



RENEWED COMPUTER ACQUISITION NEED for SOL-DARIO LRC Computer Lab and Scholarship Student PC Operator Course

The Need

U\$ 2,000 - \$2,400 for the acquisition of (including estimated shipping and handling costs to Nicaragua):

- 6 - Renewed HP 14" Laptops (with AMD Athlon Gold 3150U processor/ 4GB RAM/ 256GB PCIe NVMe M.2 SSD)
- 8 - Protective sleeves

Some Background

As is true in most parts of our modern world and society, being computer/ technology literate is an almost indispensable skill set required for most gainful employment opportunities. Another reality facing most high school students enrolled in the public school system in Nicaragua is extremely limited or no access to computers and/or instruction on how to operate them in their classrooms. As a result, too many youth trying to enter the job market or higher education lack a basic knowledge of how to use programs such as Word, Excel, Power Point or even basic web browser and investigation skills. Schools that do provide access to computers to their students usually are greatly limited by the dis-favorable ratio of students to computers and a lack of quality/ applicable instruction.

The Impact

As part of our SOL-Dario educational programing we have had between 10 and 20 third, fourth and fifth year high school students enrolled in our Computer Operator Course over the past few years and nearly 1,250 student visits to our digital research lab/ area in our Dario Learning Resource Center during 2023 (with a similar number of visits during the years before that). The students using these services are both SOL Scholarship students, as well as, students from the community at large. For the past decade we have been operating these courses and computer lab with mix of older recycled, re-used, donated and re-purposed notebook computes (some of them running operating systems as far back as Windows 95, and Vista). Last year we were able to purchase 2 new HP 14-DK1010LA Notebooks that were installed with Windows 10 and an up to date version of MS Office which has had a great impact on both the students that were able to use the newer machines, as well as, the course instructor. We are convensed that, if we were able to offer this years students at least six more new notebooks, this improvement would create an even higher impact on the quality of the learning these students experience through our programs.

An Added Benefit

Acquiring 6 new notebook computers would also allow us to "pass on"/ donate the half a dozen or so older (but still functional) computers that are currently in use to Satellite LRCs in the rural communities that we serve. Although many of the Scholarship student volunteers helping to operate these Satellite Centers have been through our PC Operators Courses, currently these SLRCs do not have computers permanently assigned to their individual centers.



Assumptions and Budget

This proposal assumes that the described Laptop computers are purchased from Amazon in the USA (subject to availability) and then shipped to Nicaragua via a shipping services (estimated at \$7 per lb + \$50 per Laptop). We haven't shipped this type of product to Nicaragua before so the shipping is only an estimate.

DESCRIPTION	UNIT COST	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Renewed HP 14" Laptop computers	\$210.00	6	\$1,260.00
Protective Sleeves	\$10.00	8	\$80.00
Estimated Shipping & Handeling Costs	\$600.00	1	\$600.00
Administrative Costs	60.00	1	\$60.00
Project management & reporting	\$400	1	\$400
TOTAL REQUESTED			\$2,400.00