

February 26, 2025

Howdy!

Welcome to Texas A&M University! Congratulations on your acceptance into the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program as a member of the Class of 2029. Your journey from a student pharmacist to practitioner will be a stimulating, rigorous, and meaningful experience. We look forward to guiding you in this journey and observing your growth.

You will quickly discover that our program relies heavily on instructional technologies. As a result, we have specific requirements for computing devices:

- In your first year, you are required to start the program with an iPad and a laptop.** iPad models and laptops listed below in Tables 1 and 2 are the minimum requirements. Your iPad will be used throughout your four years in the program primarily as a testing and note-taking device. You will be required to have your iPad on hand daily. A laptop is also required, as not all instructional software is optimized for iPads or for distance learning. If you need to purchase an iPad, a laptop, or both, we strongly recommend you purchase it after attending the Class of 2029 Pre-Orientation. What you learn during the pre-orientation will help you make an informed decision about the devices you select. Also, to aid in your decision-making process, please see the infographic titled “Class of 2025 iPad Survey”.

Table 1. Minimum System Requirements - iPad

Model	Any iPad model below purchased within the last 3 years (not jailbroken) iPad (10 th generation) iPad (11 th generation) – Estimated release March - April 2025 iPad Air (5 th or 6 th generation) iPad Pro (5 th or 6 th generation)
Network Access	Wi-fi access
Operating System	iPadOS 18 (latest version preferred)
Storage	64GB minimum; 256GB or higher preferred
Required Accessories	Ethernet adapter (USB-C or USB to RJ45, 2-3ft cable) Keyboard
Recommended Features or Accessories	64GB storage or higher Apple Pencil (1 st – 3 rd generation) Protective case Screen Protector

Table 2. Minimum System Requirements for Laptops (Genuine US Mac/US Win Only)

	Laptop Used in P1/P2 Years	Laptop Used in P3/P4 Years
Laptop (general)	Any Mac or Windows laptop with Wi-Fi or a built-in Ethernet jack purchased within the last 3 years. View TAMU Technology Services Computer Requirements . Must be able to receive security patches/updates.	Any Mac or Windows laptop with Wi-Fi or a built-in Ethernet jack purchased within the last 3 years. View TAMU Technology Services Computer Requirements . Must be able to receive security patches/updates.
Required accessory	USB-C or USB to Ethernet adapter and 2-3ft Ethernet cable	USB-C or USB to Ethernet adapter and 2-3 ft Ethernet cable
Laptop Specifications:	Processor: Intel i5 12 th generation or equivalent (Mac: M1-M4) RAM: 16GB or higher Hard Drive: 512GB or higher 13-inch screen or larger (1920 x 1080) Integrated webcam and microphone	Processor: Intel i5 12 th generation or equivalent (Mac: M1-M4) RAM: 16GB or higher Hard Drive: 512GB or higher 13-inch screen or larger (1920 x 1080) Integrated webcam and microphone
NABP Requirements (National Association of Boards of Pharmacy – Practice Exams and Licensure Exams)	None	Laptop with wired internet access preferred and the latest compatible web browser cleared of cookies/browser history. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Chrome (preferred) • MS Edge and Safari (acceptable) • Firefox/Internet Explorer are NOT supported
Supported Software and Hardware	View Texas A&M University Technology Services Supported Software and Hardware . If you have any questions or need assistance regarding supported software and hardware, please contact the Health Technology Care Team at HealthTechCare@tamu.edu , 979.436.0250 or 979.845.8300 (Option 2).	
Malware Tools for Students	View Malware Tools for Students .	

We will be available during the Class of 2029 Pre-Orientation to answer your questions. However, if you have any questions now, please feel free to contact me at (361) 221-0622 or at greyna@tamu.edu. Also, feel free to contact the TAMU Technology Services at (979) 845.8300 or helpdesk@tamu.edu if you have any technical questions about support for laptops or software.

Again, congratulations and best wishes!

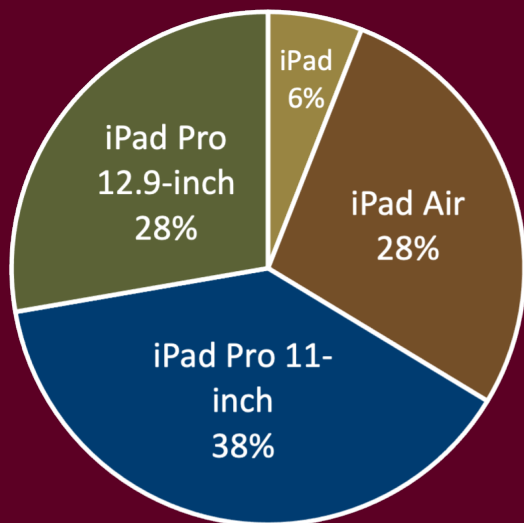
Sincerely,



Gilbert Reyna, MS
Associate Director, Instructional Technology Services
Texas A&M University, Rangel College of Pharmacy

CLASS OF 2025 iPad SURVEY

Which iPad model did you start the program with?



Which device did you use more throughout the day-- your iPad or your laptop?



My best recommendation when purchasing a laptop for this program is recommendation when purchasing a laptop for this program is...

"I rarely use my laptop, any laptop will do (do not buy a new one if you have one already, I use my laptop maybe once a week)."

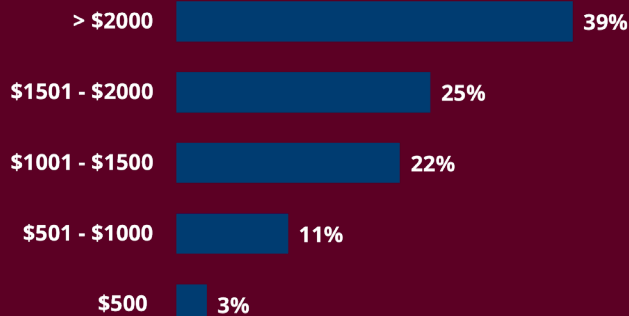
"Not a Chromebook - it is not compatible (as far as I have tried) with Lockdown browser."

"In all honesty, you rarely use your laptop. If price is a concern, I would recommend getting a cheaper laptop and spending more on the iPad because you use that every single day!"

Which laptop operating system did you start the program with?



The total amount I spent for both laptop and iPad computing devices:



My best recommendation when purchasing an iPad for this program is...

"I preferred the bigger screen because most of our books we access are online and I planned to take notes on my iPad. I also wanted to reduce as much strain to my eyes due to constantly using electronic devices and have to read near and far."

"Get whatever screen size you'll be more comfortable with. I went with a less expensive iPad and am perfectly happy with it - do buy the accessories: Apple Pencil, case with stand or something, screen protector (I got a paperlike screen protector and love it), and a bluetooth keyboard."

"Get something you're comfortable with. Go to a store to physically try an iPads features. Try to get a recent release, that way it will last you at least the four years you're in pharmacy school."



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