



Home Base Minimum End-User Technical Requirements

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This document will be updated as needed. Please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/getting-ready/implementation/category?category=Technical%20Requirements> to find the most current version of this document.

Home Base is the Statewide Instructional Improvement system (IIS) and Student Information System (SIS) for teachers, students, parents, and administrators, henceforth referred to as “end-users”.

Home Base delivers its application to end-users through web portals via all major HTML5-compatible web browsers. The Home Base applications will be highly scalable to support all teachers, students, parents, and administrators. However, end-user system performance will be impacted by how the end-user devices are configured and the robustness of the network through which the end-user device connects to the Internet. Because the end-user devices and network are key elements to the success of Home Base, the Home Base team has developed minimum technical requirements to ensure end-users experience satisfactory system performance when using Home Base.

The following table provides high-level technical requirements for the Home Base applications. In addition, certain free, specialized software may be required for Home Base end-users involved with uploading curriculum and for those end-users involved with administering and scoring classroom assessments.

Technology Systems	Minimum Requirements/ Comments
Browser Plug-Ins (no charge)	Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adobe PDF Reader 8.0+ - For print-formatted content such as student profiles (this means supporting PDF version 1.7 or older) • Microsoft Silverlight 3.0+ - For integration with student response “clickers” • Flash 10+ - For integration with student response “clickers” • Java 1.7+ - For integration with student response “clickers”
Devices/ Operating Systems	Requirements: Microsoft Windows desktop or laptop using Windows 7 or Windows 8. Mac OS desktop or laptop v. 10.8 or Mac OS X 10.9. Apple iOS devices v.7.0. Note that Limited Android support is available for the following devices: ASUS eee Pad Transformer, Android v. 4.2.2, Native Android Browser and Chrome Browser. (See Chromebook Considerations, page 2), No e-readers (ie. Kindles or Nook) may be used at this time.
LAN/ WLAN	Requirements: For Broadband, LAN or cable modem source, assure that ports 80 and 443 are open. Wireless is not recommended. Firewalls should be configured to allow access to *.schoolnet.com sites.
Network Bandwidth	Requirements: Schoolnet usage generally requires between 5-20kbps of bandwidth per concurrent user of the system.

Browser Requirements

Windows	IE 8.0	IE 9.0	IE 10.0	Chrome (15+) *	Mozilla Firefox (3.6+)*
7			✓	✓	✓
8			✓	✓	✓

Mac OS X	Safari 5.0	Safari 6.0	Chrome (15+) *	Mozilla Firefox (3.6+)*
10.8		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.9		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Two latest non-extended release versions

Please note that some browsers not listed above may work with the functionality of Home Base. However, the product testing has only been completed using the browsers listed above.

Internet Explorer should **NOT** be used in compatibility mode.

Hardware Requirements

Hardware Requirements (minimum)	Windows	Macintosh
Processor	1.0 GHz or faster 32-bit (x86)	Intel Core Duo 1.83GHz Only Intel-based Macs are supported
Memory	1 GM RAM (32-bit) 2GB RAM (64-bit) or better	1 GB RAM
Screen Resolution	1024 x 768 or better	1024 x 768 or better

Scanning Devices, Secure Tester, and Clickers

1. A variety of hand-held student clickers are compatible with Schoolnet and can be used to respond to Schoolnet test questions. More information on clickers is available at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/getting-ready/implementation/category?category=Technical%20Requirements>.
2. Schoolnet Secure Tester, a desktop application that enables the secure online administration of a Schoolnet test while preventing access to other computer applications, may be installed on individual workstations and configured prior to student use.
3. Schoolnet's ScanIt allows users immediate access to scanned results. North Carolina has provided a guide for using ScanIt that can be found on the website at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/homebase/training/materials/schoolnet/classroom-benchmark/20131017-nc-scanit-guide.pdf>.

For required user specifications and requirements, visit the [Pearson System Requirements reference article](#).

Chromebook Considerations:

Below is a list of considerations for districts deploying Chromebooks.

Students:

1. With the exception of the browser lockdown feature of the secure testing tunnels, all Home Base functionality, including classroom and benchmark assessments used by students, will run on a Chromebook that meets specifications described above.

- All of the Pearson instructional and assessment content is based on HTML5 and can run with any HTML5 compliant browser including iPads and Chromebooks.

Teachers:

- All of the Instructional Management functions (e.g., lesson planning and assessment building) are browser-based and will work on a Chromebook that meets the specifications described above.
- The PowerTeacher grade book requires a Java Virtual Machine (JVM) and cannot be run natively on a Chromebook.
- There is an iPad version of PowerTeacher that supports many of the most common features of PowerTeacher including assignments, grades, and attendance.
- All of the Pearson instructional and assessment content is based on HTML5 and can run with any HTML5 compliant browser including iPads and Chromebooks.
- Chromebooks should not be used to administer a test to students using eInstruction clickers.

School and District Staff

- All reporting and administrative functions, such as security, will work on a Chromebook that meets the specifications described above.
- The IIS scanning software used for scoring paper tests requires the installation of a Microsoft.Net application and cannot be run natively on a Chromebook.

E-readers will provide access to limited Home Base features. Because of their limitations, NCDPI cannot recommend eReaders as primary user devices for Home Base.

Mobile Web Page Platform Support – For PowerSchool

Supported Device	Supported Operating System	Supported Browser	Notes
iPhone	iOS 7.0 or higher	Safari	With some exceptions, due to the lack of Java and Flash support, regular access to the non-mobile web pages are operational and may also be utilized. For more information, see Knowledgebase article 60068 on PowerSource.
iPod Touch	iOS 7.0 or higher	Safari	With some exceptions, due to the lack of Java and Flash support, regular access to the non-mobile web pages are operational and may also be utilized. For more information, see Knowledgebase article 60068 on PowerSource.
iPad	iOS 7.0 or higher	Safari	With some exceptions, due to the lack of Java and Flash support, regular access to the non-mobile web pages are operational and may also be utilized. For more information, see Knowledgebase article 60068 on PowerSource.
Android Phones	Android 4.2.2 (Froyo) or higher	Native Android Browser and Chrome Browser	The user experience may vary

For Schoolnet, mobile support for iPads is currently available only for iOS 7.0 using a Safari Browser. (Android support is limited to ASUS eee Pad Transformer, Android Version 4.0.2). Samsung Galaxy Tab 3's browser is Android Version 4.2.2, Native Android Browser, and Chrome Browser. Features such as clicker integration for mobile devices will be expressly disabled.

What LEAs and Schools can do to prepare for Home Base:

- ✓ Ensure that LEAs, Charters, and all schools have optimized network routers and LANs to maximize bandwidth at each school and classroom.
- ✓ Ensure that high-capacity wireless networks are available at each school and have sufficient coverage to reach all classrooms in which Home Base will be used.
- ✓ Ensure that students have access to supported Internet-enabled devices to access Home Base.
- ✓ Ensure that devices are equipped with mainstream browsers (current release preferred, but no older than two releases back).

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For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/> or email us at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.