

Office of Student Affairs
School of Medicine
Baylor College of Medicine
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INFORMATION #1

DATE: January 25, 2021
TO: Class of 2025
FROM: John Rapp
Senior Director, Student Affairs

This is the **first of three (3) scheduled communications** that will appear on the Class of 2025 web site, along with other information pertinent to your first year at Baylor.

ORIENTATION

Friday, July 23 - *I'm a Baylor Medical Student Orientation Day*. Administrative tasks and meeting PRN leaders will comprise the day's activities.

Monday, July 26 through Friday, July 28 – 19th PRN Orientation Retreat and all other Orientation activities will be announced on the Class of 2025 web site at a later date.

ALL ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES ARE MANDATORY.

INSURANCE

Baylor College of Medicine mandates that all individuals enrolled in any BCM academic program must be covered under the Baylor College of Medicine Health Care Program for Students, which includes health, dental and long term disability insurance. Information on the program has been posted on this site and will be updated this Spring.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENVIRONMENT & REQUIREMENTS

We include in every first year student's financial aid allocation \$2,000, which can be used to purchase a new laptop computer. If you already own a computer or can purchase a computer or an upgrade for less than \$2,000, you should decline all or part of your financial aid allocation so you borrow only what you actually need. Be aware that half of your financial aid award is available in August and half in January.

Baylor Personal Computer Requirement and specifications

The classes that you take at BCM are paperless; therefore, you must have a computer to access class materials including course notes, presentations and streaming videos. In addition, some exams at BCM are administered over wireless networks at the College. Many students use both a laptop and a tablet – the laptop for note taking and the tablet for study on the go.

Because you shouldn't have to deal with learning a new operating system when you start medical school, we support both Apple and Windows-based devices. Please do not buy a Chrome Netbook because it will NOT work for your wireless exams.

Information Technology program. Additionally, we require that you install and run any manufacturer security patches or "hot fixes" that are suggested for your Operating System.

Please refer to the Minimum Computer Requirements – 2021-2022 under Important Information on the Class of 2025 web site.

Required Use of your Laptop on Campus

All medical students entering BCM after 2014 are required to own a laptop computer that meets the specifications listed above. These requirements are based upon our experience with Foundational Sciences & National Board of Medical Examiners online examinations that we administer. Laptops with lower capability are not suitable. In addition, Netbooks, Chromebooks and iPads are not suitable for these purposes.

Soon after you arrive at BCM there will be a Compatibility Check test session that will be offered to determine whether your computer meets the requirements we have established. Passage of these compatibility tests is essential in order for you to take advantage of our streaming video lecture service and to take online examinations.

MILITARY PROGRAMS

If you are in a military program, provide to Student Account Services (713-798-4322) a copy of your contract, military orders, etc., so they may bill the government for your tuition/fees.

NOTE: Failure to do this may mean you have to pay certain expenses that ordinarily would be paid by the government, simply because Student Account Services was not informed.

HOUSING

Baylor does not endorse nor gives warranty to the truth or validity of any of the housing information linked to on our web site. This information is included as a starting point only. If you have any adverse experiences however, please inform us.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call (713-798-4600) or e-mail Student Affairs (stuaff@bcm.edu) and you will receive a prompt response.