Laptop required
A laptop computer is required for participation in this course. Bring your own laptop to class, and ensure it meets the specifications listed below. Course materials will be provided on a USB thumb drive on the first day of class.

What kind of computer should I bring?
Your computer must:

- Have at least one open USB port, with permission to load and access documents from an NW3C thumb drive.
- Be capable of connecting to the internet via Wi-Fi.
- Be capable of running all required software (see below).

What software do I need?
NW3C financial crime courses use widely-available software tools. Most students find that the required software is already installed. Required software:

- Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel).
  - Instructors use Office 2016 for Windows, and all exercises can be easily performed on Office 2010 and 2013 for Windows.
- A PDF reader such as Adobe Reader.
- A web browser such as Edge, Chrome, Safari, or Firefox.

Frequently asked questions

Can I use Google Sheets instead of Excel?
Software suites other than Microsoft Office (such as iWork, Google Docs/Sheets/Slides, or LibreOffice) are not specifically supported in class. Students who use these programs may not be able to follow along with instructors in the step-by-step hands-on exercises.

Can I bring a MacBook?
The instructor computer will be a Windows machine, and some procedures for the in-class exercises will differ slightly on your computer. A supplemental handout with adapted procedures will be provided. NW3C instructors may not be able to help with issues specific to your operating system, but you should have no trouble participating in class.

Can I bring a tablet instead?
Laptop computers are strongly preferred over tablets and other mobile devices. If you choose to bring a tablet, it must have at least one USB port and must be able to run all required software (see above).

Don't see your question here?
Email us at financial.tech@nw3c.org

I don’t have a laptop! Can I still register for this class?
In many cases, NW3C can provide a limited number of laptops for student use.

If you are unable to bring a laptop to class, you must contact financial.tech@nw3c.org no later than 30 days prior to the start of class to request the use of an NW3C machine. (NW3C does not guarantee the availability of a laptop but makes every effort to fulfill these requests.)