

Academic Year 2025 Laptop Computer Purchase Guide for New Students

College of Policy Science (CRPS, Community and Regional Policy Studies Major)

Welcome to Ritsumeikan University! All staff and faculty are excited to have you join our community. We sincerely hope your education at Ritsumeikan University will be fulfilling.

There will be many occasions when you need a personal or a laptop computer for classes (including web classes) and assignments. Having a personal device would be beneficial and convenient to make the most of your university education.

Accordingly, the college has developed a summary of recommended specs, described below, to help you consider a purchase. While you may opt to use tablet devices, laptop computers with a keyboard and a display are best recommended.

[Laptop Computer Spec Check Points]

Check Points	Recommendations
<Weight> Select a portable, light, and slim model.	Without an Optical Drive: 1.3 kg or less With an Optical Drive: 2.0 kg or less "Optical drive" refers to CD/DVD/BD drives. <u>Devices without an optical drive are recommended, given their portability.</u> External optical drives can be purchased later if necessary.
<OS> Multimedia classrooms and computer labs at Osaka Ibaraki Campus (OIC) are equipped with Windows PCs.	Windows 11 is recommended for a Windows PC.
<CPU> The operational speed of devices depends on the CPU's functionality. It also depends on the type of storage, such as HDD or SSD.	Operation clocks should be at least 1 GHz or higher. Intel Core i5, AMD Ryzen5, or higher is better recommended.
<Memory> Ample onboard memory will make it easier to run multiple software simultaneously.	A minimum of 16 GB of RAM is strongly recommended. Though some laptops might support memory expansions, having ample memory installed by default is strongly recommended.
<Storage> Your data will be saved in storage, and the device accesses it frequently when it is in use.	SSD: At least 256 GB SSD is better recommended because of its faster processing speed and lower risk of damage. During your enrollment period at the university, you can use a maximum of 1TB of Microsoft OneDrive cloud storage without additional cost.
<Wireless LAN, Wi-Fi> Wi-Fi is available in all areas and classrooms at OIC.	A network adapter supporting Wi-Fi6/6E (IEEE802.11ax) is necessary.
<External Outputs> External outputs are necessary to connect the device to	An HDMI connector is required. (USB Type-C terminal for video output) When displaying presentation slides or documents saved on your device, you

external monitors when, for instance, giving presentations in class, etc.	need to connect your device to a monitor with an HDMI cable. A conversion adapter is necessary if your device does not have an HDMI port; hence, several USB ports, Type A or C, are required.
<Web Camera, Microphone, Headphone> These devices may be necessary for some classes.	You may not necessarily need a wired headphone jack if your device covers Bluetooth, to which you can connect wireless headphones.

Free Software Installation

Ritsumeikan University provides free installation of **Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise**. You can install software such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher, and Outlook, which you will need for classes. Please install them by yourself when your first semester begins. You will find manuals on the “**RITSUMEIKAN IT Support Site**.” Microsoft 365 Apps for enterprise will be available only when you formally enroll at the university. You can install the software listed above on your own devices only.

<https://it.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/ja/articles/900006824883>

Practice Touch Typing

Throughout your academic career at the university, you will often use computers, such as writing papers and conducting research. Touch typing without looking at the keyboard will enable you to use computers more efficiently. Taking advantage of various free online resources, we highly recommend that you practice touch typing before your first semester begins.

On-Campus Wi-Fi

You can connect your device to the on-campus Wi-Fi throughout Osaka Ibaraki Campus (OIC). The connection requires your user ID (“RAINBOW USER ID”) and password, both of which will be issued right before your first semester. Please try connecting your device to the on-campus Wi-Fi with your ID and password when you receive them. The Wi-Fi set-up manual is available on the RITSUMEIKAN IT Support Site.

If you experience any connection difficulties, please refer to the RITSUMEIKAN IT Support Site again or visit the RAINBOW Service Desk on the 2nd floor, Building C.

<https://it.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/ja/articles/4402955394841>

VPN Connection to Access RAINBOW Outside of Campus

“VPN” stands for “Virtual Private Network.” It will enable you to access the university’s internal network from home or other off-campus locations. For details, refer to the RITSUMEIKAN IT Support Site or contact the RAINBOW Service Desk.

<https://it.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/ja/articles/900006789143>