

# Wharton Technology Onboarding Overview (Staff)

Last Modified on 06/17/2024 12:41 pm EDT

This article will discuss best practices for technology onboarding and new hire account requests. Purchasing standards for staff laptops and recommendations, prices, and comparisons of each computer are visible.

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## Technology Onboarding Best Practices and Information

Please read the below items carefully to ensure that you are following Wharton's technology request best practices.

- **PennKey username** - Most technology onboarding processes cannot begin without a PennKey. Technology requests should be submitted as soon as possible (even without a PennKey) so we can start the process; however, we ask that you follow up with PennKey information once it is received.
- **Day one deployment** - Day one deployment is our goal! This is made possible by advanced notice of the new hires' start date (at least ten business days' notice preferred). If your technology request cannot be processed in time to arrive on the start date, a loaner may be provided (subject to availability).
- **Account mirroring** - To avoid mistakes, we ask that access to resources be explicitly requested instead of providing IT with an account to mirror.
- **Specialized software and configurations** - Many departments require software and configurations specific to their workflow. While we know most needs, please include these (to the best of your ability) when completing the 'specialized software' section of the technology onboarding survey. Some examples include - Google Apps, Java (for Ben Financials), Smart View, Global Protect, etc.
- **Pricing** - Technology pricing can fluctuate 10% or more during its product life cycle.

After reading this guide, complete the [Staff Technology Onboarding Survey](#) to submit an official technology request.

## Laptop Recommendations and Standards

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This section will discuss the price difference and usage of Mac versus Windows PC laptops. For more information regarding other products or brands, please contact your Wharton Computing Representative.

# Mac

Mac computers run on macOS, the proprietary operating system of Apple products. This system is also known for its user-friendly interface, stability, and security features. Mac models excel in picture accuracy and photo and video editing tasks and remain compatible with most productivity applications. Mac systems can seamlessly integrate with other Apple devices and services, such as iPhones, iPads, Apple Watch, and iCloud. This allows for a cohesive and interconnected user experience across multiple devices.

## Standard Mac Configurations

Single Display



**Dell UltraSharp 34 inch Display**  
Extend your desktop  
Built in dock  
Extra ports

**14 inch MacBook Pro**  
M3 Pro Processor  
18GB Unified Memory  
512GB Hard Drive  
macOS 14 Sonoma



Dual Display

**Dell UltraSharp 24 inch Displays**



**Plugable Docking Station**  
Ethernet connectivity  
Display connectivity  
Charging  
Extra ports



**14 inch MacBook Pro**  
M3 Pro Processor  
18GB Unified Memory  
512GB Hard Drive  
macOS 14 Sonoma



Custom configurations are available with use case consultation



Custom configurations are available with use case consultation

## Included 3rd Party Applications

### Microsoft

- Word
- Excel
- PowerPoint
- OneNote
- Outlook
- OneDrive
- To Do
- Remote Desktop

### Other

- Webex
- Chrome
- Zoom
- Slack
- DropBox
- FortiClient
- Solstice
- Self Service
- Creative Cloud
- Adobe Acrobat

## Windows PC

Windows PCs operate on the Windows operating system, which is developed by Microsoft. Windows is known for its widespread usage, versatility, and compatibility. Windows has a vast library of compatible software applications, ranging from productivity tools and creative suites to gaming software and specialized business applications. This broad ecosystem contributes to the popularity of Windows PCs in various domains.

## Standard PC Configurations

Single Display



**Dell UltraSharp  
34 inch Display**  
Built in dock  
Extra ports

**14 inch Dell 7450  
Ultralight**  
Intel Ultra 7 Processor  
32GB RAM  
1TB Hard Drive  
QHD Touch Display  
River Blue Chassis  
Windows 11 Pro



**Dell UltraSharp 24 inch Displays**



Dual

# Dual Display



**Dell Docking Station**  
Ethernet connectivity  
Display connectivity  
Charging  
Extra ports



**14 inch Dell 7450  
Ultralight**  
Intel Ultra 7 Processor  
32GB RAM  
1TB Hard Drive  
QHD Touch Display  
River Blue Chassis  
Windows 11 Pro

**Lenovo**



Custom configurations are available with use case consultation

## Included Applications

### Microsoft

- Word
- Excel
- PowerPoint
- OneNote
- Outlook
- OneDrive
- To Do
- Teams
- Remote Desktop

### Other

- Webex
- Chrome
- Zoom
- DropBox
- FortiClient
- Self Service
- Creative Cloud
- Adobe Acrobat
- Dell Command Update (Dell only)
- Lenovo Commercial Vantage (Lenovo only)



## Comparison

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|                                | Mac   | Windows PC   |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Recommended Operating System   | MacBook Pro   | Dell 7450 Ultralight   |
| Productivity Software          | ✓   | ✓  |
| Security Software              | ✓   | ✓  |
| Application Suite Self-Service | ✓   | ✓  |
| Solstice Screencasting         | ✓   | ✓  |
| Features                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-resolution mini-LED backlit screen</li> <li>• All-day battery life</li> <li>• Apple ecosystem integration</li> <li>• Quiet operation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-resolution touch screen</li> <li>• Lightweight</li> <li>• USB-A &amp; USB-C ports</li> <li>• Most compatible with all Productivity Software</li> <li>• Touchpad conferencing controls</li> </ul> |

## Questions?

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For more recommendations and information, be sure to reach out to your **Wharton Computing representative**.

