New England College
Information Technology Tip Sheet
Orientation Guide - Accessing the New England College Network

All personal computers must pass a network registration process that verifies the below criteria. Wireless is available across campus. NOTE: www.nec.edu/helpdesk is available to you even if your system does not pass registration.

✓ Operating Systems (minimum requirements)

- Windows 10
- Mac OS 10.14 Mojave or 10.15 Catalina
- Automatic updating must be enabled

✓ Anti-Virus and Anti-Malware Protection

- NEC Requires personal computing systems to have up-to-date Anti-Malware protection.
- We recommend Sophos Home for students and visitors. If you choose a different protection program and it does not work for you or with our system, we can assist you in removing it and installing Sophos Home.
- Anti-Virus/Anti-Malware must be up to date – trial versions expire and updates stop.
- Instructions for getting and installing Sophos are here: http://home.sophos.com

✓ What is allowed on the NEC network

Laptops, Phones, and Tablets – most can be self registered.

- Handheld devices (iPhones, etc) – using the device, connect to NEC-Wireless, and go to any Internet site. Enter your NEC username and password when prompted by the registration system.

✓ What is not allowed on the NEC network

- **Peer to peer file sharing software** - No file sharing programs (e.g. BearShare, Limewire, Kazaa, Torr) are permitted on the NEC network. This helps protect you and NEC from liability due to possible illegal file sharing.
- **Wireless Access Points and other network type equipment** – The NEC campus is covered by wired and wireless network and installation of any type of network device, especially wireless units, often causes disruption for you and other users.

✓ Other suggested items to bring

- **Ethernet Cable** - a 15 to 20 foot Ethernet cable for your room.
- **Monitor** - depending on your program, an external monitor may help with certain assignments.
- **Mouse** - wireless mouse for your desk.
- **Chargers** - make sure you have chargers and power cords for all your gear.
- **Flash Drive** – For storage and transport of data and files. Also known as USB, thumb drive, or memory stick.

The NEC helpdesk can assist with many issues and provide support for the services we provide (e.g. email and Internet access). For some problems you may have to contact the vendor where you purchased your computer.