**Laptop Computer Requirement: Fall 2009**

All current students in the College of Education and all incoming freshman and transfer students for Fall Semester 2009 and beyond are expected to have a laptop computer for use at MSU. This requirement applies to students majoring in Elementary Education, Special Education, Child Development, all Secondary Education areas and Kinesiology (PE majors or non-teaching KIN majors). Laptops are portable and provide students with the easiest way to access web-based technology need for MSU courses and also for use in students’ school-based field placements and internships.

The following are recommended specifications to consider before purchasing a laptop. Generally, students should try to get the best laptop they can afford that equals or exceeds the recommendations given so that the computer will be upgradeable and will serve students throughout their academic program, and, for teacher certification candidates, into their internship year. Students should also consider the size/weight of the laptop in terms of portability, keeping in mind that a smaller computer weighs less but has a smaller screen. If students prefer working off of a larger screen they can purchase a separate monitor to connect to the laptop when they are in their dorm rooms or apartments.

**Minimum requirements for a laptop:**

**PC**

- Intel Core 2 Duo processor running at 2.0 GHz or faster
- Windows XP or Windows 7(32 bit)
- Microsoft Office 2003 or Office 2007
- 2GB Memory and 80 GB Hard Drive
- Ethernet Port
- Integrated Wireless
- CD-RW / DVD Drive
- USB ports
- Flash drive for transporting files

**MAC**

- Intel Mac Laptop
- 10.4.11 or higher
- 2GB of Memory
- 80 GB Hard Drive or higher
- Ethernet and Wireless
- DVD Drive with DVD Burning capability
- Flash drive for transporting files