

Technology at Wabash



Wabash Information Technology Services (IT Services) supports all technology on campus: instructional technology, computer labs and classrooms, media services, computer help desk, web technologies, administrative computing, and data and telecom networks.

Wabash has over 380 computers on campus dedicated to student use. All computers are replaced on a 3-year cycle, ensuring that Wabash students always have access to the latest technology. WABnet, our data network, extends to all campus buildings, classrooms, and student living units. Wireless networking and secure remote access servers provide Wabash students access to technology resources anywhere, any time.

Do You Need a Computer at Wabash?

One of the most common questions we are asked by incoming students (and their parents) is, "Do I need my own computer at Wabash?" Wabash students use computers extensively in their class work. Whether sharing papers and lab results with faculty and classmates, accessing on-line library and media resources, or continuing class discussions in the evening via email, almost all students use computers and our campus network every day. Every academic department uses computers in some way. Because of this, we strongly recommend that students have a computer at Wabash. Currently, 96% of our students have their own computer at Wabash. Of those, 71% are laptops.

Purchasing a Computer

If you are interested in buying a computer, Wabash students (including incoming freshmen) can purchase Dell and Apple computers directly from the manufacturer at a discount. More information on computer sales is available on our web site, or call the IT Services Help Desk at 765-361-6400. We are also happy to discuss specifications and compatibility of systems you have purchased or plan to purchase elsewhere. For maximum compatibility, we recommend a computer running Windows XP* or Mac OS X. In addition to computers, you can purchase select Microsoft software at significant discount. Details are available on our web site, or by calling the Help Desk.

Computer Labs and Classrooms

Wabash has seven public labs on campus. Most labs are open from 8am-midnight; two labs are open 24 hours/day. Many academic departments also have computers for students to use for work in a particular discipline. College computers are loaded with a wide range of commercial software applications, including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Mathematica, Photoshop, Internet Explorer and Firefox, statistical programs, computer programming languages, and a variety of course-specific applications.



WABnet, the Wabash Data Network

WABnet is the campus data network, or digital information system. All College living units are connected to WABnet, and each room features a high-speed network connection for each student. Through WABnet, students can store files on campus servers, access class materials and library services, read email, and access the Internet at all times.

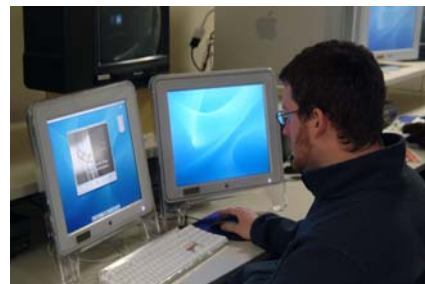
* Wabash computer labs will not be upgraded to Windows Vista until after the 2007-08 academic year. However, students running personal computers with Vista will be able to connect to the campus network, and should not experience significant compatibility issues.

Wireless Networking

Wabash has wireless network access today on much of the campus, and students with wireless-capable computers are able to connect to the network from all academic buildings, including the library, science buildings, athletics complex, and student center. During the summer 2007, wireless networking will be extended to cover 100% of the campus, including dormitories and fraternities.

Media Center

The Media Center offers Wabash students a variety of multimedia equipment for preparing projects and presentations for the web and other digital formats. Workstations include five high-end digital imaging Mac OS workstations equipped with professional quality VCR/Mini-DV players for video and audio capture and editing. We also have available a large format color printer, high quality color scanners, a Kodak slide/negative scanner, and CD/DVD burners. Laptop computers are available to students for check-out to use in the Library for class-related work.



Telephone Service

Wabash provides campus telephone service to all College dormitories and fraternities. One unique feature of our phone service is that you will have a personal, permanent telephone number that you will use throughout your time at Wabash. Other features include personal voice mail and free local service. Long distance dialing service is available using pre-paid calling cards.

Off-Campus Access

Most network services, including email, library catalog and databases, media reserves, class materials, and network storage space are accessible from the Internet, so you can stay connected, even when away from campus.

Getting Help

Wabash IT Services is committed to helping you make the most of available technology. If you run into problems with your network connection in your room, the WABnet Connection Hotline is available from 8am until midnight, seven days/week. Most computer labs are staffed with student technology assistants who offer help to students in computer labs. If you need to hone your skills with a particular software program, all students have unlimited access to Element K, an on-line learning system that offers self-paced courses for many computer programs and technologies, and IT Services offers several workshops each semester on using technology on campus.

Getting Started

Network login information will be sent to new students no later than May 15, 2007. At that time you can start using your Wabash email account and access online student resources.

How Much Does it Cost?

Unlike many colleges, Wabash does not charge a general technology fee. We also have no special charges—no access fees for connecting to the network, no Internet usage charges, no support costs, and no fee for email, file storage, or even printing.

For More Information

You can find lots more information about technology and computing at Wabash by visiting our web site at www.wabash.edu/technology. Note in particular the section for new students. Feel free also to contact the IT Services Help Desk by phone at 765-361-6400, via email at helpdesk@wabash.edu, or on campus in Baxter Hall, room 33.