



Information Technology @ Saint Mary's College

A Message from the Coordinator of Student Computing
and the Department of Information Technology

ResNet Computer Specifications

Summer 2011

Recommended Configuration for Macs:

Mac OS X version 10.4 or later
G4 or G5 processor (older Macs)
or an Intel Core Duo/Core 2 Duo
processor (includes current MacBooks,
MacBook Pros, and iMacs)
or an Intel Core i5/i7 processor
(includes current MacBook Pros and
iMacs)
At least 1GB RAM, 2GB RAM preferred
80 GB hard drive or larger

Recommended Configuration for Windows:

Windows XP Professional Edition
or Windows Vista Business Edition
or Windows Vista Ultimate Edition
or Windows 7 Professional Edition
or Windows 7 Ultimate Edition
1.5 GHz Pentium M processor or better
or an Intel Core Duo/Core 2 Duo
processor
or an Intel Core i5/i7 processor for
notebook computers
At least 1GB RAM, 2GB RAM preferred
80GB hard drive or larger

Recommended For All Computers:

Built-in 10/100Base-T Ethernet
Ethernet cable (RJ-45 connector)
CD-RW/DVD-ROM ("Combo") drive
or CD-RW/DVD burner ("Superdrive")
An 802.11b or 802.11g or 802.11n
compatible wireless network card
Inkjet printer

As you already know, Saint Mary's College is a very exciting place. New and renovated buildings, new student services, and the newest technologies are available to make your education and campus life here the best that it can be.

Computing resources have become an integral part of higher education, and students at Saint Mary's College have access to a wide variety of technology resources and support. Our beautiful campus has a number of computer clusters available to students as well as high-speed network connections in our residence halls for each occupant of each room. We call our student residence network and the team that supports it "ResNet." Our nationally recognized ResNet program offers all students assistance with their personal computers, including the setup of wired and wireless network connections, assistance with removing viruses and other malware from computers, and other basic computing questions throughout the academic year.

Our ResNet website at <http://www.saintmarys.edu/resnet> will provide you with all of the computing information a student needs about our residential network. Our *2011/2012 Student's Guide to Bringing a Computer to Saint Mary's College* is available for download on the website - it will be very useful as you select a computer that will be an important academic and personal tool over the next four years. ResNet can also address your individual questions about what type of computer will best meet your personal and academic needs.

ResNet has computer recommendations for specific Apple and Dell computer models for Saint Mary's students. We are recommending specific MacBook, MacBook Pro, and MacBook Air models from Apple, and the Dell Latitude E5420, and Dell Latitude E6520. You can order our recommended computers online through our ResNet website for home delivery and benefit the College at the same time. Details are available on the ResNet website.

Saint Mary's College has a Microsoft Campus Agreement. This agreement allows students to purchase a single copy of Microsoft Office 2011 for Mac, Microsoft Office 2010 for Windows, and Microsoft Windows 7 Ultimate Edition Upgrade for only \$10 each. (Some older Microsoft titles are also available.) This software is available for purchase at the ResNet Office beginning August 18, 2011. Students must show their Saint Mary's ID card and sign a license agreement to purchase the software, and the software will be charged to their student accounts.

To Contact ResNet During the Summer:

resnet@saintmarys.edu
<http://www.saintmarys.edu/resnet>

ResNet at Saint Mary's College provides:

- A personal 100Mbps wired Internet connection for every student living in the residence halls.
- Detailed instructions for connecting to the network.
- Disk space on our network (referred to as a "personal network drive") to save personal files on. This space is accessible from any networked computer on campus, eliminating the need to carry disks across campus from computer to computer. This network space is also backed up by Information Technology every night, which makes it a secure place for important papers and other files. Students receive 1GB of personal network drive space.
- Free McAfee virus protection software for your personal computer (Windows and Mac OS X).
- Residential Computer Consultants (RCCs) who are available to assist with connecting your computer to the network and other basic computing questions.
- The ResNet Office and the ResNet Helpline, which are staffed in the afternoons and evenings by Residential Computer Consultants (RCCs), for immediate troubleshooting assistance during the academic year.

Saint Mary's College and Information Technology also provide students with:

- A Saint Mary's e-mail account that is accessible from any computer with access to the Internet.
- A Microsoft Campus Agreement for students that allows students to purchase a single copy each of Office 2010 for Windows, Office 2011 for Mac, and Windows 7 Ultimate Edition Upgrade. We will offer students the software for \$10 per software title for their personal computer. (Some older Microsoft titles are also available.)
- Wireless network and Internet access in many academic buildings, as well as the dining hall and student center. Wireless network and Internet access is currently available in some residence halls, and will appear in the remaining residence halls as early as the 2011/2012 academic year.
- Over 200 computers in our computer clusters - areas with networked Macintosh and Windows computers that have many popular software packages installed on them, as well as course-specific software. Any Saint Mary's student can use the computers in the clusters. There are clusters available in the library, classroom buildings, and each residence hall, many of which are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Even if they own a personal computer, students will often work in the computer clusters because of the software and hardware available. The clusters also provide a study space away from the distractions of a residence hall room.

Both Macintosh and Windows computers can be connected to our network if they meet the requirements listed in our Student's Guide to Bringing a Computer to Saint Mary's College, and both are equally supported on campus. Approximately 53% of students on ResNet had a Macintosh and 44% had a computer running Windows during the 2010/2011 academic year. (The remaining 3% were network devices such as iPads and Kindles.)

If you chose to buy a new computer running Windows, ResNet strongly recommends purchasing a computer that already has Windows 7 Professional Edition or Windows 7 Ultimate Edition installed (such as our recommended Dell models). ResNet encountered many issues in past academic years when students' computers were upgraded from unsupported operating systems to be compatible with our network. New computers that did not have a supported Windows operating system pre-installed that were brought to the ResNet Office during the 2010/2011 academic year averaged three hours to complete the upgrade process (which included Windows Updates and virus protection software installation). Students are required to be present in the ResNet Office while their computers are being upgraded if they want ResNet's assistance with the process. The length of time varies by computer manufacturer, model, and availability of hardware drivers. Not all computers that are sold with Windows 7 Home Basic Edition or Windows 7 Home Premium Edition installed can be upgraded to Windows 7 Ultimate Edition.

If you have questions about purchasing a computer for Saint Mary's College or the available technology resources for students on campus, please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance. I am looking forward to seeing you on campus this fall!

Kathy Hausmann
Coordinator of Student Computing
kathy@saintmarys.edu, 574-284-5329
Saint Mary's College - Notre Dame, Indiana