

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The College is primarily Windows PC-based and uses Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.). Mobile devices may or may not have the capabilities that a computer or laptop have. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they have what is minimally required to be successful in the program.

Upon acceptance, students are provided unique secure login information (username and password) and instructions for accessing their schedules and orientation materials. During New Student Orientation, students will complete a technology orientation which includes a computer literacy assessment and hands-on training as needed. The RN-to-BSN program online orientation is outlined in their Acceptance Package.

CANVAS LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The College uses Canvas as its learning management system for coursework and communications. The computer hardware, software, and Internet connection that are used for accessing the Canvas LMS are the primary means of participating in courses that are in person or online, as well as collaborating with your instructor and fellow students. Therefore, these are significant contributors to your academic success. It is essential that you own or have ready access to a computer that meets the minimum specifications listed below. Canvas recommends having a minimum Internet speed of 512 Kbps. The supported Browser is [Google Chrome](#) version 133/134.

If using Macintosh computer, coursework must be submitted using your Office 365 tools provided with your RCHS email account. *It is your responsibility to edit and submit all assignments using the Office 365 software applications that have been provided. Please note that your Program Faculty may take off points for assignments that have to be resubmitted because the files are not compatible with the Windows based computer and will not allow the faculty to access them. Assignments that require resubmission is considered late assignments.*

INTERNET REQUIREMENTS: HIGH SPEED INTERNET ACCESS FROM HOME

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) defines broadband as a download speed of 25 Mbps and an upload speed of 4 Mbps. [Click here to test your Internet speed](#). In Virginia, high-speed internet generally means download speeds of 100 Mbps or higher. Your provider (COX, Version, Spectrum, etc.) could offer speeds up to 1 Gbps (1000 Mbps).

Accessing course materials from a rural area using satellite, and/or cellular service connections may result in slowness or errors (timeouts or access problems).

Video conference applications require solid high-speed Internet connectivity to take advantage of full video and application sharing.

ONLINE EXAMS, RESPONDUS LOCKDOWN BROWSER, AND RESPONDUS MONITOR

Taking online exams requires a reliable high-speed Internet connection, a webcam 720p or better, and a headset (Noise Canceling). Some courses use the Respondus Lockdown Browser for exams, for which a strong internet connection is needed to avoid exams being locked.

It is strongly encouraged that students use a desktop or laptop computer running Windows or macOS when taking exams. Devices such as iPads and Chromebooks may be sufficient, but some Android and Windows tablets may not be compatible with Respondus LockDown Browser. Click here for [System requirements](#).

When using Respondus Monitor, your webcam will record you during an online exam. The webcam (built-in or external) is used to validate the testing area with a 360-degree environment scan. We understand that desktops create a challenge in regard to the environment scan; however, a 360-degree view of your surroundings and showing your full desk space is a *requirement* for your courses. If you have a very large desktop monitor that is unable to fulfill this requirement, it may be necessary to purchase an external webcam. Instructions on downloading and installing this browser will be given at the start of your courses.

The primary cause for a LockDown Browser issue is a brief internet connection interruption or multiple devices using the same network, such as gaming, cause overcrowding on the router, which will affect the performance of the LockDown Browser. Additionally, a private computer is required for exams as a public and/or employer device will not allow for downloading the required software.

ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Software Requirements:

- Microsoft Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) is web based and can be accessed by going to <https://www.office.com/> and entering your login information.
- Anti-virus & anti-spyware applications that are updated regularly. Recommendation is to use [Trend Micro](#). They protect all types of devices (Windows, Mac, Android, IOS, Chromebook)
- Google Authentication for Multifactor Authentication (MFA) when accessing Microsoft Office 365 and SONIS (the college student information system).

Supported Operating Systems (see detailed specifications below)

- Microsoft® Windows 11 Pro
- Apple® macOS 13 or higher
- iPads OS 18 or higher
- *Tablets are not supported*

| Type | Windows System Recommendations | MAC System Recommendations |
|------------------|---|---|
| Laptop Display | 14" or larger | 14" or larger |
| Operating System | Microsoft Windows 11 Pro (not Home or S-mode) | Apple macOS 13 or newer |
| Processor Intel | Latest generation Intel Core i5-series (or higher) or equivalent ** | M2 or higher |
| Processor AMD** | Latest generation AMD Ryzen Pro 5000, 6000, 7000 or 8000 series, or AMD Ryzen AI series ** | |
| Memory | 16GB RAM or higher | 16GB or higher |
| Hard drive | 256GB or higher | 256GB or higher |
| Video | Onboard/Integrated video | Onboard/Integrated video |
| Internet Access | High-speed Internet connection with minimum speed of 25MB or better. Click here to test your internet speed. | High-speed Internet connection with minimum speed of 25MB or better. Click here to test your internet speed. |
| Wireless Card | 802.11ac | 802.11ac |

| | | |
|----------------|--|--|
| Webcam | 720p HD or better camera with noise reduction and integrated microphones | 720p HD or better camera with noise reduction and integrated microphones |
| Audio Features | Integrated speakers | Integrated speakers |
| Headset | May be required for online courses | May be required for online courses |
| Software | Microsoft Office 365 is free while enrolled at RCHS | Microsoft Office 365 is free while enrolled at RCHS |

| Type | iPad OS System Recommendations |
|------------------|---|
| Operating System | <p>The following version can go to iOS 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPad Pro (M4) • iPad Pro 12.9-inch (3rd generation and later) • iPad Pro 11 inch (1st generation and later) • iPad Air (M2) • iPad Air (3rd generation and later) • iPad (7th generation and later) • iPad mini (5th generation and later) |