Thinking about a Mac or an iPad for college?



Whether you're a student or a parent, finding the right computer for college is a big decision. We're here to help. And don't forget, you can also get an education discount from Apple.

Shop the education store >



Mac

Will it work for whatever major I choose?

Mac is compatible with popular software you'll use in college, including Microsoft 365, Adobe Creative Cloud, Canvas LMS, MATLAB, Mathematica, and Google Workspace for Education.

Is it powerful enough to get me through college?

Every Mac is powerful and dependable, so you can easily tackle daily tasks like email and quizzes, and also more demanding assignments like data analysis or video creation.

What if I'm taking a mix of online and in-person classes?

Every MacBook and iMac comes with a high-quality camera, microphone, speakers, and the latest Wi-Fi connection capabilities.

Will the battery last through the school day and beyond?

Thanks to the incredible power efficiency of Apple silicon, no matter which Mac notebook you choose, you can make it all the way from an 8:00 a.m. lecture to an evening study group.*

A few more things to know

Is my personal information going to be safe?

We design every Mac and iPad — and all Apple products — to protect your privacy and give you control over your information.

Will it work for group projects?

Collaboration is easy with Mac and iPad. Your group can connect on FaceTime even if they're using Windows or Android, share files with AirDrop, and edit Keynote presentations together in real time.

iPad

What types of work can I do on iPad?

iPad has the power and flexibility to tackle your biggest projects and your everyday to-dos. 4K video recording and a high-resolution camera make iPad perfect for multimedia assignments. Add Apple Pencil to take searchable handwritten notes and Magic Keyboard to type term papers.

Will it work for my major?

iPad is compatible with leading apps and the most common software you'll use in college, including Microsoft 365, Adobe Creative Cloud, Canvas LMS, Notability, MATLAB, Google Workspace for Education, and nearly two million apps available on the App Store.

I'll have back-to-back lectures. Will iPad last all day?

With all-day battery life, iPad can handle a packed schedule — from your first class to a late-night study session.*

What if I'm taking a mix of online and in-person classes?

Join your remote classes knowing your iPad has the latest Wi-Fi and cellular capabilities, built-in microphones, and an advanced camera with Center Stage for more engaging video calls.

What about the environment?

From packaging to production, Mac and iPad are designed and built with the planet in mind.

What if I drop it or just need some support?

Every Mac and iPad come with a one-year limited warranty and 90 days of complimentary technical support. Adding AppleCare+ gives you coverage for two incidents of accidental damage every 12 months and priority access to Apple experts via phone or chat.

Should I get a Mac or an iPad?

Both are perfect for college and will be a great choice. Consider the types of activities you'll be using it for and how you like to work.

Mac is designed around a keyboard and trackpad and is built to run desktop applications. It also allows you to customize your study setup with an external monitor and other peripherals.

iPad is designed around a touchscreen experience and is built to run a wide variety of apps. With Apple Pencil, you can take handwritten notes, sketch an idea, and express your creativity in so many ways.

Mac and iPad work so well together that many students choose to use both. And of course, if you have an iPhone it will work great with your new Mac or iPad.

Learn more about what makes Mac and iPad great for college >