

Griffin Technical College

Online Technology Requirements

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they have access to a computer that meets the minimum hardware and software requirements to participate in an online course.

**Note: Some courses may have additional hardware/software requirements.
Please review each course listing for special requirements.**

Minimum Hardware Requirements

Blackboard developers recommend the following hardware specifications:
Minimum Hardware Requirements

PC Configuration:

- 400 Megahertz Intel Pentium III Processor (933 preferred)
- 64 Megabytes RAM (128 or more preferred)
- 6-Gigabyte Hard Drive
- 17" Monitor
- 56.6 Kbps Modem (or Cable Modem / DSL if available)

Mac Configuration:

- 400 Megahertz iMac (933 preferred)
- 64 MB RAM (128 or more preferred)
- 6 Gigabytes Hard Drive
- 56.6 K Modem (or Cable Modem / DSL if available)
- 17" Monitor
- Macintosh OS 9

Internet Service Provider

An ISP is a company that can provide you with the software necessary for getting onto the Internet. Contact your local ISP to set up your personal account. Without an ISP, it is impossible to take GVTC Online Courses. Students have reported numerous problems when using AOL to access online courses. If you use AOL, you must be able to access Netscape or Internet Explorer. **Do not use the AOL browser!** Click [here](#) for information on finding a local ISP provider.

Email Account

Since it is our primary form of communication, you must have an email address prior to applying or registering. Generally, your ISP will give you an email account. Please contact your ISP if you are unsure of your email address.

Free email accounts are readily available on the Internet. You may register for free email at any of the following websites:

- Hotmail
- Yahoo
- Juno
- Excite

Java™ Compliant Web Browser

You will need a Java™ compliant Browser. For the Java™ capable browser we recommend Microsoft® Internet Explorer 4.0 (or higher) or Netscape® Communicator 4.0 (or higher). To test which browser you are currently running, click [here](#). If your browser is older than IE 4.0 or Netscape 4.0, you may download a current version for free by clicking on the icons below.

Supplemental Software

Some online classes require or recommend software packages. We have gathered the most common ones here for your benefit.

Adobe Acrobat Reader

Adobe® Acrobat® 5.0 software lets you save virtually any document — from a simple Microsoft Word file to a CAD drawing to a graphically rich brochure — in compact [Adobe Portable Document Format \(PDF\)](#). Adobe Acrobat also lets you protect your documents from unauthorized access or alterations.

RealPlayer G2

RealPlayer gives you access to multimedia files, both on the Internet and those stored locally on your computer and your LAN. With RealPlayer you can find and play Channels, Live Stations, and other clips directly without having to launch your web browser first.

Macromedia Authorware Web Player

With Macromedia Authorware Web Player, you can experience online learning applications on the Web.

Macromedia Flash Player

Macromedia Flash Player is the client for rich web experiences across multiple platforms. With Macromedia Flash Player, web users worldwide can view and interact with content developed in Macromedia Flash MX.

Macromedia ShockWave Player

With Macromedia Shockwave Player, you can enjoy multimedia games, learning applications, and product demonstrations on the Web, using exciting new 3D technology.

WS FTP

WS_FTP Pro is the market leader in Windows-based FTP (file transfer protocol) client software. It enables users and organizations to move files between local and remote systems while enjoying the utmost in:

- Security: Protects your business critical and sensitive data with the highest commercially available data encryption level
- Ease of use: Makes sharing files fast and easy
- Reliability: Maximizes the rate of successful file transfers
- Efficiency: Allows transfers of more files to more destinations without adding to your workload

WinZip

WinZip makes it easy for Windows users to work with archives. WinZip features an intuitive point-and-click drag-and-drop interface for viewing, running, extracting, adding, deleting, and testing files in archives with a standard Windows interface. Zip files are "archives" used for distributing and storing files.

Zip files contain one or more files. Usually the files "archived" in a Zip are compressed to save space. Zip files make it easy to group files and make transporting and copying these files faster.

Local Technical Support

We do have staff available to answer any questions you may experience along the way. All of our online instructors have been state certified in Blackboard and Online Learning Practices. We also have a Distance Education Coordinator on our campus to resolve most issues that you may encounter.