

THE TECH GUIDE

FOR STUDENTS

- Trending Techs @VSU
- Accounts-Services & Recommended Hardware
- App Glossary
- Information Security Tips
- Solutions Center & IT Student Jobs



For additional assistance:

VSU Solutions Center
229-245-HELP (4357)



DIVISION of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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A Regional University of the University System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution

Trending Techs @ VSU

top **6** Fall 2022

1. Hi-Speed WiFi

Stay connected and engaged.

www.valdosta.edu/wireless

VSU-WiFi (5Ghz) and **VSU-LegacyWiFi** (2.4Ghz) are available in halls, academic & administrative buildings, auditoriums, and dining spaces.

VSU-IOT (Internet of Things) allows you to connect your gaming & entertainment devices.

Eduroam is available to students associated with another higher education institution.

WAAV-VALDOSTA is an open WiFi connection available on VSU shuttle & athletic buses.

2. Free Tech Stuff

Yeah, you read that right! F-R-E-E

Install **Microsoft Office** on up to 5 personal computers & 5 mobile devices.

Install **Mathematica** on your personal computer & access it in select campus labs.

Borrow tech equipment from the **New Media Center** for academic use.

Get 1-year educational access to **Autodesk**

Sign-in to **Adobe Express** using your VSU email account.

3. Microsoft Authenticator App

Secure your info the easy way.

Setup **two-factor authentication (2FA)** and use the Authenticator app to securely log in to MyVSU.valdosta.edu & remote computer labs.

4. Remote Computer Lab

Classroom software from anywhere.

VSU Remote Windows Computer Lab allows you access to campus-licensed software while you're off-campus. Available to those actively enrolled.

5. Printing

Sometimes, you just gotta print it.

A \$17.50 **campus printing** allotment is pre-loaded on your VSU 1Card each semester.

Initiate print jobs from anywhere and retrieve from any VSU card-swipe printer located in computer labs/classrooms, food courts, halls, and other campus areas. Send documents by email or use the VSU printer portal.

6. Teams & Collaborate

Going virtual has perks . . .

Collaborate Ultra is a synchronous video conferencing tool that is built into BlazeVIEW. You can interact with your instructor using text chat, audio, video, and a white board.

Microsoft Teams includes similar web conferencing features and allows you to post, share and edit files, use OneNote, and submit assignments. *Both tools are available when offered by your instructor.*

Learn about all VSU tech at
www.valdosta.edu/it

Accounts & Services

Reset Your Password

iforgot.valdosta.edu

Active Directory/MyVSU account

Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

Securely log in to MyVSU & remote computer labs using 2FA & the Microsoft Authenticator app.

VSU Accounts / Office 365 / OneDrive

myvsu.valdosta.edu

MyVSU Portal is your one-stop portal to Banner, BlazeVIEW, Microsoft Office 365: Email, OneDrive, Web apps & free Office suite, and much more.

DocuSign

Digitally sign documents sent to you by VSU departments and eliminate the need to deliver traditional paper forms in person.

Need Help?

Use our [Tech Services Portal](#) to request help from [Information Technology, Center for eLearning](#), and the [New Media Center](#). *Tip:* Add it to your MyVSU Portals fav list.

Direct link: <https://solutions.valdosta.edu>

Note: We no longer use the email address solutions@valdosta.edu

Recommended Technologies

Operating Systems (OS):

Microsoft Windows and Apple macOS are both good choices, but familiarity with the OS you choose is most important.

Processors:

- Should be rated medium to high
- Intel: i5 or i7
- AMD: Ryzen 7 1700 or Ryzen 7 1800X

Memory (RAM):

- Minimum: 16GB
- The more RAM memory your PC has, the faster it will run

Storage:

- At least 500GB -HDD (hard disk drive/spinning platter); or
- At least 250GB -SSD (solid state drive)

Wireless:

- Minimum: 802.11ac or Wireless-AC
- Recommended: 802.11ax or WiFi-6

Type of Computer:

- Desktop PC with monitor, keyboard & mouse
- Laptops or Hybrid Tablets, such as the Microsoft Surface Pro, are great for multi-purpose use
- Chromebooks or Netbooks are **not** recommended due to hardware limitations
- Manufacturing Brand: HP, Acer, Asus, Dell, Lenovo, etc.
- Vendors: Best Buy, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Office-Max, New Egg, etc.; or directly from manufacture

App Glossary

Active Directory (AD): Your login to VSU computers and online accounts. **AKA:** Your MyVSU username & password.

Banner Web: Used to register for classes, view your student profile & grades, view financial aid information & much more.

Blazer Guardian: An app that allows you to create a safety profile to quickly communicate with University Police, friends, family, & classmates. **Tip:** It includes a safety timer, panic button, and 'send a tip' feature.

BlazeVIEW: The university's official online learning management system used for taking online classes, and sometimes incorporated in traditional or hybrid classes. **Tip:** Visit the **Center for eLearning** for help: www.valdosta.edu/elearning.

Blazing Careers (Handshake): It is the main platform VSU uses to post internships, job opportunities and career-related info. Contact **Career Services** for more information. **Tip:** Look out for IT student job postings

Degree Works: Used by you and your advisor to plan and track the courses and requirements you need to graduate timely. It includes a planner, GPA calculator, what-if scenarios & more. **Tip:** It integrates with Banner and Visual Schedule Builder.

Galileo: Georgia's virtual library of journals, magazines, newspapers & e-databases. **Tip:** Contact **Odum Library** for assistance: www.valdosta.edu/library.

GoVIEW: A cousin to BlazeVIEW, it is a collaborative online course system where you may be in classes along students from other University System of Georgia institutions.

Infobase: Over 80,000 video tutorials on topics like APA Basics, Photoshop, Excel, Acrobat Pro & Leadership Styles. **Tip:** Access it from the MyVSU portal or BlazeVIEW.

RAVE Mobile Safety & Alertus: Used by university authorities to send emergency messages via email (@valdosta.edu), voice, SMS/text and computers. **Tip:** **Keep your contact info updated in Banner.**

SmartEvals: Student Opinion of Instruction (SOI) tool used to evaluate faculty instruction. **Tip:** Contact **Academic Affairs** for more information.

ThinkingStorm: A free, online tutoring platform provided by **Academic Support Center**.

Visual Schedule Builder (VSB): A real-time, dynamic class scheduling and registration tool. **Tip:** You can use VSB, instead of Banner, to register for classes.

Security Tips

www.valdosta.edu/security

Don't forget to enable 2FA

Tip: Use the MS Authenticator App

Passwords

- Use a **phrase or series of words mixed with numbers and symbols** for a secure password – minimum 12-14 characters.
- Note:* Use the VSU Password Reset Tool to change your password anytime:
iforgot.valdosta.edu
- Don't use your VSU password for non-VSU accounts.
- Don't share your password with anyone or let others use your computer while logged in under your account.

Note: VSU IT Staff will never ask for your password.

- Use a password manager instead of writing down passwords. Although VSU does not endorse a specific password manager solution, these are some of the most popular options:
LastPass, Keeper, Dashlane, or 1Password

Phishing

Pronounced 'fishing', this is an attack method used to trick you into providing sensitive information or downloading malicious software.

- Be cautious about opening email attachments, regardless of who sent them. Call the sender to verify.
- **Forward suspicious VSU emails to abuse@valdosta.edu**
- Hover your mouse over links to see if they are sending you to a legitimate web site. Do the same with email sender names. *Tip:* Open a new browser tab and manually type the web address in the Address Bar.
- Look for misspellings and bad grammar.
- Look for 'https' (*s stands for secure*) and a lock icon in the address bar before entering private information.

Encryption

VSU emails that contain personally identifiable information (PII) should be encrypted. Any two or more pieces of identifying data communicated together is considered PII. Examples of PII:

- Full Name, Birthdate, Birthplace
- SS# or Driver's License
- Student/Employee ID number

Using Office 365 Outlook Web, click the **Encrypt button** before composing your message. **[Learn More](#)**

Solutions Center



The University's premier call center that serves as a centralized client support team who specializes in:

- Information Technology
- Admissions
- General VSU Inquiries

Phone: (229) 245 - 4357

Web Ticket: solutions.valdosta.edu

Helpdesk Walkups: 2nd Floor Odum Library

Password Reset: iforgot.valdosta.edu

To best serve the VSU community, the Solutions Center has extended hours including nights and weekends:

Monday - Thursday: 8a - 7p

Friday: 8a - 5p

Saturday: 9a - 2p

Sunday: 9a - 3p



Connect with Us @VStateIT

Twitter & Facebook

www.valdosta.edu/it

<http://blog.valdosta.edu/it>

Student Jobs



DIVISION of
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

OTJ Training. Flexible Hours. Marketable Skills.

All majors are welcome to be part of a team who makes the VSU experience happen in innovative ways. VSU IT offers student assistants, graduate assistants, and intern opportunities in various areas:

- Solutions Center & Tech Response Unit
- Desktop & Classroom Technologies
- Assets Management
- Training and Communication
- Systems Administration & Programming
- Networking & Information Security
- Project Management & Other Areas

Interested?

Visit www.valdosta.edu/it

Click 'Want to Work for VSU IT?'

Need Help?

Contact Career Services at
229-333-5942 or

www.valdosta.edu/career

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