

These Minimum Technical Requirements (MTR) are effective October 1, 2005 and will expire September 30, 2009. All Federal depository libraries must meet these requirements in order to keep pace with Federal agency information dissemination practices and to fulfill their obligation to provide service to Government information in electronic formats. Not all libraries have to meet the specifications for "cartographic data use" contained within. Libraries will continue to be evaluated using a "[functional approach](#)."

This document supersedes the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) "2004 Minimum Technical Requirements for Public Access Workstations in Federal Depository Libraries." See "[Related Issues and Considerations](#)" for more information.

COMPUTER

Processor Intel chip, 1 GHz Pentium 4 or AMD Athlon processor minimum.
- □ FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 1.5 GHz processor minimum

Memory 256 MB (expandable) minimum. (DDR SDRAM - Double Data Rate Synchronous)
- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 512 MB DDR-RAM

Port

- One (1) Serial
- Two (2) Universal Serial Bus (USB)
- One (1) Parallel
- One (1) P/S-2 Mouse
- One (1) SVGA Video (If video is built into system board.)
- One (1) IEEE1394 Firewire port

I/O bus

PCI. Should have at least four available PCI or shared PCI/ISA slots after system is configured for delivery.

Video

64 or 128 bit PCI interface SVGA controller. Should come with 16MB Windows RAM (VRAM) or Video RAM (VRAM).

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 64 or 128 bit PCI interface SVGA controller with 32 MB VRAM

Audio

Sound Blaster PCI64 sound card or compatible

Drive Bays

- One (1) 3.5" half-height (HH) external.

- Two (2) 3.5" HH Internal.
- See Related Issues and Considerations below for information on 5.25" drives.
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DRIVES AND STORAGE

Hard Disk Drives

40 gigabytes (GB) capacity or greater, partitioned into smaller drives for quicker access time. EIDE (E)

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 60.0 GB or greater capacity, or network connectivity that provides

Removable/External Storage

3.5" 1.44 MB drive. Use an older system for 5.25" floppy conversion.

- Also, if system does not have internal CD-R/RW drive, strongly recommend additional external and

DVD Drive

6x speed minimum, 8x recommended. Ensure compatibility with CD-ROM, CD-R, CD-RW, DVD-ROM,

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 8x DVD. Single platter or changer design. Should support all

CD-r/rw Drive

Most new systems now come equipped with a CD-R/RW drive. Look for rotational speeds of 20x10x40

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 20x10x40x.

PERIPHERALS

Monitor

17" Super VGA (SVGA) Multimedia monitor with a dot pitch range between .22 to .27 mm. Look for a h

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: 21" monitor, Super VGA (SVGA), with at least 85 MHz vertical

Printer

Ink Jet or laser printer. Must support PostScript. 10MB Memory, minimum. More recommended if using

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: Color ink jet printer, 36", 600 dpi, 80 MB or more memory, or

Keyboard and Pointing Device

Microsoft-compatible keyboard, plus mouse or other compatible device. Strongly recommend ergonomically designed devices.

Internet Connectivity

Local Area Network with TCP/IP. 10/100 MB Ethernet network interface card (Strongly Recommended)

- Broadband connections such as Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) or Cable

SOFTWARE

Operating System

Most new computers with a Windows-based operating system come preinstalled with either Windows XP or Windows Vista.

Client Software

World Wide Web graphical browser with forms support. Java-enabled browsers such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

- It is recommended that workstations have virus protection software installed and regular updates scheduled.

Viewers

WWW graphical browser (see above) that handles both GIF and JPEG graphics. Viewers for other formats such as PDF, etc.

- FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: GEOTIFF file viewer. Viewing software for raster data, such as ArcView or QGIS.

Application Software

If the library offers services that require applications software, consider an integrated "office suite" product such as Microsoft Office or OpenOffice.org.

- **Database** - dBASE file format compatible or dBASE and ASCII comma delimited file format compatible software
- **Spreadsheet** - Lotus.WK1 file format compatible software; support for other formats such as Microsoft Excel or OpenOffice.org Calc
- **Word Processing** - Software (Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, WordPro, etc.) capable of importing and exporting to other formats
- **Mapping Software** - FOR CARTOGRAPHIC DATA USE: GEOTIFF file viewer. Viewing software for raster data, such as ArcView or QGIS.

Also published in Administrative Notes. These requirements were originally issued as the "2004 Recommended Specifications for Public Access Workstations in Federal Depository Libraries" in Administrative Notes, v. 25, # 8-9, (July/August 2004).