

The Mercy High School iPad Program

2019-2020

Beginning in the school year 2011-2012, Mercy High School initiated a one-to-one iPad program. Every incoming freshman is required to come equipped with an iPad. The iPad specifications are as follows:

- **iPad:** MHS recommends an iPad 5th Generation, but students will need an iPad no older than 2 years old to accommodate your daughter's 4 years at Mercy. The iPad must be updated to the latest iOS (at time of print iOS 11.2.5). An iPad mini or Pro also is acceptable.
 - Note about the iPad mini: The iPad mini has the same capabilities as the other iPads but with a smaller screen. There has been some concern that the iPad mini may not have enough screen space to properly display electronic textbooks or use to take notes. This is a matter of personal preference.
- **Storage:** We recommend at least 32 GB of storage space. However, as publishers create more textbooks for the iPad with interactive multimedia files, these books will require large amounts of storage space. Storing personal videos and music on the device significantly decreases the amount of storage space available for textbooks and educational apps. Storage space on an iPad cannot be increased once it is purchased.
- **iPad Case:** Mercy requires students purchase a case with an attached Bluetooth keyboard for their iPad. This can be purchased from any retailer of your choice. We also recommend using a tempered glass screen protector.
- **Cellular-Capable:** Getting a cellular/LTE model is optional, but not recommended. Purchasing an iPad without LTE gives you, as a parent, more control over the iPad. LTE models can connect to the internet without going through Mercy High School's software filters. For this reason we prohibit the use of cellular data services while in school. Generally, at school or at home, students can easily access secure, wireless networks. Many public places, such as coffee shops and hospitals, now have accessible wireless networks. However, if you want to connect to the internet while traveling then an LTE model gives you this capability. These models have additional cost plus whichever data plan you purchase in order to connect to the cellular network.

We also recommend purchasing accidental damage coverage. This kind of coverage is changing rapidly so you will need to look over the different options. You can purchase an iPad at Best Buy, Target, Walmart, the Apple Store, the online Apple Store, or anywhere iPads are sold. The Apple store will repair iPads purchased at other locations. You can have your iPad engraved for free if you purchase it at the online Apple store.

Parents should budget \$50 for the purchase of required iPad Apps over the course of the school year. At the beginning of the year, students will be able to purchase the core required apps as a discounted bundle. More information about this will be shared prior to orientation.

We have tried to reduce the financial impact of the one-to-one program by reducing the cost of textbooks for freshmen students. Many of the textbooks are purchased using state funds and are distributed to the students by the school. We also have been able to purchase electronic licenses for textbooks using state funds, such as the HMH Fuse Algebra I iPad-based book used in freshman year. As publishers develop interactive text books for electronic devices, Mercy will be using more electronic texts. Currently, MHS uses electronic textbooks in Computer Science, English, Mathematics, Religion, and Social Studies. Listed below are the iPad Guidelines for this current school year. These guidelines will give you an idea of what is required of a student and her iPad. Mercy High School Students are required to follow all of the guidelines set forth in the Mercy High School Technology Code of Conduct as found in the Student/Parent Handbook. In addition, here are some guidelines specific to iPad use.

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Taking Care of Your iPad

It is your responsibility to protect your iPad from loss, theft or damage.

1. Use only a clean, dry anti-static or micro-fiber cloth to clean the iPad screen. Do not use any type of liquid or cleanser to clean the screen.
2. iPad screens can be damaged from excessive pressure. Do not lean on the top of the iPad when it is closed. Do not place books on top of the iPad.
3. It is required that you use a protective case or cover for your iPad with an attached keyboard.
4. Never leave your iPad unsecured. When an iPad is not being used, it should be stored in a school locker or in a backpack. You must not share your locker combination with others.
5. Avoid eating and drinking while using your iPad.
6. Do not expose iPads to extreme temperatures. Never leave an iPad in a vehicle.

Using Your iPad in School

1. You are required to bring your iPad to school each day with a fully charged battery. A limited number of recharging stations will be provided throughout the school.
2. If you leave your iPad at home you will be required to complete assignments using alternate means (as determined by your teacher).
3. Your iPad use in class is at the direction of the teacher.
4. Your iPad must not be used for non-classroom related activities (including checking email) when in class.
5. Classroom projectors and Apple AirPlay may only be used with explicit permission of the classroom teacher.
6. You must not record conversations, video, or take pictures of people or class activities without permission of the person or instruction from the teacher. If permission to record is granted, you must not post the recording on the Internet.
7. The iPad sound must be muted at all times unless permission is obtained from the teacher for instructional purposes. All notifications should be turned off during school hours. When listening to audio you must use earphones.
8. You must use the school's Wi-Fi network to connect to the Internet with your iPad. You must not use any other network (including an LTE/Cellular connection) to access the Internet at school.
9. Your iPad is subject to random monitoring by teachers and school personnel. All content, including images and music, must be school-appropriate.
10. Students whose actions are in violation of these guidelines may be subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by Administration.