

March 21,2024

Howdy!

Welcome to Texas A&M University! Congratulations on your acceptance into the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program as a member of the Class of 2028. 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 because they enable us to teach, and for you to learn, more effectively. 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 2028 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” for recommendations from the Class of 2025.

**Table 1. Minimum System Requirements - iPad**

<b>Model</b>	<b>Any iPad model below purchased within the last 3 years (not jailbroken)</b> iPad (9 <sup>th</sup> generation) iPad (10 <sup>th</sup> generation) iPad Air iPad Pro
<b>Network Access</b>	Wi-fi access
<b>Operating System</b>	iPadOS 17 (latest version preferred)
<b>Storage</b>	64GB minimum; 256GB or higher preferred
<b>Required Accessories</b>	<b>Ethernet adapter (USB-C or USB to RJ45, 2-3ft cable)</b> Keyboard
<b>Recommended Features or Accessories</b>	64GB storage or higher Apple Pencil (1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> generation) Protective case Screen Protector

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

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

We will be available during the Class of 2028 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](mailto:greyna@tamu.edu). Also, feel free to contact the TAMU Technology Services at (979) 845.8300 or [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu) if you have any technical questions about support for laptops or software.

Again, congratulations and best wishes!

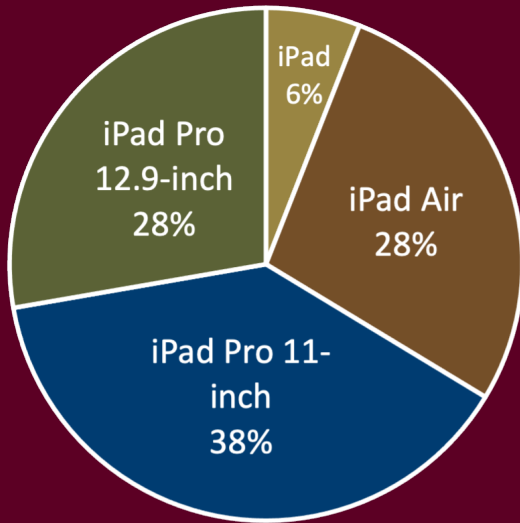
Sincerely,



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

# CLASS OF 2025 iPad SURVEY

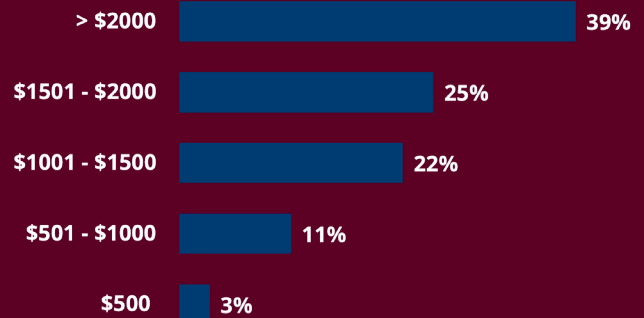
Which iPad model did you start the program with?



Which laptop operating system did you start the program with?



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



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!"*

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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