Hardware and Software Specifications for Blackboard

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- You need a computer with multimedia capabilities (i.e., sound with speakers), a monitor capable of at least 800 x 600 resolution, a modem or Internet connection of least a 56K modem connection, and an Internet Browser in order to access Blackboard.
- Your browser must accommodate both Java and JavaScript for some functions of the course. These are functions you can turn on in your browser.
- Your browser must be set to accept cookies (use minimum browser security settings).
- Firewalls will affect your ability to access and use Blackboard.
- Popup Blockers will affect your ability to use the Collaboration Tools and other features.

Windows Users Only – Downloading Java
Java is required to use Collaboration Tools in Blackboard. This plug-in may be downloaded from a page that appears when you join a Collaboration Session, or, visit http://java.sun.com/products/plugin/index.jsp and download Java. MAC OS X has Java installed.

Enabling Cookies in Your Internet Browser
In order to use Blackboard on your personal computer, you must have cookies enabled. To do so:

Internet Explorer
Open Internet Explorer and select Tools ➔ Internet Options. Select the Privacy Tab.
1. Using the sliding bar, slide the bar down so that the cookie settings are Medium or lower.
2. Click Apply. Then click OK.

Safari
1. Open Safari and select Safari ➔ Preferences.
2. Click Privacy.
3. Under Block Cookies select the option “From third parties and advertisers.”
4. Close the Window.

Mozilla Firefox
Cookies are enabled by default in Firefox.

Google Chrome
1. Click the menu icon on the browser toolbar.
2. Select Settings.
3. Click the Show advanced settings.
4. Click Content Settings.
5. In the “Cookies” section of the dialog that appears, make sure Allow local data to be set is selected to allow both first-party and third-party cookies.
6. Click Done.
Enabling JavaScript in your Internet Browser
Blackboard requires that your browser accommodate JavaScript for some functions to work properly.
Please do the following to ensure your browser is ready:

Enabling JavaScript in Internet Explorer
Open Internet Explorer and go to Tools \rightarrow Internet Options.
  1. Click on the Security Tab, then Custom Level.
  2. Scroll to the section titled Scripting.
  3. Verify that Active Scripting is enabled, click OK, Yes to the warning, and then OK.

Enabling JavaScript in Mozilla Firefox
Javascript is enabled by default in Firefox.
## Supported Browsers & Operating Systems for Blackboard ver2016 Q2

### Mac OSX Operating System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Safari 10.1.2</th>
<th>Safari 9</th>
<th>Safari 8</th>
<th>Safari 7</th>
<th>Safari 6</th>
<th>Firefox (ESR)</th>
<th>Firefox (Final Release Channel)</th>
<th>Chrome (Stable Channel)</th>
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</table>

**Note:** *Unsupported by Apple = Apple will no longer support or update operating system & browser*

### Windows Operating System

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<th>IE 11</th>
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<th>Firefox (ESR)</th>
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<th>Chrome (Stable Channel)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows XP (32/64-bit)*</td>
<td>Unsupported by Microsoft</td>
<td>Unsupported by Microsoft</td>
<td>Compatible</td>
<td>Unsupported</td>
<td>Unsupported</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windows 8 (32/64-bit)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windows 10 (32/64-bit)</td>
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<td>Certified</td>
<td>Unsupported by Microsoft</td>
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<td>Certified ver. 31+</td>
<td>Certified ver. 36+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** *Unsupported by Microsoft = Microsoft will no longer support or update operating system & browser*
Configuration Notes:

- Blackboard strives to make all its products as accessible as possible. JAWS 13 and 14 were used during accessibility testing of 9.1 SP13.
- Chrome support: due to the auto-update feature of Chrome, support is based on the version available at the time of testing. 9.1 Q2 2016 was tested with Chrome 36.0.x.
- Firefox support: due to the auto-update feature of Firefox, support is based on the version available at the time of testing. 9.1 Q2 2016 was tested with Firefox versions 31.0.

Technologies NOT supported

- Internet Explorer 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- Chrome 1 - 35
- Firefox 1.x, 30.0
- Safari 2.0, - 5.0 (or any version on Windows)
- Windows XP
- Windows Vista
- Mac OSX 10.3 – Mac OSX 10.9
- Java SE 7 though it may continue to work

Microsoft: 32-bit and 64-bit Windows: frequently asked questions

Here are answers to some common questions about the 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Windows.

What is the difference between 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Windows?
The terms 32-bit and 64-bit refer to the way a computer's processor (also called a CPU), handles information. The 64-bit version of Windows handles large amounts of random access memory (RAM) more effectively than a 32-bit system.

How can I tell if my computer is running a 32-bit or a 64-bit version of Windows?
To find out if your computer is running a 32-bit or 64-bit version of Windows in Windows 7 or Windows Vista, do the following:

1. Open System by clicking the Start button, right-clicking Computer, and then clicking Properties.
2. Under System, you can view the system type.

If your computer is running Windows XP, do the following:

1. Click Start.
2. Right-click My Computer, and then click Properties.
   - If you don't see "x64 Edition" listed, then you're running the 32-bit version of Windows XP.
   - If "x64 Edition" is listed under System, you're running the 64-bit version of Windows XP.
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**Website:** [www.hartford.edu/mts](http://www.hartford.edu/mts)