Technology Requirements

Pikes Peak State College — Division of Online Learning and ITSS

As a student at **Pikes Peak State College (PPSC)**, you will be accessing your college courses through our **Learning Management System** — **D2L**. Before your first day of class, please review the technology requirements below to ensure you are fully prepared for a successful college experience.

Internet Connection

A reliable internet connection is essential for accessing your coursework, participating in discussions, submitting assignments and taking exams.

- **Minimum speed:** 5 Mbps download / 1 Mbps upload
- **Recommended speed:** 25 Mbps or higher (required for video streaming and virtual meetings)
- A **stable wired or strong Wi-Fi connection** is strongly recommended
- Mobile hotspots are **not reliable** for regular coursework and should not be used as your primary connection

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PC (Windows) Requirements

Component	Minimum	Recommended
Operating System	Windows 10	Windows 11
Processor	Intel i5	Intel i7 or higher
RAM	8 GB	16 GB or more
Storage	20 GB free space	SSD with 50+ GB free
Display Resolution	1280 x 720	1600 x 900 or higher

Mac Requirements

Component	Minimum	Recommended
Operating System	macOS Big Sur (11)	macOS Sonoma (14) or later
Processor	Apple M1 or Intel i5	Apple M2/M3 or Intel i7
RAM	8 GB	16 GB or more
Storage	20 GB free space	SSD with 50+ GB free
Display Resolution	1280 x 720	Retina display preferred

Supported Browsers

Always use the **latest version** of one of the following supported browsers. Keeping your browser updated ensures the best performance, security, and accessibility in D2L Brightspace.

Browser	Platform
Google Chrome	Windows & Mac
Microsoft Edge	Windows
Mozilla Firefox	Windows & Mac
Apple Safari	Mac only

A Note on Mobile Devices

Smartphones and tablets are **not sufficient** as your primary device for college coursework in D2L Brightspace. **Many course features, assignment submission tools, and exam platforms require a full laptop or desktop computer**. There are computers available for use in classrooms, computer labs, or the Learning Commons.

Additional Hardware

Some courses require the use of additional hardware for video conferencing, recorded assignments, and proctored exams.

Hardware	Requirement
Webcam	Required for some courses and proctored exams
Microphone & Speakers	Required for Zoom video conferencing and recorded assignments
Headphones or earbuds	Strongly recommended for a focused study environment and class participation

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NOTE ** District issued Chromebooks rely on (MDM) Mobile Device Management. This has been known to cause certain software issues with M365, Respondus Lockdown Browser, etc.

**NOTE ****Mac Computers also have certain known software issues.

Please contact ITSS at 719-502-4800 or IT Service Desk for more information

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Your PPSC Student Account

Once enrolled, you will be assigned a **PPSC student email address**. This is your official communication channel with your instructors and the college — check it regularly!

- Log in to D2L Brightspace directly at:
  - mycourses.cccs.edu
  - pikespeak.edu then myPikesPeak Portal
- Use your **PPSC student credentials** to access all college systems
- Important college communications, deadlines, and announcements are sent to your PPSC email.

Need Help?

If you experience technical difficulties, these resources are available to support you:

Resource	Contact
PPSC IT Service Desk Software, student passwords, email issues	IT Service Desk 719-502-4800 8am – 5pm Mon – Fri
D2L Brightspace 24/7 Help Desk ticket D2L course Issues	help.cccs.edu
Division of Online Learning D2L course issues	eLearning@pikespeak.edu 719-502-3555 8am – 5pm Mon – Fri