



Kramden Institute, Inc. Frequently Asked Questions – Computer Awards

What are the requirements for nominating a student?

1. The nominated student must be in grades 3 - 12.
2. The nominated student should be chosen by an educator for their hard work and dedication to their studies. (*A nomination form must be filled out by the educator for each student.)
3. The nominated student must not have another working computer in their home.

*Kramden only awards one computer per household. Siblings may be nominated together.

What kind of computer does the student receive?

The computer will come with either Windows XP Pro or Windows 7 operating system.

Typically, we bring the computers up to the following standards:

- Processor: Pentium IV or Higher with a speed of at least 1GHz or equivalent AMD, etc.
- At least 1 GB of RAM, at least 20 GB hard drive with an average of over 40 GB
- Working CD ROM drive
- Working Ethernet card
- Keyboard
- Mouse
- 2 power cables
- LCD monitor and VGA cable

When can an educator nominate students?

Nominations can be completed at any time. Kramden awards computers during all 12 months of the year. In 2011 Kramden awarded over 2,200 computers!

Is there a limit to the number of nominations one school or one educator can submit?

No, however in-school awards are suggested for awards of 30 to 80 computers.

How are computers distributed to the students?

1. Kramden Award Days at our headquarters in Durham (usually monthly)
Student nominations are added to an award list on a roll-in basis. The nominating teacher will receive an award letter to distribute to the student a month before the award day. The student and family must then make an appointment to pick-up their computer. Once the student arrives to Kramden on award day, they are paired up with a volunteer who will show them how to set up their computer and will give them basic instructions on how to access various software and virus protection programs. A volunteer will help them load their computer into their car.
2. In-school Give-Aways
Give-aways of 30 to 80 computers can be arranged to take place at school. An additional shipping fee is required. Those interested in this type of give-away should contact Kramden for more information (cdelmairani@kramden.org).

Are Kramden computer awards free?

Yes, however Kramden is a non-profit organization that relies on donations. Schools, especially those nominating large numbers of students, are encouraged to develop fundraising events or seek funds through the PTSA or community businesses and organizations.

What kind of software is included with the computer?

We reformat the hard drive and install Windows XP Professional or Windows 7 operating system. As members of the Microsoft Approved Refurbishers Program, we are able to obtain affordable copies of this operating system. We have amassed a suite of freeware programs including OpenOffice, Firefox or Chrome web browser, Microsoft Security Essentials Antivirus, and others. The software is loaded and tested and a Kramden User Manual (in English and Spanish) is also loaded onto the desktop.

Can the computer be connected to the internet?

Yes. The computer is ready to connect to the internet through a cable, satellite or DSL modem. Before the student can access the internet they will need to contact an Internet Service Provider (ISP) for assistance and specific information regarding internet cost and accessibility in their area. If a student's only option is dial-up internet, they will need to contact Kramden to receive a dial-up modem.

What happens if a recipient's computer breaks down?

Kramden Institute offers free technical support to students in the local region. See below for more details.

Local Region: Kramden Institute will provide technical support to recipients living in the following counties; Durham, Orange, Wake, Alamance, Caswell, Person, Granville, Vance, Warren, Franklin, Johnston, Harnett, Lee and Chatham. Students living in these counties will receive their computer at Kramden's headquarters via the monthly Kramden Computer Award Day, unless a special large distribution on-site is arranged.

Beyond the Local Region: Schools in North Carolina outside the 14-County area may partner with Kramden to provide computers to their students, but will also need to identify local technical support for the awarded computers. Examples could include a school IT instructor, a local computer vendor or repairperson, etc. The schools must also follow the nomination protocols.