Amplify.
mCLASS App Best Practices (iOS)
Table of Contents

1. The mCLASS App
2. Supported iOS Devices
3. Disabling Safari Private Browsing
4. Adding the mCLASS App Icon to the Home Screen
5. Syncing the mCLASS App
6. Updating iOS Software
7. Helpful Reminders
8. Sharing Devices
9. If mCLASS is Sluggish on Your Device
10. Avoiding Interruptions
11. Extending Battery Life
The mCLASS® App

Amplify assessments are conducted using the mCLASS® app on a supported mobile device.

• The mCLASS app is installed by adding the mCLASS icon from the Safari® browser to your device’s Home screen.

• Once you install the mCLASS app, use it to assess students and sync student data. You don’t need to use Safari again.

• You log in to the mCLASS app with your Amplify user name and password.

• The first time you log in, you need to be connected to the Internet. After you log in, you don’t need an Internet connection to assess, though you must provide your password if your device is idle for more than 60 minutes.

• You do need an Internet connection to log out or to sync assessment data.
Supported iOS Devices

• Information about supported iOS devices is shown on the Device Compatibility page of the Amplify website.

• Support lifecycles for specific iPad® models have been determined through the 2020-2021 school year. These can be found at the bottom of the Device Compatibility page.
Disabling Safari Private Browsing

If Private Browsing is enabled for Safari, your assessment data is deleted when you don’t sync before closing your browser. To prevent accidental data loss, disable Private Browsing before installing the mCLASS app.

1. Tap **Settings** on the Home screen.

2. Tap **Safari**.

3. Go to the Privacy & Security area and turn off **Do Not Track**.

---

Amplify.
Adding the mCLASS App Icon to the Home Screen

Add the mCLASS app icon to your iOS device's Home screen to start your assessments without having to open Safari. This removes the address bar from your browser, giving you more room to view assessment screens.

1. With an active Internet connection, open a Safari window and go to mclasshome.com/assessment/.
2. Log in with your Amplify user name and password. If prompted, select a school or classes. Wait for the Application Selection screen to load.
3. Tap ⬆️, then tap Add to Home Screen.
4. The homescreen icon and its label (mCLASS) display on a confirmation screen. Tap Add.
5. The mCLASS app icon is added to the Home screen.

6. Return to Safari and tap Log Out. When syncing finishes, close Safari. After you install the mCLASS app, do not use Safari to assess or to sync; always use the mCLASS app.
7. Tap the mCLASS app icon to access your assessments. You may be prompted to log in again. Once you log in, you do not need an Internet connection to assess, though you must provide your password if your device is idle for more than 60 minutes.

After you create a Home screen icon, any student assessment data stored on the device is associated with it. Always tap this icon to access your assessments and sync.

If you delete this icon without syncing, any assessment data stored on the device is deleted permanently.
Syncing the mCLASS App

The mCLASS app stores completed assessments on your device until you sync. If you delete the mCLASS app Home screen icon after assessing, unsynced student assessment data is permanently lost. Sync often to help prevent accidental data loss.

Your institution may use settings that automatically clear your device’s caches when you close it. Before assessing, ask your network administrator to disable your device’s automatic cache- and cookie-clearing settings and confirm it does not automatically delete your locally saved data.

In addition, you should always sync the mCLASS app immediately before installing a new version of the operating system (iOS), as assessment data is not included in the system backup.

Sync your device whenever you have Internet access. You shouldn’t wait until you finish assessing all your students.

1. Make sure your device is connected to the Internet.
2. Open your Assessment List or Class List.
3. Tap the Sync button in the lower left corner of the screen to sync your device.
4. If prompted, enter your Amplify user name and password and tap Sync. Tap Cancel to return to the previous screen without syncing.
5. When sync completes, tap OK to continue. The time and date of your most recent successful sync display to the right of the Sync button.
6. Log on to the Amplify home page to verify the assessment data has synced successfully.

Amplify
Updating iOS Software

Apple iOS software updates introduce new features and fix software problems. When an iOS update is available, both your device and iTunes will prompt you to download and install it. Do not install this update until you’ve synced the mCLASS app.

Syncing the mCLASS app immediately before updating your iOS software prevents loss of assessment data. Confirm the sync was successful by logging on to the Amplify home page. Once confirmed, follow the instructions on your device or in iTunes to update.
Helpful Reminders

Ensure the date and time are accurate on your device:
1. Tap Settings on the Home screen.
2. Tap General.
3. Tap Date & Time.
4. If you are connected to the Internet via Wi-Fi, turn on Set Automatically.
   If not, tap Time Zone and enter the name of a city in your time zone. Tap the city name, tap the blue date and time, and select the current date and time from the lists that display.

Make sure the device is connected to the Internet via Wi-Fi before you log in, log out, or sync. The Wi-Fi icon displays in the upper left when you are connected.

You do not need to be connected to the Internet to unlock the mCLASS app for assessing once you’re logged in.
Sharing Devices

Ideally, your institution has one mobile device for each assessor. We realize this might not always be possible. If you do share devices, please take these extra steps to ensure your assessment data is stored safely and your colleagues can log on to the mCLASS app to assess.

1. When you finish assessing, sync the mCLASS app.
2. Go to the Application Selection Screen by tapping mCLASS.
3. Tap Log Out.
If mCLASS is Sluggish on Your Device

Close all non-mCLASS apps.

- Double-click the Home button in the bottom center of your device to open the multitasking display, which shows your most recently used apps.
- Drag up any app that isn’t an mCLASS app from the multitasking display to close it.
- Click the Home button to return to the Home screen.

Restart your iOS device at least once a week.

- Press and hold the Sleep/Wake button until the slider displays. Swipe the slider to the right to turn off the device.
- Restart the device by pressing and holding the Sleep/Wake button until the Apple logo displays.
Avoiding Interruptions

Unexpected sounds or alerts can disrupt assessment, affecting its reliability and validity. Minimize disruptions by changing the settings on your iOS device.

Use Do Not Disturb to prevent interruptions from incoming phone calls, text messages, and other alerts.

1. Tap Settings on the Home screen, then tap Do Not Disturb.
2. Turn on Manual.
3. Go to Silence and tap Always.

Silence your iOS device so unexpected sounds don’t interrupt assessment.

1. Tap Settings on the Home screen, and then tap Sounds.
2. Drag the Ringers and Alerts slider to the left, and turn off Change with Buttons.
3. Turn off Lock Sounds and Keyboard Clicks.

Turn off Notifications so they don’t interfere with assessment.

1. Tap Settings on the Home screen, and then tap Notifications.
2. Tap each app. Turn off Allow Notifications.

To mute the iPad, press the lower volume button until the word "Mute" displays onscreen.
Extending Battery Life

Change these settings to extend the battery life of your device.

Screen Brightness
1. Tap Settings on the Home screen, and then tap Display and Brightness.
2. Turn off Auto-Brightness.

Location Services
1. Tap Settings on the Home screen, and then tap Privacy.
2. Tap Location Services.
3. Turn off Location Services.

Pushing and Fetching
1. Tap Settings on the Home screen, and then tap Mail, Contacts, Calendars.
2. Tap Fetch New Data.
3. Turn off Push.
4. Go to Fetch and tap Manually.