BATON ROUGE SCHOOL OF COURT REPORTING
VOICE WRITING PROGRAM
REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

I. LAPTOP COMPUTER - Minimum Specifications:

• **PROCESSOR:**	Intel Core i7 processor (or higher)
• **OPERATING SYSTEM:**	Windows 11 Professional ***PCs only. No Macs.***
• **RAM:**	16 GB (or higher) for Windows
• **HARD DRIVE:**	Solid State Drive (SSD); 512 GB (or higher)
• **PORTS:**	Minimum of one (1) USB-A port; more preferred

Other Laptop Considerations:

- BRAND: Any name brand PC is acceptable. Dell, Lenovo, HP, etc. (PCs only, no Macs.)
- STURDINESS: Think sturdy workhorse rather than featherlight.
- SCREEN SIZE: Get a screen big enough to easily see and read.

Consider purchasing a business-grade laptop versus a lower-end "student" computer, as you will take this laptop into the workforce after graduation. Your laptop is a very important element of the speech recognition process. Price range: $1100 and up.

II. SPEECH RECOGNITION SOFTWARE

Dragon Professional Version 16.

Available as a download from:
- Amazon.com
- Staples.com

Retail price: $699.00 + tax
Price subject to change.



III. STENOMASK and USB SOUND CARD ADAPTER

Stenomask SR Pro-2

Available from:

- Amazon.com
- Talk Technologies
  - A student discount may be available from Talk Technologies.

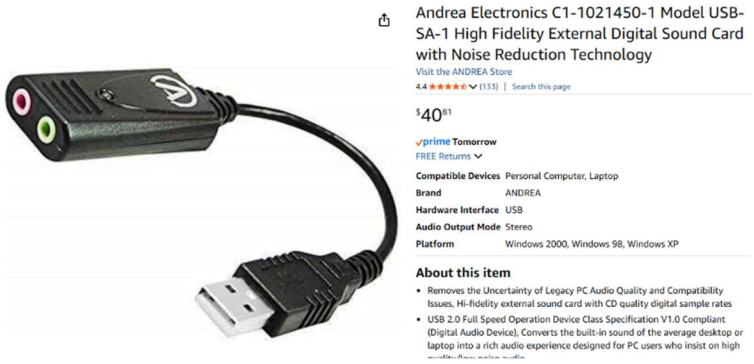


Retail price: $289.00 + tax
Price subject to change.

USB Sound Card Adapter - Andrea Communications Model USB-MA

Available from
Amazon.com.

Retail price: $49.94 + tax
Price subject to change.



IV. ECLIPSE VOX STUDENT LICENSE

The vendor for this software charges a $100 fee for its use while the student is enrolled in school.

OTHER USEFUL EQUIPMENT:

Headphones: Needed at certification testing. *Consider noise-cancelling headphones to protect your hearing.* Any brand is acceptable.

Foot pedal: Useful for efficient editing of transcripts.

Retail price: $72.05 + tax
Price subject to change.

The foot pedal may also be bundled with Express Scribe transcription software: (RECOMMENDED)

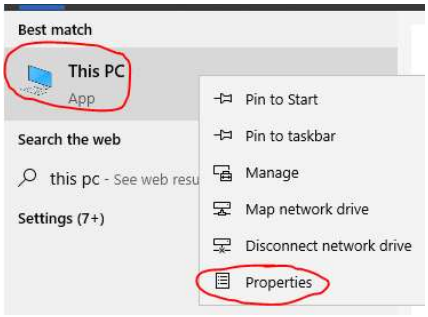
Retail price: $185.00 + tax
Price subject to change.

HOW TO DETERMINE IF YOUR CURRENT LAPTOP IS SUITABLE FOR VOICEWRITING

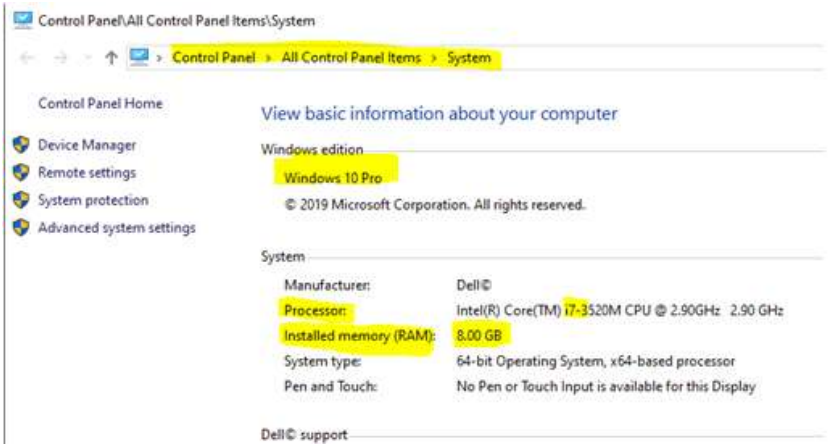
Let's evaluate three things to see if your computer can run Dragon software effectively:

- Do you have an **i7 processor**?
- Do you have at least **16 GB of RAM**?
- Do you have a **solid state drive (SSD)**?

To determine the processor and RAM:



1. RIGHT click on your Desktop icon for **Computer** (or **This PC**, **This Computer**, whatever it is called).
2. LEFT click on **Properties.**
   This will take you to your computer's Control Panel system settings.
3. See what is shown by **Processor** and **Installed Memory**. (Note that we want 16 GB for memory).



To determine if you have an SSD (solid state drive):

Do the beginning steps of a **Disk Defrag**, which will expose the drive types available.

Type **defrag** into the **Search** window of your computer.

Click on **Defragment & Optimize Drives**.
The **media type** will show the type of drive.

You can close or X out without running the defrag.

