

Laptop Computer Purchase Guide for New Students at the College of International Relations

Welcome to Ritsumeikan University! All of the faculty and staff members sincerely hope your education at Ritsumeikan University will be fulfilling.

There will be many occasions that you will need computers in classes and for assignments such as, but not limited to, lectures, presentations, seminars/small-group classes, fieldworks, and data collection/analysis. To make the most of the university education, having a personal device could be beneficial and convenient.

To help you make an informed decision about a purchase, your college has developed the guideline below. While you may opt to have tablet devices, laptop computers with a keyboard and a display are better recommended.

About Necessary Software

Your classes require various software, including, but not limited to, word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation. Ritsumeikan University provides free installation of Office 365 Pro Plus. The software you can install include “Word”, “Excel”, “PowerPoint”, “Access”, “Publisher”, and “Outlook”. Please install these programs by yourself. You will find manuals for these programs through the link below. Please note that as you are only allowed to use Office 365 Pro Plus during the period you are enrolled at Ritsumeikan University, you should install the software after entering the university. Please also note that you can only install the software on your own devices.

(Microsoft 365 Apps for Enterprise Installation Manual)

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

About Environment for Online Classes

At Ritsumeikan University, we mainly use Zoom for our online classes, and the required PC specifications for using Zoom can be found on the following page.

⇒ <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-Zoom-system-requirements-Windows-macOS-Linux>

【Laptop Computer Functionality (Specification) Check Points】

<Weight> You should choose a lightweight and thin model that is easy to carry.

<Wireless LAN> Wireless LAN can be used in all areas and classrooms at Kinugasa Campus. A network adapter compatible with either IEEE 802.11a, b, g, n, ac, or ax. Ideally, ax (WiFi 6) or ac (WiFi 5) are best recommended since they have faster transmission speeds.

Initialize your RAINBOW user ID [Required]

<https://it.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/ja/articles/900006720603-%E5%AD%A6%E7%94%9F%E5%90%91%E3%81%91BEGINNER-S-GUIDE#>

After Entering the University, Connect Your Computer to the On-Campus Wireless LAN

It is possible to connect your device to the wireless LAN at many locations on-campus throughout Ritsumeikan University Kinugasa Campus. The connection requires the ID (Name: RAINBOW ID) and password issued to you after enrollment. Be sure to connect your device to the on-campus wireless LAN when you receive your ID and password. You can access information on the on-campus wireless LAN and the connection manual through the site below.

If you are having difficulties connecting, please visit the RAINBOW Service Counter in Yushinkan Hall.

About Connecting to Wireless LAN

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

About the RAINBOW Service Desk

⇒ <https://it.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/ja/articles/900005918286>

Use a VPN Connection to Access RAINBOW Outside of Campus

"VPN" is an abbreviation of the term "Virtual Private Network." It is a method to access RAINBOW over the internet from home or other off-campus locations. It will enable you to use services available only on the university's internal network without being on-campus. For details, refer to the RITSUMEIKAN IT SUPPORT SITE or contact the RAINBOW Service desk.

About VPNs

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