

Technology Store and Campus Network Information

Questions:
440-775-8628 or
cstore@oberlin.edu
(e-mail preferred)

Oberlin College
Technology Store
Mudd Level A
148 W. College St.
Oberlin, OH 44074

www.oberlin.edu/cstore

The Oberlin Technology Store

Students planning to purchase a new computer are strongly encouraged to do so from the Oberlin Technology Store. As part of the College's Center for Information Technology (CIT), the store is an authorized sales and service provider for Apple and Hewlett Packard (HP) computers and carries a variety of other technology products. Purchasing through the store gives students a number of advantages:

- **Peace of mind:** If something goes wrong, we always go above and beyond to make it right. That's peace of mind, guaranteed.
- **Free on-site tech support:** Our Tech Card provides customers with loaners, a lemon policy, and tech support for every PC with a three-year warranty or Mac under AppleCare. Insurance to cover theft and user damage is available for an additional charge.
- **Our models, ourselves:** CIT tech consultants are trained and familiar with all of our models. You can find help from the Technology Services Center or the Help Desk in Mudd Center, or by e-mailing cit@oberlin.edu any time of the day or night. We have both Apple and HP authorized technicians on site. Please note: We are not authorized to repair "big-box" consumer and online models.
- **Below educational pricing:** We negotiate on your behalf for the best deals on hardware, software, and accessories.
- **Designed for college:** We offer professional-model laptops that should last for four years.
- **Hands-on demos:** Try before you buy. Get hands-on experience with our demos before you make a purchase.
- **Our staff is awesome:** E-mail store manager Walt Owens at cstore@oberlin.edu and ask about a solution for all your needs. Seriously.
- **Make Oberlin better:** Buying from us supports technology initiatives at Oberlin College.
- **Here for you, not for profit:** We have served the Oberlin College community for more than 20 years. With no commissions and no hard sell, we are here only to serve the technology needs of the Oberlin College community.

The Back-to-School Sale

Because technology changes so frequently, students are advised to purchase computers as close to the start of the semester as possible. To make this easier, the Technology Store holds its annual Back-to-School (BTS) Sale from July through September. The store orders in bulk for this sale and can offer the best values at this time. Vendors also offer special back-to-school promotions later in the summer. For example, for the last several years, Apple has offered a free iPod with the purchase of a Mac computer.

The sale features selected complete systems, including such important items as carrying cases, security kits, surge suppressors, free Ethernet cable, and backup media. Details on the sale's offerings can be found online at the store's web site (www.oberlin.edu/cstore) starting in July. The CIT also sends sale information to students' home addresses in July.

No payment is due with your BTS order, but payment is due in full when you pick up your system during student Orientation. For questions, contact the Technology Store at 440-775-8628 or cstore@oberlin.edu. **E-mail is preferred.**

Oberlin's Online Vendors

Students who prefer to purchase before the sale, or who want systems that are not included in the sale, can visit Oberlin's online Apple store at www.oberlin.edu/apple. Ordering through our site guarantees educational pricing and campus support for your computer system. Products ordered through this site will be delivered to your home address.

Tech Card benefits are not available for online or phone purchases direct from vendors.

Macintosh or Windows?

The CIT provides support for both Macintosh and Windows computers. However, note that Macs are generally much less prone to viruses, spyware, and other software malfunctions than Windows machines.

With Apple's Boot Camp utility, you can run Windows OS on your Mac. Purchase a Mac and a copy of Windows to get the best of both worlds. Note that the Windows OS must be patched and updated regularly, even on a Mac.

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Technology Store and Campus Network Information *(continued)*

Software

All computers now come with the necessary software to connect to the Internet, do e-mail, etc. The CIT provides a campus site license for virus and spyware protection software and other network utilities. This software may be downloaded from the CIT download web page; you will need your ObieID and password to access this page.

The CIT provides students with all the software necessary to get on the campus network and Internet, including a web browser, virus-protection software, PDF viewer, and other network utilities. CDs with the software are available in the Technology Services Center (TSC) or Help Desk (Mudd Level A). The software also may be downloaded from the CIT web site after you arrive on campus.

The standard productivity software on campus is Microsoft Office. Students are not required to purchase this software, but they should be aware that most faculty members use Microsoft Word as their word-processing program. Students may also choose the less expensive iWork suite of applications for their Macintosh computers. It is compatible with Microsoft Office applications. Microsoft Office and iWork are available at the Technology Store at an educational price.

Other Computer Resources on Campus

Oberlin's Center for Information Technology (CIT) provides both Macintosh and Windows computers in several computer labs around campus. These computer facilities are sometimes reserved for classes, but they also serve as an alternative for students who do not own a computer or who need access between classes. Students also use these computers when specialized software or hardware is required for coursework or for lab printing. Students receive a set amount of free printing each semester.

Connecting to Resnet

Oberlin's Residential Computer Network (Resnet) provides wired high-speed Internet connections in every residence-hall room on campus. In addition, wireless Internet access (WiFi) is available from many areas of campus, with continual expansion planned. A map of WiFi coverage is available at www.oberlin.edu/cit/wireless.

Connecting to Resnet requires periodic network authentication, which you can accomplish by opening a web browser and logging in with your ObieID (username and password).

We recommend that while in their dorm rooms, students use the wired ports for more secure, faster connections. First-year students can receive a free ethernet cable through the end of September by visiting the Oberlin Technology Store.

It is not advisable to bring a computer more than two or three years old to campus. Older systems may work on the campus network, but they may not run the most recent web browsers required to access essential academic services, and other software may run too slowly. **If you do not have the original system disks for your computer, the CIT strongly recommends against bringing the computer to campus.**

IMPORTANT: You must scan your computer for viruses with an up-to-date anti-virus program before connecting to the campus network. Anti-virus software is available for download from the CIT. You will be required to authenticate to the network monthly with your Obie ID.

For more information about the campus network, go to the Resnet web site (www.oberlin.edu/cit/resnet) or e-mail cit@oberlin.edu.

Oberlin E-mail Accounts

E-mail accounts for incoming students are created in May. Instructions for logging in to OCMail, a web interface to the College's mail server, can be found in the Student Record and Course Registration section of this book.