

Why do students need a mobile computing device of their own?

Today's teenagers are utilizing mobile devices largely for communication and social media so it is important that as **LEARNERS**, they are benefiting from their generational technology ensuring they can become effective contributors as well as participants in the global community they will be working in.

Personal, individual devices, will allow for on-demand access to:

- a world of current information
- computing power for creating and producing work in a variety of formats
- digital course material created by our faculty
- intellectual conversations with a teaching emphasis on students being content contributors
- digital textbooks, databases, audio files, video files and cloud storage so they can carry their studies with them
- a personalized computing device that ensures global and equitable access, as well as, options for personal customization, integration and responsibility
- consistent opportunities to practice digital literacy and critical online evaluation skills. Students who practice these skills across the curriculum have the strongest understanding and capability of navigating online information safely and confidently.

When should families purchase their iPad?

iPad's should be purchased several weeks prior to the start of school. This will allow for each student to create their personal Apple ID at home, connect their iPad to their home Wi-Fi and be able to download necessary Apps. We will identify and communicate required Apps that each student needs to have installed on their iPad through a summer mailing or e-message. Other Apps for specific courses will be communicated by teachers when school begins.

Freshmen students who have been placed in the **Marcellin Program** are required to complete summer courses. Please note that iPads are not used during these summer classes. iPad training will occur in August during specific two-hour sessions. Registration and scheduling information will be provided early summer.

Freshmen students who sign up for the **Health** summer class, **WILL** need to purchase their iPad in time for the 1st day of class. iPad on-boarding/training will occur then.

What is the process for purchasing an iPad? iPad Specifications?

Purchases must be made through outside vendors such as the Apple store or an authorized Apple reseller; iPads will not be available for resale through Marist High School.

To view the most current models available, please go to www.apple.com, from the top navigation bar, click on **iPad**, then click on **Compare**, then click on **See all models**. Selections include 2 variations of the iPad Pro, 2 variations of the iPad Air and the iPad 10th Gen. The current iPad iOS version is 18.3; minimum iOS needs to be 18.1.x.

When selecting your iPad, consider capacity size (256GB provides flexibility), specific features, AppleCare+ coverage, Apple pencil and keyboard options. Please keep in mind that iPads should be Wi-Fi only; no cellular option. Note: keyboards are needed for College Board on-line tests.

My child already has an iPad. Can they bring that one or do they need to purchase a new one?

The currently owned iPad can be used provided it meets the recommended specifications noted above and that he/she has access to this device on a daily basis. Each student needs to have their own dedicated iPad for his/her use.

Why does the mobile computing device need to be an Apple iPad?

The Apple development community, other educational organizations, vendors, and resource companies are all dedicated to designing Apps for educational use utilizing the iPad. It is a functionally reliable product and has design elements which fit our needs, such as its long battery life, flat profile, touchscreen and dual cameras. The iPad platform is integrally designed within the school's LMS (Learning Management System), SIS (Student Information System) and data network.

What happens if something better than the Apple iPad comes out?

There is always the chance that something better than the iPad comes out. We continue to re-evaluate new technologies as well as program policies. The iPad is designed to supplement computer technologies and is a tool to be used for teaching and learning.

Will all of my child's books be available electronically for the 2025-2026 school year?

At Marist, we use a combination of print and digital materials to best support students' learning, however, a majority of our books are available in electronic format. At this time, the 2025-26 master booklist is under review. Most course materials will be accessed via the iPad (eBooks, website portals, etc.).

Do students buy the Apps for the iPad, or does the school?

Students will be expected to purchase Apps using their own Apple ID. Part of becoming a responsible user of technology is knowing how to care for the device, including downloading, installing, using, updating and uninstalling applications. Many of these Apps are free and feature in-App options for a fee, while others are available at minimal costs.

Upon graduation from Marist High School, students will be able to continue using whatever Apps they have purchased on whatever IOS device they have.

Are there any required Apps for the iPad?

Yes, at this time the following Apps are required for all classes: Canvas Student, Skyward, Google Drive, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, Gmail, Google Chrome, and Notability (fee based/subscription based). In addition, teachers may recommend other Apps for specific classes.

Can students buy games? What sort of management will the school put on the student iPads?

The iPad is a personal device and is owned by the student and their family. One of the 21st century skills that students need to learn is how to care for and maintain a mobile computing device of their own. Students have access to all of the Apps in the Apple iTunes Store with their personal Apple ID. iPad use under Marist's Wi-Fi, must follow the Marist High School Responsible Use Policy (RUP).

What happens if my child downloads too many expensive Apps (unrelated to school work) without my permission? Can I get a refund?

All of Apple's App sales are final, so it is essential that you discuss this with your child. If your child is currently downloading songs or streaming media content, you most likely have had this discussion. You may apply Apple iTunes gift cards for redemption on your account as well. Please see the Apple web site for more information.

Will Internet filtering be used to discourage students from accessing inappropriate sites?

While on the Marist High School wireless network, internet traffic is filtered to the best of our ability through our firewall and content filtering services. Students will be expected to fully comply with our RUP. Further information regarding the RUP will be forthcoming. Parents are encouraged to carefully monitor their child's use of the iPad at home, as they would the use of any other Internet device; i.e. Smartphone, home computer or gaming system.

Is iPad training available?

Incoming freshman will participate in mandatory iPad related training in August prior to the start of school. Registration and scheduling information will be provided early summer. Network authentication, email and portal account setups are covered, as well as, basic skills for record keeping, data backups, class related App activities, and digital citizenship principles. The process to purchase eBooks will also be reviewed. It is important to document all passwords.

How is physical damage or theft of a device covered?

When you purchase your iPad, we strongly recommend you purchase AppleCare+ which includes accidental damage. AppleCare+ is an extended warranty (with a deductible) and does NOT ensure against loss or theft. To insure against loss, theft, water damage, etc., there are options to purchase these types of coverages through 3rd party insurance companies.

If your iPad experiences technical difficulties, contact Apple on-line at <https://support.apple.com/repair>. This site will walk you through a repair request. If your iPad is still operable, be sure to perform a data backup before your service appointment.

Are today's students overexposed to technology and social media?

We are aware of the dangers associated with overexposure to technology and social media. Our job as educators and parents is to make sure that students know those dangers as well, and to educate them to become smart, ethical users of their computing devices.

Teachers will help in this endeavor, but parents play an important role in this educational component. Teachers are trained to use the right tool at the right time. Sometimes it makes sense to use pen and paper or turn the pages of a book. Sometimes it is important just to listen or to lead a group discussion. And sometimes, it is essential to use an iPad to find the best answers, synthesize information, and create something dynamic.

We also strive to have a digital level playing field. Each student has the necessary digital tool to aid in their education and growth. Marist exposes students to a well-balanced education which encompasses proper manners, etiquette, debate skills, public speaking skills, digital literacy, collaboration and team building skills in all areas of our curriculum.

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