



Subject: BYOAD Requirements

Audience: Rising 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Families

To ensure that our students have a smooth transition and experience with our BYOAD initiative, we have developed a set of basic requirements that each approved device should meet. In addition, we have included several recommended devices, as well as accessories, to support their academic and creative endeavors.

For the 2021-2022 school year we are requiring that each student be equipped with a Windows or Apple-based laptop each school day. **IPADS AND CHROMEBOOKS ARE NO LONGER AN APPROVED DEVICE AT GCA.** Should a device become damaged/lost/stolen/forgotten, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is properly repaired/replaced in a timely manner. In the meantime, a temporary device of some sort must be obtained by the student until a permanent solution is in place.

Lastly, please note that your students will not need to purchase any additional software. We will provide students with Microsoft Office 365, which allows five devices to be licensed.

*\*\* Students in Photography will also be provided with Adobe Creative Cloud to meet their needs. However, additional computer requirements are necessary for any student enrolled in these classes. Please see the Graphic Design and Photography section of this document to review the requirements for these courses.*

Below is a list of recommended devices from the GCA IT Staff. Please note that this list is not all inclusive. There are many vendors (Lenovo, Toshiba, HP, etc) with good devices. This is simply the list of the devices we've seen with the most success.



**RECOMMENDED DEVICES**

<b>APPLE</b>	<b>MICROSOFT</b>
Apple MacBook	Dell Latitude Laptops
Apple MacBook Pro	Dell XPS 13/15
Apple MacBook Air	

**SUPPORTED PLATFORMS**

<b>APPLE</b>	<b>MICROSOFT</b>
<b>OS X 13.5 (Catalina) or above</b>	Windows 10

**HARDWARE MINIMUMS**

<b>RAM</b>	4 GB
<b>Storage</b>	128 GB
<b>Wireless</b>	G, N, and/or AC
<b>Screen Size</b>	11"

**\*\* GRAPHIC DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY HARDWARD MINIMUMS**

<b>RAM</b>	8 GB
<b>Storage</b>	256 GB
<b>Wireless</b>	G, N, and/or AC
<b>Screen Size</b>	13"



RAM: Imagine that 1GB is equal to 10 seats in your car. The more seats you have, the more people you can carry at any given time. RAM works the same way; the more RAM you have, the more Apps/Applications can run at any given time. This is essential for those who multi-task and/or use resource intensive programs such as Adobe Creative Cloud.

STORAGE: The more the merrier. Storage is essential for saving Apps/Applications, Documents, Updates, and Multi-Media. It is important to understand the amount of storage that your student currently uses to make a more informed purchase when selecting a new device. The check device storage usage please see these guides:

#### *MacBook*

Check how much storage you have available and what is using it – **Click Apple Icon > About this Mac > Storage**

#### *Windows*

Check how much storage you have available – **Go to My Computer > Right Click C: > Properties**

### **RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES**

Device Sleeve – This will provide an added layer of protection for the device while in student’s backpacks and lockers.

Accidental Protection – Accidents happen and we want your family to be prepared. Many of the relationships we are working out with our partners will offer competitive device protection to better ensure your students get the most out of their devices when they need them the most.

Extra Charger – Our lives are high-paced and we often forget to charge our devices. Students should be prepared for that day. Please note that students are **REQUIRED** to have a fully charged laptop or have their charger available each day for class. GCA does not loan out chargers for student devices.

Keyboard (Surface products only) – The keyboard is an essential component for typing productivity and the students should equip themselves with a keyboard that is comfortable to them.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact [technology@gcarams.org](mailto:technology@gcarams.org)