Welcome!

We’re pleased you have selected Northwestern University (NU). A substantial part of your academic life will involve using computers to explore resources on Northwestern’s network and the Internet. Our organization, Northwestern University Information Technology (NUIT), is here to help you use and learn about technology.

Our goal is to connect all students to our network before the first week of school. The purpose of this newsletter is to:

- Introduce you to NU’s digital community, computing standards, and range of online tools and resources.
- Prepare you for connecting to the NU network, managing your digital identity, securing your computer against network threats (e.g., computer viruses), and buying the right computer for NUIT and individual school requirements.
- Showcase the wide range of technology at Northwestern. For instance, you will find information about wireless network access at many locations across campus, and about NUTV, the innovative system that delivers expanded television options across the network to individual residence hall rooms.

Throughout this newsletter, you will see “Did You Know?” items highlighting NU and NUIT-related facts that we hope you find interesting and useful.

We encourage you to visit NU’s New Student Week site, www.northwestern.edu/newstudentweek/, which has a wealth of information for incoming students and their families. Links to frequently used University services that affect your everyday life on and off campus can be found at HereAndNow Online, hereandnow.northwestern.edu as well as on the Information for Students page, www.northwestern.edu/student/.

Northwestern is committed to supporting your utilization of digital resources within our electronic community. We encourage you to send suggestions and comments to gettingconnected@northwestern.edu.
### New Student Checklist: (Information about these items can be found in this newsletter)

#### Before you arrive on campus...
- Have you activated your NetID? (page 3)
- Have you accessed your Northwestern e-mail account? (page 3)
- Have you visited the “Get Control” site so you can learn how to protect your data and computer when on campus? (page 6)
- Have you installed NUI’s Symantec AntiVirus software and set it to run daily updates? (page 6)
- If you are bringing a computer, have you ensured it will be compatible with University resources? (page 11)
- If you are buying a computer, have you visited Northwestern’s Virtual Store to find discounts available to NU students? (page 10)
- Have you reviewed Northwestern’s purchasing guidelines? (page 11)

#### Once you’re on campus...
- Have you checked your school’s computing requirements? (page 2)
- Have you met your ResCon? (page 4)
- If you have a wireless laptop, have you accessed the wireless network? (page 4)
- Have you registered your computer on the network with N eetReg? (page 6)
- Have you registered for your classes using CA E S A R? (page 8)
- Have you visited the “Plan-It Purple” and “HereAndNow” Web sites? (pages 8-9)

#### Northwestern School Requirements
NUIT has base recommendations for computer purchases which can be found on page 11 of this newsletter. Following is a list of schools that may have additional specific computer requirements. These tend to meet or exceed NUIT’s expectations for new computer purchases.

### McCormick School of Engineering & Applied Science
The McCormick school requires computer use by all students. Computer ownership is very strongly recommended for McCormick students. McCormick students are responsible for their own computing needs, including word processing, Internet access, and other tasks. For more information, see [www.mccormick.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/](http://www.mccormick.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/).

### Medill School of Journalism
Windows and Macintosh computers are used in various journalism classes at Medill. Specialized software for class-specific projects is available for student use in Medill’s computer labs. For more information, see [www.medill.northwestern.edu](http://www.medill.northwestern.edu).

### School of Communication
The School of Communication encourages entering students to use computers. Students will find a highly interconnected community of scholarship where computers are used in day-to-day classroom and research activities. Computers are important for communicating with faculty and advisers, and many classes will use computers both for course materials and for direct production of student work—written, artistic, and scientific. Most students in the School of Communication find it convenient to have their own computer. For more information, including suggested computer configurations, see [www.communication.northwestern.edu/comp2004.htm](http://www.communication.northwestern.edu/comp2004.htm).

### School of Education and Social Policy
The School of Education has no specific guidelines other than what NUIT recommends. Please use page 11 for your reference.

### School of Music
The School of Music maintains both Windows and Macintosh platforms in its labs with a rich array of music software installed. In addition, the School recommends strongly that all entering students have a personal computer. The core curriculum in music theory and history makes extensive use of the Internet and streamed audio files from central servers at Northwestern. A personal computer equipped to play back streamed media with software such as QuickTime and RealAudio is encouraged to allow preparation for courses that demand a fair amount of listening. A good pair of headphones or a small sound system is recommended. For keyboard skills work and for many other courses, a small MIDI keyboard would be a plus. Music printing software to augment the usual word processing titles would be helpful in preparing papers. For more information, see [music.northwestern.edu/indexf.html](http://music.northwestern.edu/indexf.html).

### Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences
The Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences encourages all students to use computers. Computer connectivity, including Web and e-mail fluency, is vital for communicating with faculty and advisers, for obtaining information on academic programs and courses, for course registration and review of academic records, for completing course work, and for receiving important announcements from the Dean’s Office and academic departments. Computer ownership is strongly recommended. For more information, see [www.wcasnorthwestern.edu](http://www.wcasnorthwestern.edu).
**Your Electronic Identity**
A NetID is your electronic identity at Northwestern, and is automatically assigned to you when you enter the University. A range of services is associated with NetIDs, including e-mail, the online University directory, login access to computers in NUIT-managed labs, and access to personal information such as grades. Guard your NetID password carefully, as it is the gateway to University resources and your personal information.

**E-mail at Northwestern**
Your NU e-mail account is an official communication channel for the University. Please activate your account over the summer and be sure to check your e-mail periodically for important news from Northwestern. You can access your NU e-mail account from anywhere in the world via WebMail ([www.northwestern.edu/webmail/](http://www.northwestern.edu/webmail/)).

Visit NUIT’s E-mail Services Web site at [www.it.northwestern.edu/e-mail/](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/e-mail/) for detailed information about e-mail accounts, software, and specialized services. Although many computers are bundled with e-mail software such as Microsoft Outlook, NUIT recommends Eudora, available free to the NU community. Eudora has an easy-to-use interface, multi-platform support, and useful word processing and powerful junk e-mail filtering features. You can download the latest version of Eudora off NUIT’s E-mail Services Web site.

If you have questions about your NU e-mail account over the summer, call the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357) or e-mail consultant@northwestern.edu.

**NU Online Directory**
Use the online directory to look up phone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses, and other information for University faculty, staff, and students. You can view and modify billing, and current and permanent addresses through CAESAR (page 8).

**Address Changes**
Incoming students should send address changes to [ug-admission@northwestern.edu](mailto:ug-admission@northwestern.edu) before August 1, 2004. After that date, you can view and modify your addresses on CAESAR. If you have other changes, you can update your NetID and learn more about NetID-managed services at the NUIT NetID Services site, [https://snap.it.northwestern.edu](https://snap.it.northwestern.edu). Questions? Call the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357).

**NUIT Support Center**
The NUIT Support Center, located in Kresge Hall room 1-435 on the Evanston campus, provides phone consulting on NUIT-supported software and services, modem/wireless troubleshooting, and virus troubleshooting for faculty, staff, and students.

**Do IT Yourself! (Self-Service)**
Although the NUIT Support Center is always available to you, we encourage you to “Do IT Yourself” whenever possible. Check out the variety of useful self-service options at the NetID Services site, [https://snap.it.northwestern.edu](https://snap.it.northwestern.edu), to help you reset, check, or change your NetID password, check the status of your NetID, forward your e-mail, and more.

**Student Job Opportunities**
Working for NUIT is challenging and fun, and helps build a great resume! Dozens of rewarding job opportunities are available in the Support Center, computer labs, residence halls, and more. Learn about computers, networks, and the Internet while developing technical and interpersonal skills. For information, visit [www.tss.northwestern.edu/studentjobs/](http://www.tss.northwestern.edu/studentjobs/) and [atlas.northwestern.edu](http://atlas.northwestern.edu).

Interested in a Residential Consultant (ResCon) job? For more information, go to [www.resnet.northwestern.edu](http://www.resnet.northwestern.edu) and click “Hiring.”

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**Digital Community**
Northwestern’s central e-mail servers -- Casbah, Hecky, Lulu, and Merle -- are named after local restaurants.

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make a connection

Residence Hall Access

Every student living in the residence halls has a high-speed Internet connection. This allows you to view advanced digital media with ease, and work online at a fraction of the time it takes with a traditional dial-up connection. You will need a 25-foot 10BaseT Ethernet cable to connect your computer in the residence halls. This cable can be purchased at any computer store. (Please note: Cables longer than 25 feet may cause connection problems.)

Residential Networking Assistance

Our residential networking program’s goal is to help you take advantage of the Northwestern network. If you are having difficulties getting connected, you can contact a Residential Networking Consultant (ResCon).

ResCons are dedicated to getting you connected quickly. They can help resolve most network-related problems and answer questions about setting up NUIT software. If you cannot locate your ResCon, dial 847-491-HELP (4357) from any campus phone to place a request for help. For more information, see www.resnet.northwestern.edu.

There are more than 40 wireless locations on the Evanston and Chicago campuses where you can access the NU network.

Student Telephone Service

NUIT provides telephone service to residence halls and some Greek houses. Service is available as soon as you check in, and there are no installation fees or deposits necessary. Features include unlimited calling to other NUIT network phones on the Evanston and Chicago campuses, call waiting, discounted long distance, and the ability to use calling cards. Charges are billed to individuals, so you won’t have to divide charges with your roommates.

If you want to take advantage of telephone service provided by NUIT, you or one of your roommates will need to provide a touch-tone telephone, and an answering machine if desired. Information about campus telephone service will be mailed to you later in the summer.

If you prefer, you can use your own cellular phone service while you are at Northwestern. However, NUIT does not currently provide cellular phone service to students.

Wireless Access

Wireless access allows you to use the network without being tied to your desk. You can use wireless networking in numerous locations on and off campus. These locations were chosen to assist in student collaboration, and include Norris University Center, parts of University Library, and some residence hall dining areas.

For a complete list of wireless locations at Northwestern, visit www.it.northwestern.edu/network/wireless/locations.html. If you need help setting up your wireless connection, call 847-491-HELP (4357) or contact ResNet for support.

Please note: University policy prohibits individuals from installing their own wireless or wired network hubs or other network extensions in residence halls, as such devices could seriously compromise the security of Northwestern’s network. For detailed information, see www.it.northwestern.edu/policies/extensions.html and www.it.northwestern.edu/policies/concerns.html.

did you know?

There are more than 40 wireless locations on the Evanston and Chicago campuses where you can access the NU network.
Virtual Private Network (VPN)
Data within the Northwestern network will always remain private. However, if you are connecting from an off-campus location, or connecting through an on-campus wireless access point, your connection to the network is potentially insecure. For wireless locations on-campus, NU requires use of a VPN client that makes your computer appear as if it's directly attached to the Northwestern network, and secures the connection between your computer and the network. Use of a VPN client is also recommended for off-campus access to the network, although this is generally not required. VPN clients are available for all NUIT-supported operating systems. For more detailed information about VPN at Northwestern, visit www.it.northwestern.edu/network/vpn/.

DSL and Cable Modem Connections
If you live off campus, there are a number of ways to get connected to the Internet and the NU network. These days, the preferred method is either Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) or cable modem access, rather than modem dial-up access. Faster connections make sense for the Northwestern community, especially students, for a number of reasons.

With DSL or cable, you will get noticeably faster Internet service as well as access to graphic, video, and sound resources not easily available over a dial-up connection. Image-heavy Web sites will load much faster and large e-mail attachments will arrive more quickly, and you will not need to tie up your phone line or get a second line.

For detailed information about high-speed Internet access options, visit www.it.northwestern.edu/dsl-and-cable/.

Computer Labs
There are numerous public labs with Windows and Macintosh computers available. You may find the labs useful for checking e-mail while on campus. When not in use by a class, the labs are open to all members of the Northwestern community as walk-in computing facilities. Because the labs can become extremely busy or may be unavailable, NUIT highly recommends bringing your own computer.

There are also labs in University Library that cater to specific technology needs. For instance, MediaWorks, on the lower level of the Library, has the digital tools you need to capture and edit video and audio, scan and manipulate photos, and develop Web content and animation. Visit mediaworks.it.northwestern.edu for information.

For more information on NUIT computer labs, visit www.at.northwestern.edu/ctg/labs/.

**did you know?**
There are over 170 Windows and Macintosh computers in NUIT’s campus labs, where you can do everything from sending e-mail to creating digital media projects.
“Getting control” on the Internet encompasses many subjects, from virus protection and junk e-mail prevention to privacy, security and harassment issues. NUIT created the Get Control site (www.it.northwestern.edu/getcontrol/) to provide information on a variety of Internet safety topics. There are two important ways to keep your computer safe: updating your virus definitions and updating your operating system. Get Control will keep you updated about virus threats, and offers tips on how to reduce junk e-mail, maintain your privacy on the Internet, and secure your machine.

Internet Ethics
There are many ethical dilemmas you may confront when using the Internet. At Northwestern, you are responsible for upholding the standards of the University. Please familiarize yourself with “NUIT Rights & Responsibilities for the Use of Central Network and Computing Resources” at www.it.northwestern.edu/policies/itpolicy.html.

NetReg (Network Registration)
Northwestern’s residence halls have direct Ethernet connections to the NU network. NetReg, a network registration system, is used to register your computer online the first time you connect. After you complete this step, you will have full access to the NU network.

NetReg allows N U I T to improve communication with you should your computer become a source of concern. For instance, if your machine is found to be an inadvertent source of viruses, N U I T can contact you directly and explain why your Internet access may need to be shut off until the problem is fixed. For more information about NetReg, visit www.tss.northwestern.edu/reference/netreg/.

Virus Protection
Computer viruses are a threat to everyone. Fortunately, antiviral software is an effective weapon against this “epidemic.” NUIT currently provides free Symantec AntiVirus (SAV) software to the NU community. Download the latest version from www.it.northwestern.edu/getcontrol/viruses.html. Once you install SAV, you need to keep your virus definitions updated and set your computer to automatically scan for viruses daily.

For more information about virus protection at Northwestern, see www.it.northwestern.edu/getcontrol/viruses.html. Please direct any concerns about viruses or setting up your antiviral software to your ResCon or to the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357).

Please note: Failure to maintain the latest virus definitions and operating system updates may result in your computer becoming vulnerable! If your machine is compromised when you’re on the Northwestern network, your network port will be shut off by N U I T until your machine is updated and deemed secure. The same goes for computers that are found to be sending viruses across the NU network.

If you think your computer has been infected, or if your port has been shut off, call the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357).

Unwanted E-mail
You’ll probably get unwanted e-mail at some point during your time using Northwestern’s network. Don’t respond to it, don’t forward it... just delete it! To cut back on the volume of “junk mail,” most e-mail programs allow you to create filters that direct unwanted messages to your Trash mailbox. Plus, the SpamWatch feature in the latest version of Eudora (available free to the Northwestern community) helps get rid of even more “junk mail.”
get control

E-mail attachments are a frequent source of viruses. NEVER open attachments from people you don’t know, and don’t open attachments from those you know unless you are expecting them. Many viruses spread in such a way that the sender may not even realize it.

Password and NetID Management
Managing your NetID and password helps to keep the NU network secure. Account management can be done online, takes only a few minutes, and guards against hackers, ensuring that only you can access sensitive information such as grades and registration information. Your NetID password is yours and yours alone. Treat it as you would your toothbrush... don’t share it with anyone else, and change it often!

Frequent password changes are essential to prevent the network from being compromised. Our “password aging” system requires you to change your password at least every 120 days. A month before that time is up, you will get an e-mail reminder to change your password. If you haven’t changed it by the end of the 120-day period, your account is automatically disabled. To reinstate it, NUIT must verify your identity.

In case of forgotten or expired passwords, NUIT encourages you to set up a Personal Identification Number (PIN), just as you might create a bank PIN for online identification. A link to the PIN service is available at https://snap.it.northwestern.edu/reset.html. If you need to reset your password, this service will prompt you for your NetID, PIN, Student ID (located on your WildCARD), and birthday. Once you enter the required information, you can reset your password.

We also recommend setting up a question-and-answer (Q&A) identifier as well. If you forget your password and your PIN, you may call the NUIT Support Center at 847-491-HELP (4357). We will ask you your question, and if your answer matches the one we have on record, we will grant you a new temporary password. Without this, NUIT will not change or reset your NetID password without special actions taken by an NU department or through a notarized in-person request, or a personal visit to the NUIT Support Center (Evanston) or Support Office (Chicago).

More Security Hints
Keep file sharing to a minimum. Computer threats can spread through the use of many file-sharing services. You do not want people to use your computer as a file server or unknowingly receive and/or send out viruses to the campus community. If you can keep file sharing turned off on your computer and not use file sharing applications, please do so. Only share files with those you know. Do not use anonymous or guest access on your machine. When setting up users on your computer, do not give them the same access you have. It is up to you to remain vigilant in stopping network threats on campus.
CAESAR (online registration)
CAESAR (Computer Assisted Electronic Student Access Route) allows you to register for classes, search class schedules and course offerings, view enrollment appointments, obtain unofficial transcripts, view grades for any term, and more. You can check your degree status, financial aid eligibility and awards, and review and pay bills online using CAESAR. You can also access the Course and Teacher Evaluation Council (CTEC) site and view other students’ opinions of professors and class curriculums before you register, making the registration process more efficient and meaningful. For more information, visit www.northwestern.edu/caesar/.

NUTV
NUTV is NUIT’s innovative system of delivering expanded television options to undergraduate residence halls via the network and students’ computers. NUIT implemented NUTV in partnership with the Division of Student Affairs in response to student requests for access to expanded television options in individual rooms. NUTV delivers high-quality video to each residence hall desktop on the Evanston campus. To access the service, simply open a Web browser, go to the NUTV home page, and connect directly to any of the available channels in the channel guide. A majority of the channels are determined by student vote. Announcements are updated regularly on the home page, and a link to FAQs is available. For more information, including minimum viewing requirements, visit www.tss.northwestern.edu/nutv/helpguide/.

Plan-It Purple (online calendar)
The Plan-It Purple online calendar, planitpurple.northwestern.edu, is an engaging environment where you can find all the information you need about activities at Northwestern. View events by location, date, groups, or event type (arts and entertainment, athletics, and lectures and meetings are just a few of the categories). You can view the time, cost, and brief descriptions of events, plus useful links to related Web pages such as academic calendars, campus maps, and entertainment guides for both NU campuses. You can customize Plan-It Purple to create your own “My Plan-It” page tailored to display specific types of events and groups in which you are particularly interested. For more information, see myplanit.northwestern.edu.
Course Management System (Blackboard)

NU’s Course Management System (CMS), powered by Blackboard, provides an efficient way for instructors to communicate with you. Course handouts, syllabi, week-by-week assignments, and readings can be distributed electronically. In addition, professors can use CMS to stream media, post discussion areas, send course e-mail, and give you access to spreadsheets and other pertinent documents. You can share documents online, either within study groups designated by the instructor or with an entire class. Both threaded discussions and e-mail are easily facilitated through online forums, so you can collaborate on class projects. Often, you can check your grades for any course assignment on a secure, private site. For details, see course-management.northwestern.edu.

HereAndNow Online

HereAndNow (hereandnow.northwestern.edu) is a student-run Web site, designed by students, for students, with important resources for students. Its main function is to provide links to Web sites relevant to undergraduates: the University Registrar, CAESAR, WebMail, and Course Management System; and local and campus entertainment and maps. Other features include updated local weather, breaking news, and upcoming campus events. There are community links such as a restaurant guide, current movies, and a bulletin board of services. You can search the online directory, take part in book exchanges, find information on apartment sublets, and post “For Sale” or “Wanted” classifieds. HereAndNow offers student groups the ability to publicize events on Plan-It Purple. This is updated daily with events advertised to thousands of people.

While HereAndNow provides links to frequently used University and community resources, a more comprehensive list of campus links is available on the official Northwestern student Web page, www.northwestern.edu/student/.
Bringing Your Own Computer
If you plan on bringing an older computer to school, please review the guidelines on page 11. Outdated or less powerful computers may frustrate you or hamper your ability to perform necessary tasks. Computers that operate below the minimum supported configurations may work within the University's network environment, but we will not be able to support them fully. If your computer does not meet our minimum specifications, we recommend upgrading it to meet the minimum requirements (you can buy discounted software through NUIT), or take this opportunity to buy a new computer (see Buying a Computer, below).

Shipping a Computer to Campus
We strongly recommend that you bring your computer to campus with you. If this is not possible, and if you will be living on campus, you may ship your computer to campus. Choose a shipping company, preferably one that provides tracking information and proof of delivery such as UPS or FedEx. Request an arrival date of Thursday, September 9, 2004. It is very important that your package(s) arrive as close to that date as possible. Items arriving before September 9 will be returned to the sender. Ship the computer to yourself at your campus address:

Student's Name
Residence Hall Name
Street Address, Room #
Evanston, IL 60201

Large and late-arriving packages will be stored in a package room. When you arrive, stop by the location that serves as your hall's mailroom, with your ID, to claim your package. Specific pick-up hours and locations will be noted around various mailroom locations. Direct any questions to res-life@northwestern.edu or 847-491-3541. Please note that Northwestern University provides the package center service as a courtesy only. This service is used by students at their own risk.

Buying a Computer
A new computer will allow you to take full advantage of streaming video, NUTV, and wireless capabilities (if you own a laptop with a wireless card). To make computer purchasing easier, see the Computer Purchasing Guidelines on page 11. Also be sure to check out school requirements on page 2.

The Virtual Store
Although Northwestern has no campus computer store, you can find information and possible sources for hardware and software purchases on the Virtual Store Web site, www.virtualstore.northwestern.edu. If you buy a computer through the Virtual Store, you can take advantage of educational discounts. Northwestern does not endorse any particular vendor.

Windows or Macintosh?
NUIT supports Windows and Macintosh operating systems. The choice between them is a matter of personal preference. Check individual school requirements (page 2) to see if your program recommends particular software, and visit our e-Academy site (see below) for discounted software.

Software for Students
NUIT makes selected software products available to students at significant academic discounts through its online e-Academy software distribution center. Among the student titles available are Microsoft Office suites, Windows XP Pro upgrade, the latest version of Maple, and Mathematica. For more information on products or details on ordering, visit https://eims.e-academy.com/northwestern/. Please send your questions regarding Northwestern University software policies or suggestions for other software titles to questions@software.northwestern.edu.

NUIT also offers a variety of free software to students, including Eudora (e-mail) and Symantec AntiVirus. For information on software available to the Northwestern community, please visit www.it.northwestern.edu and click the “Software” link.

## Table 1. Recommended PC Configurations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer Processors and Speed</th>
<th>Desktop</th>
<th>Laptop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.6 GHz or faster Pentium 4 or equivalent processor</td>
<td>2.4 GHz or faster Pentium 4, 1.6 GHz Pentium M, or equivalent processor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAM</td>
<td>At least 512 MB RAM</td>
<td>At least 256 MB RAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard disk</td>
<td>At least 40 GB hard disk</td>
<td>At least 30 GB hard disk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD/DVD</td>
<td>CD-RW or combo drive</td>
<td>CD, CD-R, CD-RW, or combo drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating System</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional or Windows XP Professional</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional or Windows XP Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethernet Cards</td>
<td>10/100 Mbps Ethernet</td>
<td>10/100 Mbps Ethernet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Cards</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>802.11b built-in or separately purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor</td>
<td>17&quot; CRT or 15&quot; LCD or larger</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video</td>
<td>16 MB Video RAM, AGP-2 or better (e.g., NVIDIA, ATI)</td>
<td>16 MB Video RAM, AGP-2 or better (e.g., NVIDIA, ATI)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Table 2. Recommended Macintosh Configurations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer Processors and Speed</th>
<th>Desktop</th>
<th>Laptop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>iMac G4 1 GHz, eMac G4 1 GHz, or PowerMac G5 1.8 GHz tower or faster processor</td>
<td>iBook G4 933 MHz, or PowerBook G4 1 GHz or faster processor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAM</td>
<td>At least 512 MB</td>
<td>At least 512 MB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard disk</td>
<td>At least 60 GB</td>
<td>At least 40 GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD/DVD</td>
<td>Combo Drive or Super Drive</td>
<td>Combo Drive or Super Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating System</td>
<td>Mac OS X 10.3 (Panther)</td>
<td>Mac OS X 10.3 (Panther)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethernet Cards</td>
<td>10/100 Mbps Ethernet</td>
<td>10/100 Mbps Ethernet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Cards</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Airport card or any 802.11b compatible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor</td>
<td>17&quot; CRT or 15&quot; LCD or larger</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video</td>
<td>OpenGL-capable with 16 MB Video RAM, AGP-2 or better (e.g., NVIDIA, ATI)</td>
<td>OpenGL-capable with 16 MB Video RAM, AGP-2 or better (e.g., NVIDIA, ATI)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** These are the minimum recommended requirements. Purchasing guidelines are updated periodically by NUIT. For the latest recommendations, please visit [http://www.it.northwestern.edu/guidelines/](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/guidelines/).

1. The wireless Local Area Network (LAN) is available in some areas of the campus. For more information, see [http://www.it.northwestern.edu/network/wireless/](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/network/wireless/).
2. A wireless card is not a substitute for a standard Ethernet card.
3. 802.11b is the standard for this environment. Future releases of the 802.11 standard are not currently supported by NUIT.