



Apple Teacher Program for Professional Learning

Apple Teacher is a new professional learning program designed to support and celebrate teachers. With Apple Teacher, school leadership can offer a free, self-paced learning environment that empowers teachers to use Apple products with confidence as they create innovative learning experiences on iPad and Mac.

We've gathered some ideas that you can use in your school to introduce teachers to the program and support them in earning recognition. You'll find out how to build a teacher community of lifelong learners who work together, either individually or in groups, to unlock the magic of iPad and Mac. And you'll read about some creative ways other schools have incorporated the Apple Teacher Program into their professional learning environments. Visit our [website](#) to learn more and to get your teachers signed up.

Teacher Events

Host a "Become an Apple Teacher" event during the next professional learning day at your school. These events include dedicated time for teachers to learn about the program and engage in friendly competition as they complete the projects in the Apple Teacher Starter Guide series. They can do this as individuals, in groups or through the help of a facilitator. You can decide whether they create their projects for personal use or share them with you—giving you the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments with others.

Badge Challenge

Roll out an Apple Teacher Badge Challenge so teachers can focus on earning one badge per week. Whether you choose an 8-week challenge that focuses on earning badges for iPad or Mac, or a 16-week challenge that focuses on both, it's a great way to get your teachers engaged and build momentum. At your next professional learning day, you could have a few teachers share what they've learned—from something simple, like a new feature they've discovered, to how they're using a feature to teach a lesson in the classroom.

Hour of Learning

Plan an Apple Teacher Hour to give teachers a special day and time to log in and earn badges of their choice. We know that many teachers struggle to find the time for professional learning. This is a great way for you to give them the freedom to explore the program's content and strengthen their skills—without the pressure of having to figure out how to fit it in.

Mentor Program

Once a core set of teachers have earned their recognition, launch a mentoring program. This group would provide encouragement and support to others along their journeys toward becoming Apple Teachers. Conducting frequent check-ins, sending school-wide communications or sharing visible displays of accomplishment are great ways to encourage others.

Study Buddy Program

Create an Apple Teacher Study Buddy program in which groups of two or three teachers team up to study for their badges. You can bring together teachers within the same grade level or department, providing an opportunity to discover better ways of teaching a particular subject. Or invite teachers from different departments to encourage diversity of thought and identification of best practices across subject areas.

Social Media Connections

Encourage your teachers to leverage Twitter as a channel for additional support and collaboration as they earn badges. Teachers with personal accounts can tweet using the hashtag #ADEchat to solicit help and feedback from Apple Distinguished Educators who can answer questions or share ideas.

School-Based Professional Learning Hours

If you're in a school where professional learning hours are determined locally, you can integrate Apple Teacher into your official professional learning offering. You can determine how many hours each badge is worth based on your expectations and how you choose to execute the program. In addition to the project that teachers create when earning each badge, you can have them demonstrate further learning in a format that works best.

Recognition

We know that teachers are motivated by their accomplishments. Once you've determined how you'll deliver the program in your school, consider these great ideas for sharing the distinction of becoming an Apple Teacher school with your school community, teachers, staff and parents. Then make your own list—be creative!

- Acknowledge your Apple Teachers on your school website or intranet, at board meetings or through the school's newsletter—or mention it during morning school announcements, back-to-school-night events or parent information meetings.
- Use your school and system social media channels like Twitter to celebrate teachers as they earn their recognition.
- Create a life-size temperature chart that shows the percentage of teachers who've earned their recognition. Update it weekly or monthly, and place it in the front office for everyone to see.
- Have plenty of prizes and rewards to motivate and inspire your teachers. You can provide a free lunch of their choice, offer the principal's parking space or award gift cards.

*Apple Learning Specialist services may be fee-based.

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