



# Meltdown & Spectre Vulnerabilities:

## How Chip Flaws May Affect Your WiFi Access

### What Are Meltdown and Spectre?

Meltdown and Spectre are recently-discovered vulnerabilities in computer chips that, if exploited, could allow hackers to steal personal information from computers and smartphones.

These flaws affect nearly all microprocessors and most modern computing devices.

### How Does This Affect Me?

The software updates being released to address Meltdown and Spectre may affect students using Windows computers. Mac users are not affected by these updates.

If you recently updated Windows, the software patches that were applied during that update may stop your anti-virus software from working.

Without active anti-virus software, you will not be able to access the Rowan Network.

### What Should I Do Now?

If ClearPass (correctly) blocks you from joining the Rowan Network, you will need to uninstall your current anti-virus software and install a new product.

Windows Defender, which comes with Windows 10, can protect your machine just fine. You can also use the anti-virus software Rowan University provides to students for free. We accelerated our planned release of McAfee to address this issue.

For instructions, visit [irt.rowan.edu](http://irt.rowan.edu).

### Where Can I Get More Help?

Stop by the Technology Assistance Center in Memorial Hall for in-person help on Sunday, Jan. 14, and Monday, Jan. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All of our support services, including phone and email support, will be available on Tuesday. Check [irt.rowan.edu](http://irt.rowan.edu) for current hours.