already. May I purchase only certain packages from the Computer Store?
A: You may purchase the required software as a bundle, or each element separately from the Tech Computer Store. For instance, Tech has a site license for Netscape, Eudora and Telnet, which makes them available for all students. For more specific software prices, call or email the Tech Computer Store.
- Q: All the suggested monitors are 15 inches. Would a larger monitor be better?
A: A 15" monitor is suggested for students living in a residence hall as it will fit residence hall desk configurations. Larger monitors will not fit the furniture.

Q: How can I find out if my current system will meet Tech's requirements?

A: Contact the Georgia Tech Computer Store, refer to the Computer Store's web page, or contact the OIT Customer Support Center for that information as well as upgrade information.

Q: Will I have any problems with computer connections in the residence halls?

A: All rooms in Tech residence halls have the necessary computer connections.

Q: Do I need a modem to connect to the Tech mainframe or to get on the World Wide Web?

A: If you are living in a campus residence hall you simply need a 10Base-T ethernet adapter, which is part of the hardware package. If, however, you are not living in a residence hall, you will need a 28.8 (or faster) modem for connections.

**GEORGIA TECH COMPUTER STORE
PURCHASE OPTIONS
AND ORDER FORM**

10

On the following pages are the components and current pricing which meet the configuration and software requirements established by the Student Computer Ownership Committee and which are being sold at the Georgia Tech Computer Store. Each package is offered in two configurations: one for students living in the residence halls (A) and one for students not residing in a residence hall (B).

Also included is pricing for the software bundles which are available through the Georgia Tech Computer Store. Students wishing to purchase a computer more powerful than the basic package or who wish to purchase a laptop computer will find detailed pricing for computers which Tech will support on flyers enclosed with this mailing.

Regardless of where a student makes a computer purchase, it is recommend that students purchase equipment manufactured by the vendors selected by the Computer Store so that on-campus software support and hardware repair will be available.

BASIC PACKAGES**1. Apple Computer Power Macintosh****A. On-campus package:**

Apple Macintosh Power PC 4400¹³ with keyboard
PPC 200 MHz 603e processor
32 MB RAM
1.2 GB hard drive
8x CD
Built-in 10Base-T ethernet adapter
15" PowerComputing color monitor
Mac OS required software bundle

Price: \$2263.00

B. Off-campus package:

Same as above with 33.6 modem

Price: \$2412.00

2. PowerComputing PowerBase**A. On-campus package:**

PowerComputing PowerBase 180¹⁴ with keyboard
PPC 180 MHz 603e processor
32 MB RAM
1.2 GB hard drive
8x CD
10Base-T ethernet adapter
15" Power Computing color monitor
Mac OS required software bundle

Price: \$2117.00

B. Off-campus package:

Same as above with 33.6 modem (in place of ethernet adapter)

Price: \$2207.00

¹³ One year on-site warranty.

¹⁴ One year on-site warranty.

3. **Dell Computer Corporation OptiPlex Gs Series**

A. On-campus package:

Dell P133/Gs+M Desktop¹⁵ with keyboard

133 Mhz Intel Pentium processor

32 MB RAM

1 GB hard drive

8x CD

15" color monitor

Built-in 10Base-T ethernet adapter

Windows95 required software bundle

Price: \$2025.00

B. Off-campus package:

Same as above with 33.6 modem

Price: \$2150.00

4. **Hewlett-Packard Vectra 500 Series**

A. On-campus package:

Hewlett-Packard Vectra VE3 CD 5/133¹⁶ with keyboard

133 Mhz Intel Pentium Processor

32 MB RAM

1 GB hard drive

8x CD

15" color monitor

10Base-T ethernet adapter

Windows95 required software bundle

Price: \$2060.00

B. Off-campus package:

Same as above with 33.6 modem (in place of ethernet adapter)

Price: \$2135.00

¹⁵ Three year limited warranty with year one next-business-day on-site service.

¹⁶ Three year limited warranty with year one next-business-day on-site service.

REQUIRED SOFTWARE BUNDLE

(if purchased separately from a hardware package)

- A. For Macintosh and PowerComputing hardware:
Includes Microsoft Office 4.2.1, Matlab 4.0, Maple V release 4, Kaleidagraph 3.0, Adobe Pagemill 2.0, Eudora-lite 3.0, Netscape 3.0, Telnet 2.7 and on-line documentation.
Price: \$320.00
- B. For Dell, Hewlett-Packard and other PC hardware:
Includes Microsoft Office 97 standard, Matlab 4.0, Maple V release 4, Kaleidagraph 3.0, Adobe Pagemill 2.0, Eudora-lite 3.0, Netscape 3.0, Telnet 2.7 and on-line documentation.
Price: \$315.00

(Software may be purchased in a bundle or individually.)

Call the Georgia Tech Computer Store for pricing of other available desktop and laptop computers and peripherals.

All prices are subject to change without notice.

Q: What do these hardware/software terms mean?

A: Mac OS is a Macintosh compatible.
Windows 95 is an IBM PC compatible.
PowerComputing is a Macintosh clone.
Dell and HP are IBM PC clones.

Q: I know what computer configuration I need and the software requirements. Why should I purchase from the Georgia Tech Computer Store?

A: 1) All of the hardware and software sold at the Tech Computer Store is compatible with the requirements of Georgia Tech. That is guaranteed!
2) The brands sold by the Tech Computer Store—Apple, PowerComputing, Dell and Hewlett Packard, are fully supported by the Office of Information Technology so that students can be assured that the Institute will help with any problems which may arise.
3) Special education pricing has been negotiated with several hardware and software vendors to assure students of competitive pricing. Although clones may surely be found at lower prices, students run the risk of limited on-campus support should any problems occur.
4) The Georgia Tech Bookstore is an Auxiliary Service of the Institute. Any excess of revenue net of expenses is returned to the Institute for capital improvements. Sales people are not paid a commission.

Q: If I have decided to purchase my computer from the Tech Computer Store, should I purchase it now or should I wait until school starts?

A: Due to the large number of freshmen and the possibility of unforeseen problems and manufacturer delays, it is strongly suggested that you **place your order as soon as possible**. Students entering Tech in the summer quarter should place their orders not later than May 9 to be

15 assured of availability when school starts. Students entering fall quarter should place their orders by August 1. If you prefer, your order can be shipped to you before school starts so that you can gain experience working with it. All orders shipped out of state avoid Georgia's 6% sales tax. Shipping charges will be added.

Q: If I purchase my computer from the Georgia Tech Computer Store, when will I receive it?

A. If you will be purchasing your computer using personal funds, a personal loan, or a credit card, you may order your computer package at any time. You will be notified when it is available for pickup or shipment to your home. If you will be purchasing your computer with financial aid funds (e.g., grant, student loan or parent loan), you may order your computer at any time. You will not be able to pick up your computer until the week of registration when your funds are made available to you in the Bursar's Office.

Q: The Georgia Tech Computer Store options (pages 11-12) all exceed the minimum hardware requirements. Will meeting the minimum specifications be sufficient?

A: Meeting the minimum specifications certainly is sufficient at this time.

Instructions:

1. Choose the computer, peripherals and/or software you want to purchase.
2. Call the Georgia Tech Computer Store at 404-894-2377 to verify pricing and product availability.
3. Add 6% sales tax if you live in Georgia or you want to pick it up when you arrive at Georgia Tech.
4. If you want the computer shipped out of state, add \$30.00. You do not have to pay sales tax.
5. If paying with check, make check payable to "Georgia Tech Bookstore"
6. If you are paying with credit card, enter the information in the credit card section.
7. Enter personal information below and sign the Academic Agreement. Orders cannot be processed unless the agreement is signed.

Student Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Social Security Number _____

(Tear here,)

Academic Agreement

I certify that I am an entering student at Georgia Institute of Technology and this computer equipment and software is for my own use and not for resale, lease of disposition for at least one (1) year. I affirm and agree that the legitimate resale of this equipment during this one year period is to a person who is otherwise eligible to purchase under this agreement, as certified by my school. I further affirm and agree that violation of any of the above terms constitutes fraud and is grounds for appropriate disciplinary action.

Signature

Date

Georgia Tech Computer Store Order Form

I wish to order:

<input type="checkbox"/>	#1A Apple Power Macintosh 4400 On-Campus Bundle	\$ 2263.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#1B Apple Power Macintosh 4400 Off-Campus Bundle	\$ 2412.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#2A PowerComputing PowerBase180 On-Campus Bundle	\$ 2117.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#2B PowerComputing PowerBase180 Off-Campus Bundle	\$ 2207.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#3A Dell Computer Optiplex 133 On-Campus Bundle	\$ 2025.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#3B Dell Computer Optiplex 133 Off-Campus Bundle	\$ 2150.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#4A Hewlett Packard Vectra VE3 On-Campus Bundle	\$ 2060.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	#4B Hewlett Packard Vectra VE3 Off-Campus Bundle	\$ 2135.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mac OS Software Bundle only	\$ 320.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Win95 Software Bundle only	\$ 315.00

If you would like to order a different computer system, list the components below:

Description	Price
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Subtotal	_____
Sales Tax	_____
Payment: _____	Shipping _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check	Total _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa/MC/Discover (<i>circle one</i>)	

Card number _____ Exp. Date _____

Card member signature: _____

Delivery:

- I will be attending FASET Orientation on _____ and will come by to pick up my computer at that time.
- I would like my order shipped to me.
- I intend to pick up my computer when I arrive on campus on _____.
- I will pick up my computer during Welcome Week.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES

General pricing/availability/ordering:

Georgia Tech Computer Store 404-894-2377
(fax) 404-894-1858

email: GTCS@bks.gatech.edu

Technical/connectivity/compatibility questions:

Georgia Tech Office of Information Technology
Customer Support Center 404-894-7173

email: support@oit.gatech.edu

Financial aid/PLUS loans:

Georgia Tech Office of Student Financial
Planning and Services 404-894-4160

Dial-in connection (for students living off-campus):

MCI Telecommunications 800-275-9082

email: info@campus.mci.net

Website: www.campus.mci.net

Personal loans:

NationsBank (Metro Atlanta) 404-768-2265

(Outside Metro Atlanta) 800-299-2265

Wachovia 404-853-1961

Loans for purchase of an Apple computer: 800-APPLELN

Apple Computer Loan

Website: campus.apple.com/techshop/catalog/apple_loan