

Portugal: Half a million laptops for students

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Intel representatives introduced Classmate cheap laptops for students in September 2006

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Cheap Magellan notebooks are built based on the latest technology especially for children and have the ability to withstand crashes and liquids. Prime Minister José Socrates said the computer would be an indispensable tool for Portuguese students.

According to the government, although the initial investment amounted to 80 million euros and cost up to 180 euros per machine, this laptop will be distributed free to the most disadvantaged students. Other first and second grade students will buy for 20 euros / unit while the rest of the elementary grades are purchased for 50 euros / machine. Due to different prices, government distribution will depend on the number of network contracts provided by service providers.

Education Minister Maria de Lurdes Rodrigues said the agency is working on expanding the "e-school" program for high school students.

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