SCLA 1:1 Device Program

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Requirements & Guidelines

Requirements

All SCLA students in grades 9–12 are required to provide a learning device for use in the classroom and at home. Students must bring their device to school every day, fully charged. Although a device may not be used in every class, students should have it with them throughout the school day.

Acceptable Device Types

- **Chromebooks** (SCLA's recommended device - it is designed as an educational tool that is lightweight and optimized for Google Workspace for Education)
- **Apple MacBooks**
- **Windows laptops** (including 2-in-1 models that fold into a tablet)
- **Tablets are not recommended.** If a tablet is used, it must have an attached physical keyboard.

Recommended Technical Specifications

- **8GB+ of RAM** (less RAM may impact overall experience/performance)
- **6+ hours of battery life** (Charging will not be allowed during the school day**.** Published battery ratings are often higher than real-world results; look for a rating of 8+ hours to reliably get 6).
- **Wi-Fi 5+** (Wi-Fi 6 recommended)
- If you'd like further technical recommendations, see this more detailed recommendations page.

Other Recommendations

- **Protective case:** SCLA recommends every student use a padded carrying case or sleeve. Tablets must have a keyboard case.
- **Google Chrome browser installed.** SCLA uses Google Workspace for Education; students should sign in to Chrome with their SCLA Google account and keep school and personal accounts in separate Chrome profiles. A second browser (Safari, Edge, Firefox) is helpful when a website misbehaves.
- **Windows "S Mode" is not acceptable.** S Mode blocks software some courses require. Most S Mode laptops can be switched out of S Mode for free through the Microsoft Store.
- **Operating system kept current.** The device must be able to receive security updates for the entire time the student uses it.
- **Warranty and accidental-damage protection:** SCLA's ability to repair family-owned hardware is limited. An extended warranty or accidental-damage plan (e.g., AppleCare+, or the manufacturer or retailer's protection plan) can significantly reduce repair costs, especially for more expensive computers.
- **Questions?** Contact IT_Support@StCroixlutheran.org before purchasing if you have any questions about the device program.