Equipment List for PI

The "Quick Links" Version

Students in the Professional Intensive program will use a variety of photographic gear and software throughout the program and their individual careers. The minimum equipment requirements are listed below with links to recommendations if you do not already own the gear. If you want to know more about why each piece of gear is necessary for PI, watch our [Professional Intensive Equipment Overview](#) video.

Mirrorless or DSLR camera body
There is no perfect camera for every photographer. If you do not own a camera already, please reach out to RMSP for a recommendation.

One normal lens (zoom or fixed lens between 24mm and 70mm)
Again, there are so many lenses to choose from. If you do not own a lens, please reach out to us for a recommendation.

Equipment manual(s) for all equipment

Laptop computer
Minimum specifications:
Eight-core CPU with a clock speed of at least 2.5 GHz
16GB of RAM
512GB of Internal SSD storage
Highly recommended: Dedicated GPU
Please reach out to RMSP for a recommendation if you do not already own a laptop and would like help choosing the perfect one.

Three empty portable external hard drives
Easy solution is to buy the following:
Sandisk SSD https://bhpho.to/3ZBznmZ or WD 5TB My Passport: https://bhpho.to/3uCFk5t
WD 5TB My Passport (yes, you should have two of these): https://bhpho.to/3uCFk5t
WD 8TB My Book Desktop (this HDD is larger than the other two because it will be both an internal computer backup, and a second photo backup: https://bhpho.to/3wMPfrP

USB adapter OR Dedicated USB cable for your hard drive to connect to your computer
Suggested USB adapter: https://amzn.to/45qThUm

Memory card for your camera (this depends on which type of card your camera uses)
Secure Digital (SD): https://bhpho.to/3rRx2U1
CFexpress Type B: https://bhpho.to/3zjj4B8
Compact Flash (CF): https://bhpho.to/2UnlMRw

Memory card reader (or slot on your laptop)
ProGrade CFexpress Type B, and SD reader: https://bhpho.to/3B5lLrd
SanDisk CF, SD, and Micro SD reader: https://bhpho.to/3fL1Qn8

Flash drive (optional but often helpful)
SanDisk 64GB Ultra USB 3.0 Flash Drive: https://bhpho.to/3eXN60c

Monitor calibration tool
Calibrite ColorChecker Display Pro: https://bhpho.to/3L9LI16
(If using an alternate model, double check that it's compatible with your computer model.)

Adobe Photography Plan (20GB) (includes Lightroom and Photoshop)
https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/photography.html

Carbon Copy Cloner (CCC) for Mac users only
During the program, Mac users will want to purchase a license for CCC. Wait to purchase until you arrive!
(PC users have the option of a free comparable software.)

Tripod Legs and Head
Oben CT-3565 with BZ-217T Head: https://bhpho.to/3wNbnm7

Tether cable for your camera
Use this tool and order the cable that it recommends (we recommend an orange colored cable): https://www.tethertools.com/product-category/cables-adapters/

Dedicated Flash Unit
Be sure to purchase the set specific for YOUR brand of camera and yes, you'll need the trigger, too.
https://bhpho.to/3zwtxZl

Batteries
You'll need at least two AA batteries for your flash trigger, but you might want some backups, too. We recommend rechargeable Eneloop batteries.
https://bhpho.to/3MfNzie

Grey Card/White Balance Card OR Color Checker Card
https://bhpho.to/3KExO3M
https://bhpho.to/3EFITNZ

Wired Headphones
You'll need these for video production; any wired headphones are fine, but these are a fantastic option:
https://bhpho.to/3ZudBlc
You'll also need a 3.5mm (1/8") extension cord:
https://bhpho.to/3SEuR5m

Adobe Creative Suite (All Apps Plan)
You will need this after holiday break. It costs $50/month. You will need it for about 6 months. Until then, purchase the Adobe Photography Plan for $10/month. **(Be sure to purchase directly from Adobe.com!)**

Wireless mouse (highly recommended)
Logitech MX Anywhere 2S Wireless Mouse: https://bhpho.to/3mKtNN8

The Photographer's Ephemeris (TPE)
During the program, you'll want to purchase a Pro (Desktop) subscription to TPE. Wait to purchase, because students will receive a discount on this very affordable software ($30/year) once they arrive.

Optional: Document Printer
In addition, some students may want to consider purchasing a document printer if they prefer to have handouts printed. All class handouts are delivered digitally. Printers like this one or this one would work great.