

The following hardware and software are **recommended** specifications to work with the Blackboard application:

#### Platform:

- PC (Windows 2000/XP/Vista)
- Mac (10.2, 10.3, 10.4)

#### Hardware:

- 128 MB of RAM
- 2 GB of free disk space
- Sound card with speakers (for courses with multimedia)
- Ethernet or Wireless network card (for high-speed Internet connection) or 56K modem (for dial-up Internet connection)
- T1, DSL, Cable, or Satellite high-speed connection (56K dial-up will work, but the online course system will run slowly).

#### Software:

- **\*\*Java JRE plugin** (very important so that everything in the system works properly!)
- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) (for viewing and printing PDF files)
- [Real Player](#) (for viewing streaming video or listening to streaming audio clips)
- [QuickTime](#) (for viewing QuickTime video)
- [Flash Player](#) (for viewing animations or using interactive content)
- [Shockwave Player](#) (for viewing animations or using interactive content)
- [Windows Media Player](#) (for viewing streaming video or listening to streaming audio clips)

#### **\*\*Get Java (very important!)**

1. [Click here to download the correct Java version.](#)
2. Click to Accept the License Agreement.
3. Click Window Offline Installation, Multi-language.
4. Click Run to download. **Be patient!**
5. Click Run to install. **Be patient!**
6. Follow the prompts to install the Typical Java installation. **Be patient!**
7. Restart your computer to complete the installation process.

**NOTE:** If you are using a **Macintosh**, [click here to download Java](#).

See the **Plugins and Media Players** folder in this Knowledge Base for other possible software you may need to work within online courses.

## Browser:

Browser	Windows XP	Windows Vista Desktop	Mac 10.3	Mac 10.4	Mac 10.5
Microsoft Internet Explorer 6	Compatible	Certified	Not Tested	Not Tested	Not Tested
Microsoft Internet Explorer 7	Compatible	Certified	Not Tested	Not Tested	Not Tested
Mozilla Firefox 1.5			Compatible	Certified	Not Tested
Mozilla Firefox 2.0	Certified	Certified	Not Tested	Certified	Not Tested
Apple Safari 2	Not Tested	Not Tested	Not Tested	Certified	Certified
Apple Safari 3	Not Tested	Not Tested	Not Tested	Compatible	Compatible

Key	
<b>Certified</b>	fully tested and supported
<b>Compatible</b>	key application areas tested
<b>Not tested</b>	specified Browser is not supported for the Operating System
<b>Provisional</b>	will test on Beta versions of new platforms and browsers. Certification is dependant on release by 3rd parties

\* All configurations marked as Compatible and have undergone a limited engineering analysis to test areas of the Blackboard Academic Suite that may have browser issues.

See **Internet/Browser Requirements** folder in this Knowledge Base for required browser settings. **NOTE:** JavaScript & Cookies must be enabled.

## Browser Toolbars:

**Uninstall Yahoo, Google, AOL, or any other Browser Toolbars**

Although the browser toolbars are useful tools for searching the Internet, you must uninstall these for your online course to work properly. Open your browser. Your toolbar (if you have one) will be immediately under the line on your browser where you can type in a web address.



To uninstall browser toolbars:

1. Click your computer's **Start** button.
2. Click **Control Panel**. (You may need to click Settings first, and then Control Panel.)
3. Double click **Add/Remove Programs**.
4. Click the appropriate **toolbar** and click **Remove**.

### Pop-Up Blocker Programs:

**Turn OFF pop-up blockers.**

Please disable any pop-up ad blocker programs if they are installed on your system. Pop-up blocker applications work in the background while you browse the internet. When they detect a pop-up window that may be an unwanted advertisement, they automatically close the window. This functionality will prevent your online course from performing properly.

Pop-up blockers may be installed as part of a browser toolbar, as part of your browser, as part of your virus protection software or even as a separate program. Examples of programs that may include pop up blockers include the following (you may want to click a link below to determine how to disable pop up blockers on your system):

- [Google Toolbar](#)
- [Yahoo! Toolbar](#)
- [MSN Toolbar](#)
- [Internet Explorer browser](#)
- [Firefox browser](#)
- [Mozilla browser](#)
- [Netscape browser](#)
- [AOL 8.0 and later](#)
- [Safari browser](#)
- [ICQ Toolbar](#)
- [Norton Internet Security](#)
- [Zone Alarm Pro](#)