

# WESPaC and IEP.online Workstation Guidelines

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## **Overview**

This document provides planning and support guidance regarding specifications for PCs, Macintoshes and printers for use in the WSIPC Enhanced Skyward Point and Click (WESPaC) and the IEP.online environments.

## **Audience**

Datacenter and district technology support staffs

## **Introduction**

This document provides datacenter and district staff with specific guidelines for the configuration of PCs, Macintoshes, and printers for use in the WESPaC and IEP.online environments. These guidelines represent a reasonable baseline for client configurations that will produce adequate performance under most circumstances. It is envisioned that this will be a “living” document that is regularly updated as new information emerges about the needs of the WESPaC and IEP.online products and as new factors emerge for consideration in the Workstation Guidelines (new operating system revisions, processor capabilities, web browser types and versions, etc...).

Newer, unlisted versions of operating systems and browsers may require changes to the WESPaC and IEP.online products before they are supported. Technology staff is cautioned not to assume that newer versions will work immediately. The proper forum to request specific additions to the Workstation Guidelines is through the Operations Advisory Committee.

‘Twilight’ systems are identified as those configurations that are supported today, but likely unable to reliably use the WESPaC environment at an acceptable performance level within the next budget cycle (A budget cycle describes the time frame from the spring budget formulation time to the completion of the execution of that budget September 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year). IEP.online does not identify twilight systems. In the case of twilight systems, WSIPC recommends to the data centers and districts that efforts be undertaken to ensure an upgrade path is present so that application functionality is not degraded or lost due to inadequate software or hardware.

All possible configurations of operating system, memory, processor speed and other factors cannot be envisioned in this document, and district technology staff will have to exercise some level of judgment in the interpretation of “adequate” performance. ‘Past twilight’ processor and memory configurations in particular will usually just degrade performance below what most users would consider acceptable. ‘Past twilight’ operating systems and browsers are more likely to not work at all.

These recommendations are presented in tabular format and comprise workstation hardware and software specifications, as well as printer specifications for WESPac users. Two categories of systems are delineated:

- **Primary Recommendations**  
Workstation configurations recommended by WSIPC. Systems are tested against these standard configurations and should work under most foreseeable system loads in the Washington K-12 environment through the next budget cycle.
- **Twilight Systems**  
These workstation configurations are currently fully supported, but are reaching the end of their effective service life with respect to their ability to support WESPac applications. Districts should attempt to prioritize their replacement in the next budget cycle.

## WESPaC Workstation Guidelines

Category	Primary Recommendation		Twilight Systems
<b>Windows Systems</b>	<b>Windows Vista</b>	<b>Windows XP</b>	<b>Windows 2000</b>
Hardware	See requirements based on Operating System. 3.0 GB Hard Disk space available for WESPaC configuration. Ethernet		Intel or AMD class processor at 350-700 MHz , at least 128 MB RAM, 3.0 GB HD space available for WESPaC configuration, Ethernet
Video	17 inch or higher at 1024 x 768 resolution		15 inch display at 1024 x 768 resolution
Printer	Networked HP LaserJet printers supporting TCP/IP and PCL 6 or PCL 5e		
Citrix ICA Client	XenApp Web Plugin – Version 11.000		
Web Browser <i>Citrix Web Interface</i>	Internet Explorer 7.0	Internet Explorer 6.0 or 7.0 Firefox 2.0	Internet Explorer 6.0 or 7.0
Web Browser <i>Educator Access+</i>	Internet Explorer 7.0 Firefox 2 / 3	Internet Explorer 6.0 sp1 Firefox 2 / 3	<i>Browsers outside of Primary Recommendation will have limited functionality.</i>
Web Browser <i>Family Access</i> <i>Employee Access</i>	Internet Explorer 7.0 Firefox 2 / 3	Internet Explorer 6.0 or 7.0 Firefox 2 / 3	Internet Explorer 6.0 or 7.0 Firefox 2 / 3

<b>Macintosh Systems</b>	Mac OS 10.5	Mac OS 10.4	Mac OS 10.3
Hardware	Minimum G4/G5 867MHz or faster, 512MB RAM, 3.0 GB HD space, Ethernet	Minimum G4/G5 processor at 667 MHz or higher, 256 MB RAM, 3.0 GB HD space available for WESPaC configuration, Ethernet	
Video	17 inch or higher at 1024 x 768 resolution		
Printer	Networked HP LaserJet printers supporting TCP/IP and PCL 6 or PCL 5e		
Citrix ICA Client	<b>Mac Client OS X – Version 10.00.603</b>		
Web Browser <i>Citrix Web Interface</i>	Firefox 2.0	Firefox 2.0	Firefox 2.0
Web Browser <i>Educator Access+</i>	Safari 3.0 Firefox 2 / 3	Safari 2.0 Firefox 2 / 3	Safari 1.2 / 1.3 Firefox 2
Web Browser <i>Family Access</i> <i>Employee Access</i>	Safari 3.0 Firefox 2 / 3	Safari 2.0 Firefox 1.5 / 2 / 3	Safari 1.2 / 1.3 Firefox 1.5 / 2

<b>Macintosh Systems - Intel Based</b>	
Hardware	All Intel Based Macintosh Systems meet minimum hardware requirements
Video	17 inch or higher at 1024 x 768 resolution
Printer	Networked HP LaserJet printers supporting TCP/IP and PCL 6 or PCL 5e
Operating System	OS 10.5
Citrix ICA Client	<b>10.00.603</b>
Web Browser <i>Citrix Web Interface</i>	Firefox 2 / 3
Web Browser <i>Educator Access+</i>	Safari 3.0 Firefox 2 / 3
Web Browser <i>Family &amp; Employee Access</i>	Safari 3.0 Firefox 2 / 3

## IEP.Online Workstation Guidelines

Category	Requirement
<b>Windows Systems</b>	
Hardware	The physical hardware (memory, diskspace, and processor) must be appropriate for the operating system installed.
Video	17 inch or higher at 1024 x 768 resolution
Operating System	Windows XP Professional Windows Vista (not Home version)
Web Browser	Internet Explorer 6 or 7 Firefox 3
Other Software	Adobe Reader 7 or higher Adobe Flash Player Release 8, 9, or 10
Browser Settings	<p><b>Note:</b> Network Cache / Proxy Server: For all computers, you must disable proxy / cache server use and/or bypass the proxy server for IEP.Online</p> <p>Local Cache:</p> <p><b>Internet Explorer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tools Menu / Internet Options / General / Temporary Internet Files / Settings / Check for new version of stored pages "Every visit to the page"</li> <li>▪ <b>IMPORTANT:</b> for use in school systems where a proxy server is the only access to the Internet, <b>Use HTTP 1.1</b> must be set in the "Advanced" section of Internet Options.</li> </ul> <p>Cookie Settings:</p> <p><b>Internet Explorer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enable cookies for local storage</li> <li>▪ Enable per-session cookies</li> </ul> <p><b>Firefox</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accept all cookies</li> <li>▪ Enable JavaScript / Scripting</li> </ul>

<b>Macintosh Systems</b>	
Hardware	The physical hardware (memory, diskspace, and processor) must be appropriate for the operating system installed. At least a 500Mhz G3 processor with more than 256Mb of physical memory.
Video	17 inch or higher at 1024 x 768 resolution
Operating System	OS X 10.4.x or greater
Web Browser	Safari 3 Firefox 3
Other Software	Adobe Reader 7 or higher Adobe Flash Player Release 8, 9, or 10
Browser Settings	<p><b>Note:</b> Network Cache / Proxy Server: For all computers, you must disable proxy / cache server use and/or bypass the proxy server for IEP.Online</p> <p><b>Settings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Safari</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preferences / Security:</li> <li>▪ Enable Java, Enable JavaScript both need to be set.</li> <li>▪ Block Pop-up Windows needs to be <b>unchecked</b> – pop-ups must be allowed for the logout process to work correctly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Firefox</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accept all cookies</li> <li>▪ Enable JavaScript / Scripting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

For IEP.Online to function properly, the client browser or pop-up blocking software must be configured to allow pop-up windows from IEP.Online. This includes native browser functionality, as well as toolbars such as Yahoo and Google.

Your technical staff may address any questions they have to:

WSIPC Infrastructure Services  
425-349-6510  
[wsysnet@wsipc.org](mailto:wsysnet@wsipc.org)