Technical Requirements for Laptops in Mobile Test Centers

Some test centers may wish to set up a mobile lab for administering and delivering exams. Examples of this type of test center might include setting up exam delivery at a conference or following a training session. In a standard test center configuration, only desktop workstations are permitted. This restriction is inconvenient for mobile test centers. To accommodate mobile test centers, Pearson VUE has established minimum system requirements for using laptops in these mobile test centers.

This document describes the minimum technical requirements for installing the Pearson VUE Testing System (VTS) software on laptops in mobile test centers. The VTS software may be installed in one of two configurations: **Workgroup scenario** or **Server scenario**. The hardware and software must meet Pearson VUE's minimum requirements as shown in <u>System requirements</u> on page 4.

> ⚠ **Warning**
>
> **Laptops are not permitted in standard fixed location Pearson VUE testing centers.** These technical requirements only apply to mobile testing centers using laptops for administration and exam delivery.
>
> 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
> - **Virtual environments** in any form
> - **Laptops as exam delivery** workstations or as **Servers**

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.
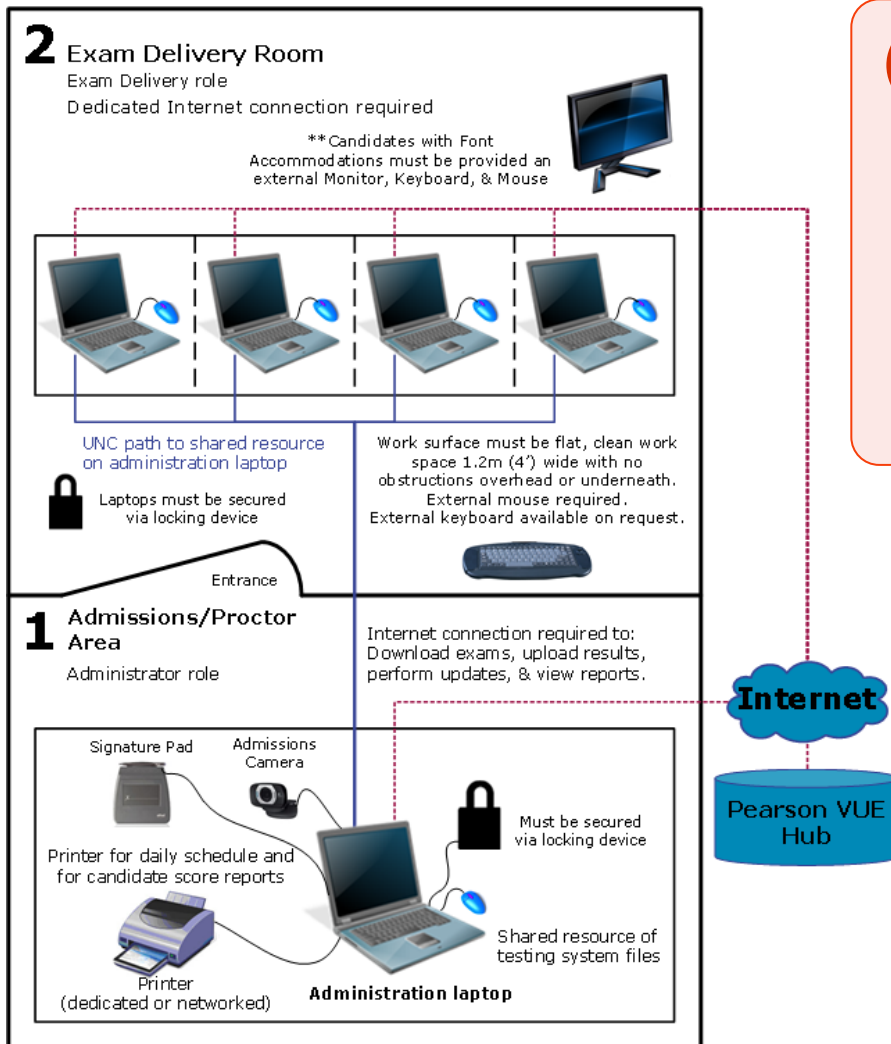
Workgroup scenario installation

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 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 – Mobile Laptop Lab
Workgroup Scenario
Multiple computers workgroup/network

2 Exam Delivery Room
Exam Delivery role
Dedicated Internet connection required

**Candidates with Font Accommodations must be provided an external Monitor, Keyboard, & Mouse

UNC path to shared resource on administration laptop

Laptops must be secured via locking device

Work surface must be flat, clean work space 1.2m (4') wide with no obstructions overhead or underneath. External mouse required. External keyboard available on request.

Entrance

1 Admissions/Proctor Area
Administrator role

Internet connection required to: Download exams, upload results, perform updates, & view reports.

Signature Pad
Admissions Camera
Printer for daily schedule and for candidate score reports
Must be secured via locking device
Shared resource of testing system files
Printer (dedicated or networked)
Administration laptop

Internet

Pearson VUE Hub

> ⊘ **Warning**
>
> Laptops may only be used as exam delivery, administration and proctor machines. **Laptop Servers are strictly prohibited.**

Server scenario installation

In a Server scenario installation, all exam Delivery laptops 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.)
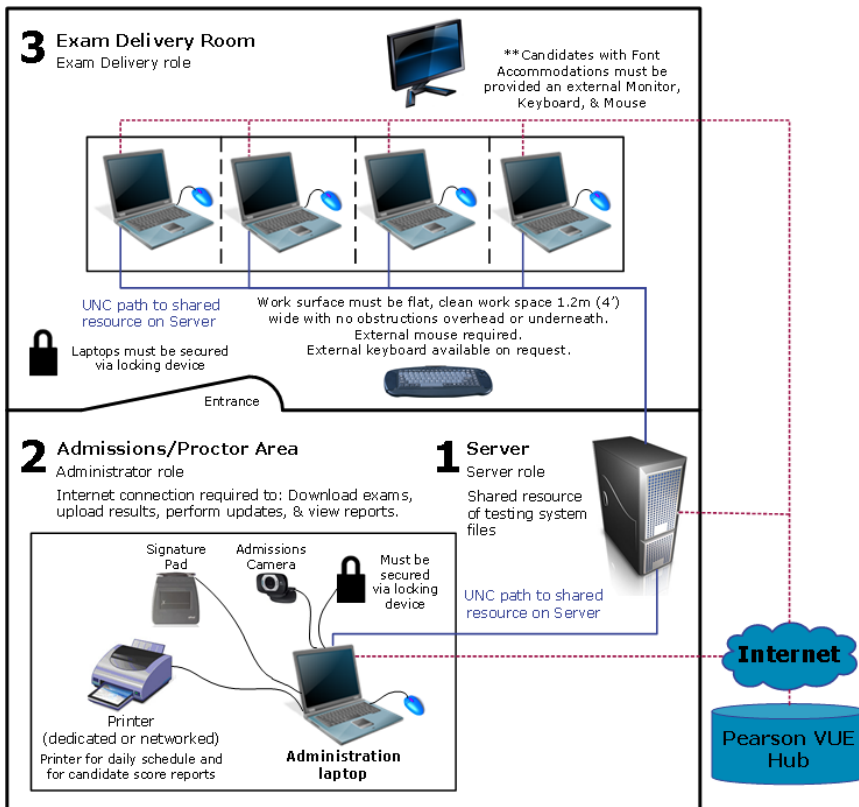
> ⛔ **Warning**
>
> You must use a **Server scenario** if you have more than **15 exam delivery workstations**. A server operating system, such as Windows Server 2022, 2019 or 2016, is required for more than 15 exam delivery workstations.
>
> Laptops may be used in a Server scenario if you connect to a **desktop server**. Laptops may only be used as exam Delivery, Administration and Proctor machines. **Laptop Servers are strictly prohibited.**

Pearson VUE Authorized Center – Laptop Lab

Server Scenario
Multiple computers
local area network (LAN)

3 Exam Delivery Room
Exam Delivery role

**Candidates with Font Accommodations must be provided an external Monitor, Keyboard, & Mouse

UNC path to shared resource on Server

Laptops must be secured via locking device

Work surface must be flat, clean work space 1.2m (4') wide with no obstructions overhead or underneath. External mouse required. External keyboard available on request.

Entrance

2 Admissions/Proctor Area
Administrator role

Internet connection required to: Download exams, upload results, perform updates, & view reports.

Signature Pad

Admissions Camera

Must be secured via locking device

Printer (dedicated or networked)
Printer for daily schedule and for candidate score reports

Administration laptop

1 Server
Server role

Shared resource of testing system files

UNC path to shared resource on Server

Internet

Pearson VUE Hub

System requirements

Effective **June 1, 2024**, the following pages list the minimum system requirements for installing and running the Pearson VUE Testing System on laptops in a mobile 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 the Touch screen is disabled. Pearson VUE highly recommends that All-in-one PC's meet the Recommended Technical Specifications.

Software licenses

All test centers must have Windows operating systems that have completed online activation. Application software installed on all exam Delivery laptops must also have current licensing. Windows Operating Systems must pass Genuine Windows Validation. Evaluation copies are not supported.

Network configuration

Pearson VUE **strongly recommends** 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 these guidelines as part of problem resolution.

Internet bandwidth

The minimum connection speed (Base Network) requirement of 5.0 Mbps down/ 3.0 Mbps up is required for all test centers. Some exam deliveries will require an internet connection. For Internet Based Tests (IBT), internet requirements depend on the number of delivery workstations. See the table below for details.

BASE NETWORK BANDWIDTH + 512 Kbps FOR EACH EXAM DELIVERY WORKSTATION	
1 – 15 delivery workstations	**5.0 Mbps down/ 3.0 Mbps up** base and **512 Kbps up/down** for each workstation
16 – 50 delivery workstations	**10.0 Mbps down/ 5.0 Mbps up** base and **512 Kbps up/down** for each workstation
50 – 100 delivery workstations	**20.0 Mbps down/ 10.0 Mbps up** base and **512 Kbps up/down** for each workstation
	For IBT exam deliveries, latency should not exceed **150 ms**

Pearson VUE specific hardware

Some exams may require 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 C920 Pro HD Webcam Logitech C920e Business Webcam
Signature device	ePadLink: ePad Signature Pad – Model VP9801 or ePadLink: ePad II Signature Pad – Model VP9851

> ⚠️ **Warning**
>
> 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.

24″ Monitors – exam delivery

All test centers are required to use 24″ monitors.

	REQUIREMENTS

Monitor	• Must allow for the following display resolution settings and be set to the highest resolution:
	
	    ○ **1920 x 1080 (set to this resolution)**
	
	    ○ **1280 x 1024**
	
	    ○ **1024 x 768**
	
	• Monitor must be connected to the computer using **DVI**, **DisplayPort**, or **HDMI**

Desktop graphics adapter	• Exam delivery workstations must have a graphics adapter that supports **GPU Scaling** (ability to Maintain Aspect Ratio) • 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**.

> 📝 **Note**
>
> If a candidate has Font Accommodations, they must automatically be provided with an external keyboard.

External monitor

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

Server: file storage

The file storage server must be accessible to the Administration laptop, Proctor laptop, and all exam Delivery laptops. These requirements apply to Administration workstations with 1 – 15 exam delivery laptops, and to Servers with 15 – 30 exam delivery laptops.

	REQUIRED FOR 1 – 15 EXAM DELIVERY SEATS	REQUIRED FOR 15 – 30 EXAM DELIVERY SEATS
Operating System	**All Servers must be Desktop machines** ***Windows 10** Professional or Enterprise (**64-bit mandatory**) ***Windows 11** Professional or Enterprise 10th generation or higher (**64-bit mandatory**) **Windows Server 2022** (**64-bit**) **Windows Server 2019** (**64-bit**) **Windows Server 2016** (**64-bit**)	**All Servers must be Desktop machines** **Windows Server 2022** (**64-bit**) **Windows Server 2019** (**64-bit**) **Windows Server 2016** (**64-bit**)
Operating System	(**Windows Server Core** is not currently supported) *If you are using Windows 10 or 11, you must have the latest version OS with all patches installed. You should run monthly updates for any OS updates. **Windows 10 support ends October 2025. **Note:** If you are an educational facility, i.e., University, **Windows 10 education** is currently supported.	
Processor	Intel: **i5** Generation 4 or higher **i3** Generation 8 or higher AMD: **Ryzen 3** Generation 5 or higher *Please refer to the Microsoft website to ensure the i3/i5/i7 or Ryzen 3/5 processor is compatible with Windows 11.	Intel: **i7** Generation 2 or higher AMD: **Ryzen 5** or higher
RAM	**8 GB** of RAM or more.	**16 GB** of RAM or more.
Hard drive	SATA II Interface Standard or faster Interface Standard. **128 GB** available disk space.	

	REQUIRED FOR 1 – 15 EXAM DELIVERY SEATS	REQUIRED FOR 15 – 30 EXAM DELIVERY SEATS
Network	**100 Mbps** Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	**1 Gbps** Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.
	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.	
	⊘ **Warning:** Wireless networks are strictly prohibited. 3G/4G/5G connections are prohibited.	
Power	UPS is recommended.	
Internet connection	See Internet bandwidth requirements above.	
Internet browser	Latest version of **Edge**, **Chrome**, or **Firefox**	
Additional software	Server must have **Anti-Virus software** installed with a current update. **.NET 3.5** framework must be enabled.	
Additional notes	The Windows account used to **install** the VUE Testing System Platform must have **Administrative rights** to install properly. Candidates should never have free access to the Server machine at any time.	

Administration and proctor laptop

	MINIMUM REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS
Operating System	*Windows 10 Professional or Enterprise (**64-bit mandatory**) *Windows 11 Professional or Enterprise 10th generation or higher (**64-bit mandatory**) *If you are using Windows 10 or 11, you must have the latest version OS with all patches installed. You should run monthly updates for any OS updates. **Windows 10 support ends October 2025.**	
	Note: If you are an educational facility, i.e., University, **Windows 10 education** is currently supported.	
Processor	Intel: **i5** Generation 4 or higher **i3** Generation 8 or higher AMD: **Ryzen 3** Generation 5 or higher	Intel: **i7** Generation 2 or higher AMD: **Ryzen 5** or higher
	*Please refer to the Microsoft website to ensure the i3/i5/i7 or Ryzen 3/5 processor is compatible with Windows 11.	
RAM	**8 GB** of RAM	**16 GB** of RAM or more
Hard drive	**128 GB** free disk space Solid-State Disk (SDD)	
Graphics adapter	Video Adapter must support **DirectX 12** or later with **WDDM 2.0 driver** or higher. Latest drivers installed. **128 MB** of dedicated Video RAM or the ability to increase the dedicated video memory to 128 MB via bios change.	
	All computers and monitors must be connected via **DVI**, **DisplayPort**, or **HDMI**.	
Display	**24" external monitor**	
Mouse & keyboard	• Built in English QWERTY Keyboard • Built in Touch Pad Mouse	• External English QWERTY Keyboard • External 2 Button Wheel Mouse

	MINIMUM REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS
USB ports	2 available USB 2.0 ports for: • Signature Pad admissions equipment • Camera admissions equipment	4 available USB 2.0 ports for: • English QWERTY Keyboard • External 2 Button Wheel Mouse • Signature Pad admissions equipment • Camera admissions equipment
Network connection	**100 Mbps** Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	**1 Gbps** Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.
	Strongly Recommended: All machines with VTS Software installed should remain in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN, and subnet.	
	⊘ **Warning:** Wireless Networks are strictly prohibited. 3G/4G/5G connections are prohibited.	
Internet connection	See Internet bandwidth requirements above.	
Internet browser	Latest version of **Edge**, **Chrome**, or **Firefox**	
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	• The Administration laptop must always be physically secured via **Cable Lock** or another locking device • The Test Administrator should be the only one that can remove the locking device from the Administration laptop • Candidates must not have free access to the Administration laptop at any time • **Windows 10** allows for up to **15** simultaneous exam deliveries • The Windows account used to **install** the VUE Testing System Platform must have **Administrative rights** to properly install and update the software	

Exam delivery laptops

	MINIMUM REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS
Operating System	***Windows 10** Professional or Enterprise (**64-bit mandatory**) ***Windows 11** Professional or Enterprise 10th generation or higher (**64-bit mandatory**) *If you are using Windows 10 or 11, you must have the latest version OS with all patches installed. You should run monthly updates for any OS updates. ****Windows 10 support ends October 2025.** 📝 **Note:** If you are an educational facility, i.e., University, **Windows 10 education** is currently supported.	
Processor	Intel: **i5** Generation 4 or higher **i3** Generation 8 or higher AMD: **Ryzen 3** Generation 5 or higher *Please refer to the Microsoft website to ensure the i3/i5/i7 or Ryzen 3/5 processor is compatible with Windows 11.	Intel: **i7** Generation 2 or higher AMD: **Ryzen 5** or higher
RAM	**8 GB** of RAM	**16 GB** of RAM or more
Hard drive	**128 GB** free disk space **7200** rpm HDD or Solid-State Drives (SDD) preferred	
Graphics adapter	Video Adapter must support **DirectX 12** or later with **WDDM 2.0 driver** or higher. Latest drivers installed. **128 MB** of dedicated Video RAM or the ability to increase the dedicated video memory to 128MB via bios change. **Widescreen Laptops:** Must have a Graphics Adapter that supports GPU Scaling (sometimes called Maintaining Aspect Ratio). Must have the GPU Scaling feature enabled.	
Display	See [24" Monitor](#) requirements above. 📝 **Note:** **24" external monitor**	
Audio	Windows compatible audio playback capability	

	MINIMUM REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS
Mouse & keyboard	• English QWERTY Keyboard • External 2 Button Wheel Mouse **Note:** An external keyboard is required for candidates with Font Accommodations. Sites must provide an external keyboard if candidate requests one.	
USB ports	2 available USB 2.0 ports for: • External 2 Button Wheel Mouse • English QWERTY Keyboard (if requested or required by candidate)	3 available USB 2.0 ports for: • External 2 Button Wheel Mouse • English QWERTY Keyboard • 1 spare port
Network connection	**100 Mbps** Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.	**1 Gbps** Full Duplex WIRED connection to the network switch.
	Strongly Recommended: All machines with VTS Software installed should be in the same domain or workgroup, VLAN, and subnet. **Warning:** Wireless networks are strictly prohibited. 3G/4G/5G connections are prohibited.	
Internet connection	See Internet bandwidth requirements above.	
Internet browser	Latest version of **Edge**, **Chrome**, or **Firefox**	
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 exam Delivery laptop to complete the VTS installation • All workstations must have **Anti-Virus software** installed with a current update.	

MINIMUM REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS

Additional notes	• Delivery laptops **MUST NOT be** moved or **mobile** during exam delivery – **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. • If there is an approved accommodation for **Assistive Technology** (such as **JAWS** software) the exam delivery workstation requires more advanced technical requirements, such as **16 GBs** of **RAM**. A Pearson representative will confirm with test center staff prior to scheduling this type of Assistive Technology.

Prohibited on all laptops

	ADMINISTRATION LAPTOPS	DELIVERY LAPTOPS
Portable computers	**Smartphones** are strictly prohibited. **Tablet** devices are strictly prohibited (e.g., **iOS**, **Android**, and **Windows 8**). **Netbooks** and **Chromebooks** are strictly prohibited.	
	⊘ **Warning:**	**Laptops** are strictly prohibited as **servers**.
		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 **8 GB** on any workstation	
Hard drive	**FAT32** File System Hard drives that spin at less than **5400 rpms** (SSD are exempt)	

	ADMINISTRATION LAPTOPS	DELIVERY LAPTOPS
Operating System	• **Evaluation versions** of operating systems are not allowed • **Windows XP**, **Vista** & **Windows 7/8/8.1** (all versions) strictly prohibited • **Windows Server 2008** (all versions) • **Windows Server 2012** (all versions) • **Windows Server Operating System** strictly prohibited on exam Delivery laptops and are not supported on Administration laptops • **Virtual environments** are strictly prohibited (e.g., VMWare, Virtual PC, Citrix, Parallels, VirtualBox, etc.) • **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 12** or later with **WDDM 2.0 driver** or higher.	
Monitor display	**External monitors smaller than 24"** are strictly prohibited.	
		Dual monitors are strictly prohibited.
		Laptops: Any 16:9 aspect ratio display smaller than 15.6".
	Touch Screen monitors must be disabled on all workstations.	
USB	Portable computing devices such as, but not limited to, smartphones and tablets are strictly prohibited from being connected to the exam Delivery laptop during exam deliveries.	
		USB Hubs are strictly prohibited on exam Delivery laptops.
Network connection	**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)	
Additional software	Software that can be used to remotely access the delivery workstations during exam delivery is strictly prohibited.	

	ADMINISTRATION LAPTOPS	DELIVERY LAPTOPS
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.	