

Minimum Technical Recommendations For Screen Scoring Students

Students in the Division of Contemporary Music (DCM) at the USC Thornton School of Music will be working towards careers in music where technology is a fundamental tool used in music-making. The following are minimum hardware and software recommendations that DCM faculty and staff feel are necessary for Division students and their coursework.

We have been able to find the below prices from reliable vendors as of July 2022. Prices are subject to change.

Computer	
14" MacBook Pro laptop or larger <i>(or equivalent)</i>	\$3,559.00 ¹
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memory: 64 GB Storage: 2 TB or greater Processor: Apple M1 Max with 10-core CPU, 24-core GPU, 16-core Neural Engine 	
Accessories & Misc.:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External Drives: while not required, 4TB+ external SSD drives are recommended for audio and video storage. 	\$200.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USB-C to USB Adapter <i>(if needed)</i> 	\$20.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AppleCare 	\$249.00
Hardware	
Audio Interface:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the following <i>(or equivalent)</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UA Apollo Solo NI Komplete Audio TWO 	\$699.00 \$139.00
Keyboard & Accessories:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arturia KeyLab Essential 61 <i>(or equivalent)</i> Sustain Pedal 	\$279.00 \$24.99
Microphone & Accessories:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the following <i>(or equivalent)</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mojave Warm Audio Aston Origin, large diaphragm Microphone cables & stand 	\$1,000.00 \$700.00 \$300.00 \$100.00
Headphones: choose a high quality, studio set of headphones	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference quality headphones <i>(or equivalent)</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sony MDR 7506 Beyerdynamic DT 770 	\$89.00 \$159.00

Software	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apple Pro Apps Bundle (<i>includes Logic Pro X, Final Cut X, and Main Stage</i>) Microsoft Office Bundle (<i>currently provided by USC</i>) AVID ProTools (<i>1 year education subscription</i>) 	\$199.99 \$0 \$299.00/year
Notation: pick one	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avid Sibelius Ultimate (<i>education – 1 year</i>) ⁱⁱ Dorico EDU MakeMusic Finale student 	\$99.00 \$359.99 \$99.00
Additional Software	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macro Software: Keyboard Maestro 	\$36.00
Samples: select as needed (<i>a full orchestral library, contemporary instruments, and synthesis elements are required</i>)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cinesamples Core elements (Strings, Brass, Winds) Berlin Inspire Bundle Komplete Ultimate EW Composer's Cloud -EDU (monthly subscription) 	\$1,457 \$700.00 \$799.00 \$9.99/month
Reverb:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seventh Heaven (<i>or equivalent</i>) 	\$69.00

ⁱ Apple Education Store pricing. If making this purchase, you will have the option to include AppleCare and Apple Pro Apps Bundle at time of purchase. AppleCare and Pro Apps Bundle not reflected in the listed price.

ⁱⁱ Ultimate Academic Version Perpetual License. We recommend contacting our partner at Sweetwater.com to receive a discount on this software. Jim Swain at 800-222-4700, x1228 or jim_swain@sweetwater.com.