

GED Only Technical Requirements

Warning



This document is designed for test centers that will deliver GED exams exclusively. If the test center will deliver exams for other clients, they should follow the guidelines in the **PVTC Technical** Requirements.

Warning



On January 14, 2020, Pearson VUE will no longer provide support for Pearson VUE software installed on Windows 7 operating systems, or any 32-bit operating systems.

All existing sites must upgrade to Windows 10 64-bit OS for all test center equipment prior to January 2020. Starting January 1, 2019, all new test centers are required to install on Windows 10 OS.

About the Installation Scenarios

This document describes the minimum hardware requirements to install the Pearson VUE Testing System (VTS) software in a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center certified to deliver the GED program. The VTS software may be installed in one of two configurations: Workgroup scenario or Server scenario. Whichever scenario is installed, the hardware and software must meet Pearson VUE's minimum requirements as shown in the System Requirements on page 7.



Warning If your site is installing in a **Workgroup scenario** you are limited to no more than 15 exam delivery workstations. If you are installing on more than 15 exam delivery workstations you must use a **Server scenario**, which requires a **Windows** server OS.

The following items are strictly prohibited:

- Mac hardware running any operating system
- Laptops are strictly prohibited as servers

Laptops may only be used for exam delivery machines if the test center delivers GED exams exclusively. If exams for other clients will be delivered, then standard desktop workstations must be installed.

Any Windows user account that interacts with the VTS software on the Server, Administration, Proctor or exam delivery workstation is required to have local **administrator rights** on that workstation. This includes both installing and running the VTS software.

Workgroup scenario installation - Desktop

In a Workgroup scenario installation, exam delivery workstations are connected through a local area network (LAN) or workgroup to the Administration workstation which provides shared file storage. This is illustrated below.

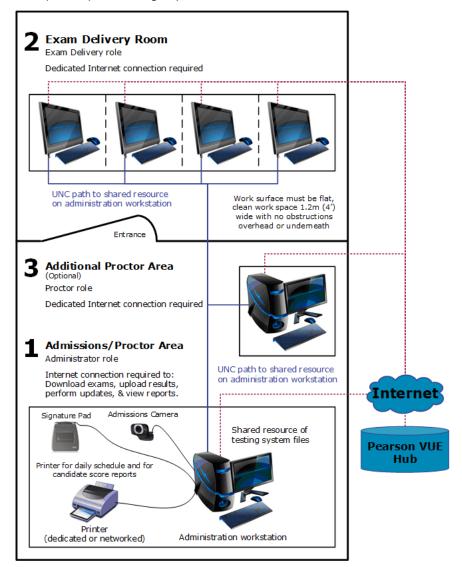
Warning



A Workgroup scenario may only use up to 15 exam delivery workstations. If you will be installing more than 15 workstations, you must use a Server scenario shown on the following page.

Pearson VUE Authorized Center

Workgroup Scenario Multiple computers workgroup/network



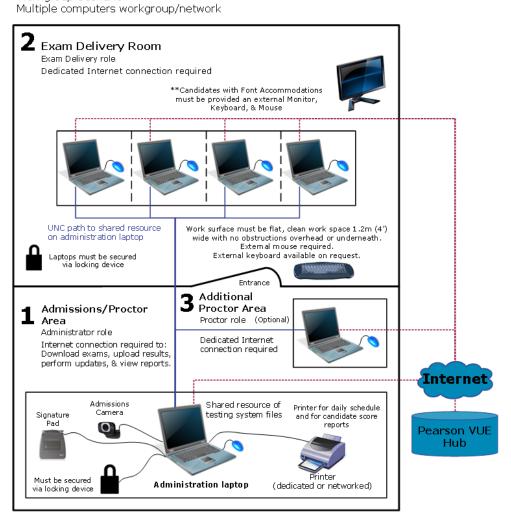
Workgroup scenario installation - Laptop

In a Workgroup scenario installation, exam delivery laptops are connected through a local area network (LAN) or workgroup to the Administration laptop which provides shared file storage. This is illustrated below.



Warning A Workgroup scenario may only use up to 15 exam delivery laptops. If you will be installing more than 15 laptops, you must use a Server scenario shown on the following page.

Pearson VUE Authorized Center - Mobile Laptop Lab Workgroup Scenario



Warning



Laptops may only be used as exam delivery, Administration and Proctor machines. Laptop Servers are strictly prohibited.

Server Scenario Installation - Desktop

In a Server scenario installation, all exam delivery workstations are connected through a LAN, and a file server provides shared file storage. This is illustrated below. (Server scenario refers to a setup type and is not related to an Operating System.)

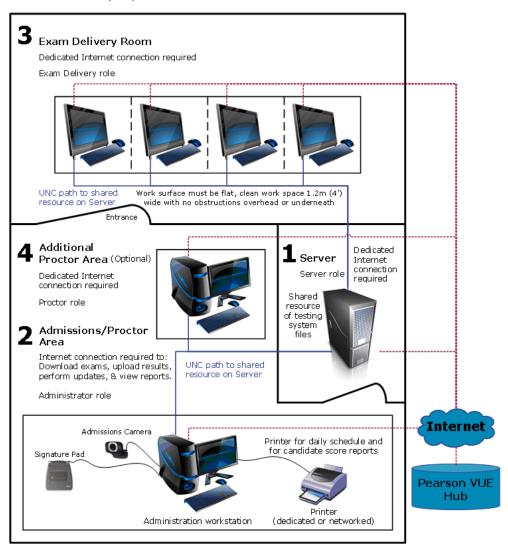
Warning



You must use a **Server scenario** if you have more than 15 exam delivery workstations. A server operating system, such as Server 2016 or 2012 R2, is required for more than 15 exam delivery workstations.

Pearson VUE Authorized Center

Server Scenario Multiple computers local area network (LAN)



Server Scenario Installation – Laptop

Laptops may be used in a Server scenario if you connect to a desktop server. Laptops may only be used as exam delivery, Administration and Proctor machines. Laptop Servers are strictly prohibited.

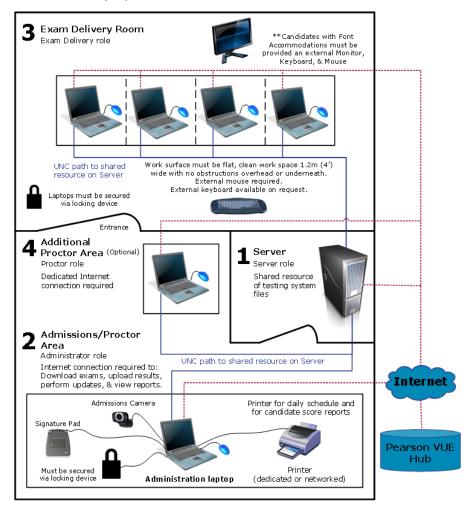
Warning



You must use a **Server scenario** if you have more than **15 exam delivery laptops**. A server operating system, such as Server 2016 or 2012 R2, is required for more than 15 exam delivery laptops.

Pearson VUE Authorized Center - Laptop Lab

Server Scenario Multiple computers local area network (LAN)



Warning



If laptops are used in a mobile lab scenario, the server may reside in the same room as the Administration/Proctor laptops if candidates do not have direct access to the server. If laptops are used in a fixed test center, the server should reside in a separate room.

System Requirements

Effective February 1, 2019, the following pages list the minimum system requirements for installing and running the Pearson VUE Testing System, and for operating as a test center. **Pearson recommends purchasing equipment** that meets or exceeds the Recommended Specifications. The minimum requirements will change periodically based on the needs of our exam sponsors.

Hardware configuration

All-in-one PC's are permitted if they meet the minimum Technical Specification and do not have a Touch screen. Pearson VUE highly recommends that All-in-one PC's meet the Recommended Technical Specifications.

Software licenses

All test centers are required to have Windows operating systems that have completed online activation. Application software installed on all exam delivery workstations must also have current licensing. Windows Operating Systems must pass Genuine Windows Validation.

Network configuration

It is **strongly recommended** that all machines with VTS Software installed remain in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN, and subnet. Network configurations that do not follow this guideline may experience decreased exam delivery performance. You may be asked to make changes to your network configuration to comply with this guideline as part of problem resolution.

Internet bandwidth

Some exam deliveries will require an internet connection. For Internet Based Tests (IBT) a minimum base connection speed of 1 Mbps down/up is required. Additional bandwidth may be required for more than 10 simultaneous IBT exam deliveries.

Pearson VUE specific hardware

Some exams may require the use of test center admissions equipment. Please consult with your Pearson VUE representative to determine if these components are required for your test center. If required, these components may be purchased from Pearson VUE or a third-party source.

Requirement	Administration Workstation	
Web Camera	Logitech HD Webcam C615 or Logitech Pro 9000	
Signature Device	ePadLink: ePad Signature Pad – Model VP9801	



Pearson VUE strongly recommends purchasing 2 Web Cameras. If the first camera breaks down you will not be able to deliver any more exams until a replacement is in place.

Monitors - Exam Delivery

Requirement		
Monitor	 15.6" or larger for laptops /17" or larger for external monitors Must allow for the following display resolution settings: 1280 x 1024 1024 x 768 	
	 External monitor must be connected to the computer using DVI, DisplayPort, or HDMI 	
Desktop	Exam delivery workstations must have a graphics adapter that supports GPU Scaling (ability to Maintain Aspect Ratio)	
Graphics Adapter	 Exam delivery workstations must have the GPU Scaling feature enabled in the graphics adapter software 	
	The latest version of graphics drivers must be installed	

External peripherals for laptops

External mouse

Because many candidates are not comfortable using a touchpad mouse, this could negatively affect the results of their exam. Therefore, an external mouse is required for every exam delivery laptop.

External keyboard

Some candidates are not comfortable typing on a laptop keyboard and this could negatively affect the results of their exam. Therefore, external keyboards must be available to candidates if they request one.



If a candidate is configured with Font Accommodations, they must automatically be provided with an external keyboard.

External monitor

Candidates configured with **Font Accommodations** must automatically be provided with an external monitor, keyboard and mouse.

Administration and Proctor – Desktop

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications	
0	Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit)		
Operating System	**Windows 7 SP1 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit)		
Jystem.	** New sites are not allowed to install on Win 7 or any 32-bit OS starting Jan 2019		
Processor Intel: i3 or higher AMD: Phenom II series, FX-4000 series or newer Intel: i5-series		Intel: i5-series	
	Note: CPU must have a minimum of two co	res (dual-core)	
RAM	2 GB of RAM	4 GB of RAM or more	
Hard Drive	10 GB free disk space in NTFS format	50 GB free disk space in NTFS format	
Graphics Adapter	Video Adapter must support DirectX 10 or higher. Latest drivers installed. 128 MB of dedicated Video RAM.	Video Adapter support for DirectX 11 or higher. Latest drivers installed. 512 MB dedicated Video RAM or more.	
Disales	All computers and monitors should be co	nnected via DVI, DisplayPort , or HDMI .	
Display	17" monitor or larger		
Mouse & Keyboard	English QWERTY Keyboard2 Button Wheel Mouse		
USB Ports	 4 available USB 2.0 ports for: English QWERTY Keyboard 2 Button Wheel Mouse Signature Pad admissions equipment Camera admissions equipment 	 6 available USB 2.0 ports for: English QWERTY Keyboard 2 Button Wheel Mouse Signature Pad admissions equipment Camera admissions equipment 2 spare ports 	
Network	100 Mbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch. 1 Gbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.		
Connection	Strongly Recommended: All machines with VTS Software installed should remain in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN, and subnet.		
Internet Connection	See <u>Internet bandwidth</u> requirements above.		
Internet Browser	Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge		
Printer	600 DPI Laser Printer		
Additional Software	.NET 4.0 is installed with the VTS software. If installing on Windows 10, .NET 3.5 must be enabled on Administration/Proctor workstation to complete the VTS installation. All workstations must have Anti-Virus software installed with a current update.		

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications
	Windows 10/7 allows for up to 15 simulta	neous exam deliveries.
Additional Notes	workstations at any time	
The Windows account used to install the VUE Administrative rights to properly install and		<u> </u>

Administration and Proctor - Laptop

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications	
Operating System	Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit) **Windows 7 SP1 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit) ** New sites are not allowed to install on Win 7 or any 32-bit OS starting Jan 2019		
Processor	Intel: i3 or higher AMD: Phenom II series, FX-4000 series		
	Note: CPU must have a minimum of two co	ores (dual-core)	
RAM	2 GB of RAM	4 GB of RAM or more	
Hard Drive	5 GB free disk space in NTFS format Minimum 7200 rpm HDD required	10 GB free disk space in NTFS format Solid State Disk (SDD)	
Graphics Adapter	Video Adapter must support DirectX 10 or higher. Latest drivers installed. 128 MB of dedicated Video RAM.	Video Adapter support for DirectX 11 or higher. Latest drivers installed.	
Disulan		256 MB dedicated Video RAM or more.	
Display	Display must be 14" or larger .	17" external monitor or larger.	
Mouse & Keyboard	Built in English QWERTY KeyboardBuilt in Touch Pad Mouse	External English QWERTY KeyboardExternal 2 Button Wheel Mouse	
USB Ports	 2 available USB 2.0 ports for: Signature Pad admissions equipment Camera admissions equipment 4 available USB 2.0 ports for: External English QWERTY Keyboard External 2 Button Wheel Mouse Signature Pad admissions equipment Camera admissions equipment 		
Network	100 Mbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.1 Gbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.		
Connection	Strongly Recommended: All machines with VTS Software installed should remain in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN, and subnet.		
Internet Connection	See <u>Internet bandwidth</u> requirements above.		
Internet Browser	Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge		

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications
Printer	600 DPI Laser Printer	
Additional Software	.NET 4.0 is installed with the VTS software. If installing on Windows 10, .NET 3.5 must be enabled on Administration/Proctor laptop to complete the VTS installation. All workstations must have Anti-Virus software installed with a current update.	
Additional Notes	 another locking device The Test Administrator should be the device from the Administration laptop Candidates must not have free access Windows 10/7 allows for up to 15 sim 	to the Administration laptop at any time nultaneous exam deliveries the VUE Testing System Platform must

Exam Delivery - Desktop

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications	
Operating System	Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit) **Windows 7 SP1 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit) ** New sites are not allowed to install on Win 7 or any 32-bit OS starting Jan 2019		
Processor	Intel: i3 or higher AMD: Phenom II series, FX-4000 series or newer	Intel: i5-series	
	Note: CPU must have a minimum of two co	res (dual-core)	
RAM	2 GB of RAM 4 GB of RAM or more		
Hard Drive	10 GB free disk space in NTFS format 50 GB free disk space in NTFS format		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Video Adapter support for DirectX 11 or higher. Latest drivers installed.	
Craphics	128 MB of dedicated Video RAM.	256 MB dedicated Video RAM or more.	
Graphics Adapter	All exam delivery workstations must have a Graphics Adapter that supports GPU Scaling (sometimes called Maintaining Aspect Ratio).		
	All exam delivery workstations must have the GPU Scaling feature enabled.		
	All computers and monitors must be connected via DVI, DisplayPort, or HDMI.		
Display	See Monitors requirements above.		
Audio	Windows compatible audio playback capability.		
Mouse &	English QWERTY Keyboard		
Keyboard	2 Button Wheel Mouse		

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications
USB Ports	2 available USB 2.0 ports for:English QWERTY Keyboard2 Button Wheel Mouse	 4 available USB 2.0 ports for: English QWERTY Keyboard 2 Button Wheel Mouse 2 spare ports
Network	100 Mbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	1 Gbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.
Connection	Strongly Recommended: All machines we in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN,	
Internet Connection	See <u>Internet bandwidth</u> requirements above.	
Internet Browser	Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge	
Printer	600 DPI Laser Printer	
	.NET 4.0 is installed with the VTS software.	
Additional Software	If installing on Windows 10 , .NET 3.5 must be enabled on exam delivery workstation to complete the VTS installation.	
	All workstations must have Anti-Virus software installed with a current update.	
Additional	The Windows account used to install the VUE Testing System Platform must have Administrative rights to install properly.	
Notes	The Windows account profile logged into the exam delivery workstation must have Administrative rights to launch the Delivery Manager software.	

Exam Delivery - Laptop

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications
0	Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit)	
Operating System	**Windows 7 SP1 Professional or Enterp	rise (64-bit)
System	** New sites are not allowed to install on	Win 7 or any 32-bit OS starting Jan 2019
Processor	Intel: i3 or higher AMD: Phenom II series, FX-4000 series or newer Intel: i5-series	
Note: CPU must have a minimum of two cores (dual-core)		res (dual-core)
RAM	2 GB of RAM 4 GB of RAM or more	
KAIVI	Note: 512MB must be available for the software to function properly.	
5 GB free disk space in NTFS format. 10 GB free disk space in N		10 GB free disk space in NTFS format.
Hard Drive	Minimum 5400 rpm HDD required.	7200 rpm HDD or Solid State Drives (SDD) preferred.

	Minimum Required	Recommended Specifications	
Graphics Adapter	Video Adapter must support DirectX 10 or higher. Latest drivers installed. 128 MB of dedicated Video RAM. Video Adapter support for DirectX 11 or higher. Latest drivers installed. 256 MB dedicated Video RAM or more. Widescreen Laptops: must have a Graphics Adapter that supports GPU Scaling		
	(sometimes called Widescreen Laptops: must have the GP	Maintaining Aspect Ratio). U Scaling feature enabled.	
	See <u>Monitors</u> requirements above.		
Display	Note: External 17" monitor or larger for	candidates with Font Accommodations.	
Audio	Windows compatible audio playback capa	ability	
Mouse &	English QWERTY KeyboardExternal 2 Button Wheel Mouse	External 2 Button Wheel MouseExternal English QWERTY Keyboard	
Keyboard	Note: An external keyboard is required for Note: Sites must provide an external keyl	or candidates with Font Accommodations.	
	2 available USB 2.0 ports for:	3 available USB 2.0 ports for:	
USB Ports	 External 2 Button Wheel Mouse External English QWERTY Keyboard (if requested or required by candidate) 	External 2 Button Wheel MouseExternal English QWERTY Keyboard1 spare port	
Network	100 Mbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	1 Gbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	
Connection	Strongly Recommended: All machines with VTS Software installed should be in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN, and subnet.		
Internet Connection	See <u>Internet bandwidth</u> requirements abo	ove.	
Internet	Internet Explorer 11 required		
Browser	Microsoft Edge		
Printer	600 DPI Laser Printer		
Additional	• .NET 4.0 is installed with the VTS softw		
Software	If installing on Windows 10 , . NET 3.5 must be enabled on exam delivery laptops All workstations must have Anti Virus software installed with a current undate.		
	 All workstations must have Anti-Virus software installed with a current update. Exam delivery laptops MUST NOT be moved or mobile during exam delivery - 		
Additional Notes	 a locking device may be necessary to prevent laptops from walking away. An external Monitor, Keyboard, and Mouse are required for candidates with Font Accommodations. The Windows account used to install the VUE Testing System Platform must have Administrative rights to install properly. The Windows account profile logged into the exam delivery laptop must have Administrative rights to launch the Delivery Manager software. 		

Server: file storage

The file storage server must be accessible to the Administration workstation, Proctor workstation, and all exam delivery workstations. These requirements apply to Administration workstations with 9 – 15 exam delivery workstations, and to Servers with 15 – 30 exam delivery workstations.

	Required for 9 to 15 Exam Delivery Seats	Required for 15 to 30 Exam Delivery Seats
	All Servers must be Desktop machines Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise (64-bit) **Windows 7 SP1 Professional (64-bit)	All Servers must be Desktop machines Windows Server 2016 (64-bit) Windows Server 2012 R2 with update (64-bit)
Operating System	Windows Server 2016 (64-bit) Windows Server 2012 R2 with update (64-bit) Windows Server 2008 SP2/2008 R2 (64-bit) (Windows Server Core is not supported at this time) ** New sites are not allowed to install on Win 7 or any 32-bit OS starting January 2019	Windows Server 2008 R2 (64-bit)
Processor	Intel: i3 or higher AMD: Phenom II series, FX-4000 series or newer Note: CPU must have a minimum of two cores (dual-co	Intel: i5-series ore)
RAM	2 GB of RAM or more.	8 GB of RAM or more.
Hard Drive	SATA II Interface Standard or faster Interface Standard. 50 GB available disk space in NTFS format.	
	100 Mbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	1 Gbps Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.
Network	Pearson VUE strongly recommends that the server be dedicated to the VTS software to ensure the highest quality experience for candidates during exam delivery. Pearson VUE strongly discourages that the server provides additional services such as: domain controller, DHCP, SQL Server, WINS, etc.	
Power	UPS is recommended.	
Internet Connection	See <u>Internet bandwidth</u> requirements above.	
Internet Browser	Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge	
Additional Software	Server must have Anti-Virus software installed with .NET 2.0 framework must be enabled.	a current update.

	Required for 9 to 15 Exam Delivery Seats	Required for 15 to 30 Exam Delivery Seats
Additional Notes	The Windows account used to install the VUE Testing System Platform must have Administrative rights to install properly.	
Notes	Candidates should never have free access to the Server machine at any time.	

Prohibited on all workstations and servers

	Server\Administration\Exam Delivery Workstations		
Portable Computers	Smartphones are strictly prohibited. Tablet devices are strictly prohibited (e.g., iOS, Android, and Windows 8). Netbooks and Chromebooks are strictly prohibited. Note: Laptops with a "Tablet" mode are strictly prohibited from delivering exams while in Tablet mode.		
Processor	Devices running Ultra Mobile Processors are strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to Intel Atom , AMD NEO CPU lines, and ARM CPUs.		
RAM	Less than 2 GB on any workstation		
Hard Drive	FAT32 File System		
Operating System	 Windows XP, Vista & Windows 8/8.1 (all versions) strictly prohibited Windows Server Operating System strictly prohibited on the exam delivery workstations and not supported on Administration workstations Mac OSX is strictly prohibited Mac hardware running any Operating System is strictly prohibited All Linux/Unix based Operating Systems are strictly prohibited 		
Graphics Adapter	Any Graphics Adapter that does not support DirectX 10 or higher. Any Graphics Adapter that has less than 128 MB of dedicated Video RAM.		
Monitor Display	Monitors smaller than 17" are strictly prohibited on exam delivery workstations. Dual monitors are strictly prohibited on exam delivery workstations. KVM switches are strictly prohibited on exam delivery workstations. Touch Screen monitors are strictly prohibited on all workstations.		
USB	USB 1.0/1.1 is strictly prohibited. Un-Powered USB Hubs are strictly prohibited. Portable computing devices such as, but not limited to, smartphones and tablets are strictly prohibited from being connected to the exam delivery workstation during exam deliveries. USB Hubs are strictly prohibited on exam delivery workstations.		

	Server\Administration\Exam Delivery Workstations	
Network	Wireless Networks of any kind are strictly prohibited.	
	IPv6 is not currently supported.	
	Novell Netware is not supported.	
	Network Hubs are strictly prohibited.	
Internet Connection	SSL VPNs are strictly prohibited. (e.g., Hotspot Shield)	
	Dial-Up Internet Connections are strictly prohibited.	
Internet Browser	Only Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge are supported.	
	No other web browsers are currently supported.	
Additional Software	Software that can be used to remotely access the exam delivery workstations during exam delivery is strictly prohibited.	
Additional Notes	It is strictly prohibited to install the VUE Testing System Platform on any computer that does not have Anti-Virus software installed on it.	

Prohibited on Laptops

	Administration Laptops	Delivery Laptops			
Portable	Smartphones are strictly prohibited.				
Computers	Tablet devices are	e strictly prohibited (e.g., iOS , Android , and Windows 8).			
	Netbooks and Chromebooks are strictly prohibited.				
	Note: Laptops a	re strictly prohibited as servers .			
	Note: Laptops w while in Ta	ith a "Tablet" mode are strictly prohibited from delivering exams plet mode.			
Processor	Devices running Ultra Mobile Processors are strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to Intel Atom , AMD NEO CPU lines, and ARM CPUs.				
RAM	Less than 2 GB on any workstation				
Hard Drive	FAT32 File System				
	Hard drives that s	pin at less than 5400 rpms (SSD are exempt)			
Operating	Windows XP,	Vista & Windows 8/8.1 (all versions) strictly prohibited			
System		ver Operating System strictly prohibited on exam delivery laptops upported on Administration laptops			
	Mac OSX is st	rictly prohibited			
	Mac hardwar	e running any Operating System is strictly prohibited			
	All Linux/Uni	x based Operating Systems are strictly prohibited			
Graphics	Any Graphics Ada	pter that does not support DirectX 9c or higher			
Adapter	Any Graphics Ada	pter that has less than 128 MB of dedicated Video RAM			

	Administration Laptops	Delivery Laptops			
Monitor Display	Less than 14" display	External monitors smaller than 17" are strictly prohibited. Dual monitors are strictly prohibited.			
		Laptops: Any 16:9 aspect ratio display smaller than 15.4".			
	Touch Screen monitors are strictly prohibited on all workstations.				
USB	USB 1.0/1.1 is strictly prohibited.				
	Un-Powered USE	3 Hubs are strictly prohibited.			
	Portable computing devices such as, but not limited to, smartphones and tablets are strictly prohibited from being connected to the exam delivery laptops during exam deliveries.				
		USB Hubs are strictly prohibited on exam delivery laptops.			
Network	Wireless Networks of any kind are strictly prohibited.				
Connection	IPv6 is not currently supported.				
	Novell Netware is not supported.				
	Network Hubs are strictly prohibited.				
Internet	SSL VPNs are stri	ctly prohibited (e.g., Hotspot Shield)			
Connection	Dial-Up Internet Connections are strictly prohibited.				
Internet	Only Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge are supported.				
Browser	No other web browsers are currently supported.				
Additional Software	Software that can be used to remotely access the exam delivery workstations during exam delivery is strictly prohibited.				
Additional Notes	It is strictly prohibited to install VUE Testing System Platform on any computer that does not have Anti-Virus software installed on it.				