Students in the School of Media Sciences will be entering career fields where digital imaging technology is central. Below you will find listed the recommended (optional) equipment that students will need to consider purchasing to be fully prepared for their work at RIT.

As an RIT student, you are eligible for academic discounts on most computer hardware and software that you will need. We recommend shopping at RIT’s Digital Den (which is located at the Barnes & Noble @ RIT store at the edge of the RIT campus in Park Point) as well as online and at your local retailers to get the best prices. RIT’s Photo Store (located in the Student Alumni Union building) offers excellent pricing on cameras and camera-related equipment. Please note, many education discounts require some proof of enrollment or student ID.

http://rit.bncollege.com

SUGGESTED SUPPLIES FOR FALL SEMESTER 2017:
The following supplies are needed for many classes:

• A portable hard drive and at least two “thumb” drives (Flash media drives) (see recommendations below).
• Notebooks and 3-ring binders for notes and materials.

Please Note: In addition to these supplies, there will be additional books and supplies required each semester by individual instructors for specific classes. These additional costs may add up to $300.00 per semester.

RECOMMENDED COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR FALL 2017:
The following items are recommended only. You are encouraged to select those items that are most relevant to your interests and fit within your budgetary limitations. Further, the prices/specifications listed are current as of April 2017. It is likely that newer, faster equipment is available by the time you go to make your purchase, so we offer these strictly as recommendations to help guide you through your purchase.

Computer
Although our labs are fully equipped with high-end Apple computers, a personal computer (Mac or PC with appropriate software) will allow you to complete much of the necessary course work at home. The specific system you choose will ultimately be based on your budgetary limitations and need for portability. To best meet the demands of the software we recommend purchasing as much RAM and storage (hard drive space) as your budget will allow. If you are interested in purchasing a computer system, we suggest that you use the following information as your guide.

Please check with the RIT Digital Den as they frequently offer “combo” deals on computers, printers, etc. that will not be available until Summer or the beginning of Fall semester. This is also often the best time to purchase the latest software.

Specifications begin on the next page. All prices are accurate as of April 2017, but may change by the time you purchase your equipment.
APPLE COMPUTERS
There are three ways to purchase Apple products from RIT Digital Den:
1) in person, 2) by phone (585) 424-6766 x204 or 3) online at http://www.rit.edu/fa/digitalden/ or directly from Apple’s RIT store: http://store.apple.com/us_edu_14393/

• iMac 21.5" – 27" (All-in-one best value desktop)
  Estimated Price*: $1099.00 – $1799.00+

• MacBook Pro 15" with Retina Display (Best portable, but more expensive)
  Estimated Price*: $1999.00 – $2399.00+

• Mac Pro (Best desktop for both power and expandability, recommended for power users)
  Estimated Price* (computer only, monitor purchased separately): $2999.00+

APPLECARE (*HIGHLY suggested for any Apple Product)
Price: $119 for iMacs, $199 for desktops, $239 for MacBook Pros
The AppleCare Protection Plan extends your built-in hardware service and 90-day telephone support to three full years from the purchase date of your new Apple product. This comprehensive plan includes telephone support, Apple-certified repairs, web-based support resources, and powerful diagnostic tools — all for one economical price. It is HIGHLY recommended for laptops/portables.

Security
Invest in a laptop lock ($40.00) for your portables. These are available at the Digital Den or at most computer stores. NEVER leave your laptop unsecured.

PC SYSTEMS
Listed below are comparable PC computers. While we recommend a Dell with the following minimum specifications, we do want to note that most of the CIAS environment is Apple-Hardware-based and we generally recommend exploring those product options first. There is an educational pricing site available through http://www.dell.com/learn/us/en/6099/campaigns/welcome-to-dell-university

Desktop PC – Example: Dell Inspiron 24 7000 Touch Screen Desktop
Estimated Price: $1,349.99*

Notebooks – Example: XPS 15 Touch Laptop
Estimated Price: $2549.99*

*We always highly recommend purchasing the 3-year warranty on parts and service (listed as 3 Year Premium Protection Package above)

You may also want to check out BOXX at www.boxxtech.com for alternative PC solutions. They are a bit more expensive than Dell, but we have installed them with great success and reliability in many of our PC labs.

*Note: All prices are subject to change and offered as a starting point. Contact the RIT Digital Den or go to www.store.apple.com or www.dell.com for the latest prices. Be sure to reference the student/education pricing.

DIGITAL MEDIA STORAGE
Remotely accessible server storage is available for temporarily moving files through the RIT network. USB “Thumb” drives can be used for smaller portable needs. However, we also strongly recommend you consider a 1-2 TB portable USB hard drive for larger project work and for data backup, and more efficient portability between labs and other work environments. We also recommend that you keep backups of your files (projects, etc.) in AT LEAST 2-3 places and save often! Currently, USB 3.0 drives designed for stationary use can store over 1Tb but, for maximum portability, we recommend the following portable or semi-portable models:
USB Flash (Thumb) Drives: (These will go by such names as “Jump”, “Flash,” or “USB” drives)
Prices range from $10 – $155 depending on size; they can store between 1GB to 32GB or more. It is HIGHLY recommended to have at least two flash drives and use them to save duplicates of your files.

External/Portable Hard drives
LaCie and Western Digital (among many others) make portable drives in various shapes and sizes to suit your needs. The prices range from $75 and up. Any external drive you purchase should connect either in the minimum by USB 3.0 or also Thunderbolt or Firewire.

Tablets
Many of our students use tablets like the iPad and the Galaxy can be used for a variety of applications in and out of the classroom. The School of Media Sciences provides a small number of tablets for specific class assignments through checkout. If you are looking to purchase one for yourself, we recommend getting one with the greatest capacity you can afford at the time. (You never know what your future demands will be.)

Compact Flash Media and HDSC media
These are two standard formats for the digital camera technologies available to you through the labs. Prices start at $30 and range up to over $100. SMS cameras available for checkout from the equipment cage require SD cards and it is recommended that students elect to purchase a card of their own to use. These cards work in a variety of equipment.

SOFTWARE
Our lab workstations have a wide array of software applications that you will use for your coursework at RIT, primarily from Adobe. Adobe offers up their software solutions via the “Creative Cloud” platform via a cloud-distributed model on a monthly subscription basis. There is also an option to pay a year at a time for a larger discount. ($239.88 for 12 months for students) This also offers up their entire suite of software products to subscribers. Please see http://www.adobe.com/products/creativecloud/students.edu.html or the Digital Den for more information and educational pricing.

Microsoft Office
Microsoft offers two options for students through the RIT Digital Den: https://www.rit.edu/fa/digitalden/

Office2016 –Includes MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and either Outlook (XP) or Entourage (Mac)
Both of these options are good for one computer (and can transfer to a new computer) and the license lasts in perpetuity. Academic price: $149.95* this academic pricing is ONLY available through Digital Den.

Office365 – Both – New offering that brings Office to a mobile device (like the iPad). The catch is that the license last for four years and can only be installed on up to two computers total and the license will not transfer to a new computer. This means you can install it on one computer, and if you replace that computer with a new one, you can install one more time onto the new one. If you replace your machine a third time in four years, you will NOT be able to transfer your license. Academic price: $69* this academic pricing is ONLY available through Digital Den.

* Prices may vary by Fall. Please check for deals offered through RIT’s Digital Den. Great discounts are frequently available closer to the start of Fall Semester, and you may want to check once you arrive at RIT.

As an accompaniment to any equipment purchase, all students are strongly encouraged to acquire insurance for their personal gear and any gear they check out from the CIAS rental facility known as the “Cage” To learn more about insurance programs, please visit: http://finweb.rit.edu/grms/student_personal_property_insurance.html You are welcome to look into other insurance, but we have found this to be cost effective and a good value.

www.collegestudentinsurance.com - For an instant quote select “New York,” “Rochester Institute of Technology,” and $6,000.00 “. This is the advised amount for first year students,

If you would like suggestions about additional equipment such as scanners, printers, and digital cameras, please contact Erich Lehman at 585-475-2766 or e-mail at Erich.Lehman@rit.edu.