



# Apple Distinguished Schools Overview

## 2017–2019

We believe Apple Distinguished Schools are some of the most innovative schools in the world. They're centers of leadership and educational excellence that demonstrate our vision of exemplary learning environments. They use Apple products to inspire student creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. Leadership in our recognized schools cultivate environments in which students are excited about learning, curiosity is fostered, and—with Apple technology—learning is a personal experience for every student. Our recognized schools are models of innovation in education.

### Activities of Apple Distinguished Schools

During the two-year designation, Apple Distinguished Schools openly share their successes with other educators by publishing their stories and collaborating with Apple education teams to host school visits. At these events, school leaders share their vision for their program and educators showcase their best practices for using Apple products and digital content to create powerful teaching and learning experiences.

### Special opportunities for school leaders

The Apple Distinguished School program supports school leaders through leadership events, opportunities to engage with experts, and collaboration with peers who share an interest in sustaining an innovative learning and teaching environment.

### Attributes of an Apple Distinguished School

Apple Distinguished School leaders, faculty, and the extended community have a clear vision that articulates how their technology-rich environment supports their goals for learning. School leaders have established elements for continuous innovation to support their school's vision, including culture, team, capacity, community, finance, and measurement. They understand that continuous innovation is an ongoing process that requires thoughtful planning, practice, and iteration along the way.

Because their school's technology-rich environment supports the innovative use of Apple products, faculty and students have opportunities to enrich their learning and teaching experiences in ways that would not otherwise be possible.

School leaders share how their faculty and students use Apple products and services to support continuous innovation in learning, teaching, and in the school environment in the form of a Multi-Touch book.

## Apple Distinguished School requirements

Following are the requirements for becoming an Apple Distinguished School:

- A one-to-one Mac or iPad program for students and faculty has been in place for more than two academic years. All students in your school use Apple devices as their primary learning device. All teachers in your school use Apple devices as their primary teaching device.
- Faculty and students can demonstrate how best practices in learning and teaching are continuously evolving with Apple technology.
- Faculty deeply integrates Apple creation apps (Photos, iMovie, GarageBand, Pages, Keynote, Numbers, and iBooks Author), educational apps in the App Store, books in the iBooks Store, and learning materials in iTunes U into the curriculum.
- Teachers are highly proficient in the use of Apple products. For K–12 schools in the United States, 75 percent of teachers in a school must be recognized as Apple Teachers before the Apple Distinguished School application deadline. For higher education faculty, Apple Teacher recognition is recommended. To learn more about becoming an Apple Teacher, visit [www.apple.com/education/apple-teacher](http://www.apple.com/education/apple-teacher).
- Evidence of student success is documented through school-based research practices that measure year-to-year improvement and program sustainability.

### Benefits

Following are the benefits of becoming an Apple Distinguished School:

- Plaque and banner that acknowledge recognition as an Apple Distinguished School
- Program logo artwork to use on the school website and in print materials
- Congratulatory letter from Apple
- Sample press release for local communication
- Consideration for inclusion in Apple communications
- Opportunities for school leaders to engage with experts and collaborate with peers
- Opportunities to participate in Field Trip events hosted at a nearby Apple Store (where available)

### Institution responsibilities

Apple Distinguished Schools have the following responsibilities:

- Willingness to engage in Apple-hosted school site visits
- Willingness to publish the school's success story in the form of a Multi-Touch book
- Willingness to engage with like-minded Apple Distinguished School leaders worldwide
- Willingness to share best practices and evidence of student academic success

## Invitation to the Apple Distinguished School program

The Apple Distinguished School program is by invitation only for schools that meet the current program qualifications. The recognition is a two-year designation, with an opportunity to renew.

- **K–12 schools in the U.S.** During the open self-nomination period, school leaders from K–12 public and private schools can submit a request for an invitation to apply for recognition as an Apple Distinguished School. Requests will be reviewed for qualification requirements, then qualified schools will receive an invitation to apply for recognition. Recognition applications are in the form of a Multi-Touch book made with iBooks Author.
- **Higher education institutions in the U.S. and schools in all other countries.** Contact your local Apple education representative for additional information about program details, requirements, eligible countries, and future deadlines.

The Apple Distinguished School program is currently available in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Russia, Spain, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Vietnam, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States, and United Kingdom.