What's New for Education

iOS 9.3 and OS X 10.11.4

January 2016

Introduction

Apple is making it easier for schools and institutions of all sizes to deploy iPad and Mac in their environment. With iOS 9.3 and OS X 10.11.4 we've made significant enhancements specifically for education to enable IT administrators, technology managers, and teachers to more easily setup, configure and manage iPad and Mac in the classroom. These new updates help simplify and streamline deployment in both one-to-one and shared environments, so your school can get up and running quickly. This document is a summary of these new features and is designed for technology managers and IT administrators to understand how they work. It complements the iOS Deployment Reference to help you understand the key technologies for deploying iPad and Mac at scale, and providing an optimal experience for your education institution.

iOS 9.3 delivers the following key enhancements that are covered in more detail within this document:

- Apple School Manager
- Managed Apple IDs
- Shared iPad
- Classroom app for iPad

Apple School Manager

Apple School Manager is a new website from Apple that enables you to buy content, configure mobile device management (MDM) enrollment settings, create Managed Apple IDs, and set up iTunes U courses. This new destination is accessible through the web and is designed for technology managers and IT administrators.

Sign up is simple. Once you're enrolled in Apple School Manager, your school or district can easily assign devices to an MDM solution, purchase apps and learning materials, and create accounts for staff, teachers, and students. On your first login, a helpful Setup Assistant walks you through the steps your need to manage your devices, such as creating new roles for your staff and helping you connect your school's MDM solution to supported Student Information Systems (SIS).

If you're already enrolled in the Device Enrollment Program (DEP), Volume Purchase Program (VPP) or iTunes U, all of your account information and data will be migrated to Apple School Manager, bringing together everything needed to deploy iOS devices and Mac computers.

Note: During the iOS 9.3 and OS X 10.11.4 beta period, Apple School Manager is available by invitation only and will not support migration of existing DEP and VPP account data. Only specific SIS systems will be supported. Not all programs or features are available in all countries or regions.

Managed Apple IDs

In addition to apps and devices, Apple School Manager is where you can create Managed Apple IDs for your entire school or district. Managed Apple IDs are owned and controlled by your school or district and have been specially designed to meet the needs of education institutions, including password resets, limitations on purchasing and communications, and role-based administration. These new Managed Apple IDs enable staff, teachers, and students to access Apple services while providing administrators and managers the controls they need to deploy them throughout the school or district. Like any Apple ID, Managed Apple IDs are used to access Apple services including documents in iCloud Drive, enroll in iTunes U courses, and more.

When a student graduates or leaves school, it's important they be able to take their work with them. Apple School Manager allows school admins and managers to transfer an account to a student (or their parents) so they can take their Apple ID, along with all of the presentations, videos, reports and other school work they've completed during their time at the school with them.

Student System Information (SIS) Integration

Apple School Manager allows you to securely integrate with your Student Information System (SIS). By connecting your district's SIS to Apple School Manager, a Managed Apple ID can be automatically created for everyone in your organization, including school administrators, staff, teachers, and students. Once you've authenticated and connected your system, specific information like names and classes are synchronized into Apple School Manager. You can then manage roles and set initial passwords. Apple School Manager will periodically update any changes from your SIS. And to ensure your school's directory data is preserved, no data is written back to your SIS.

Apple School Manager also tracks changes to classes and teachers throughout the year so if a student joins two weeks into the year, a Managed Apple ID tied to their teacher will be ready and waiting for them when they show up for school.

You can also create accounts from a .csv file exported from a directory system, such as your LDAP server.

Manage Roles

Once a Managed Apple ID is created for a user, the administrator can then assign roles for them. These roles include:

- Administrators
- Managers
- Teachers
- Staff
- Students

These roles define what tasks users can perform in Apple School Manager. You can also create a custom role to define a very specific set of tasks for a user and users can also have multiple roles.

Service access

Some Apple services and features are disabled for Managed Apple IDs, such as:

- App Store (browsing but no purchasing)
- iTunes Store (browsing but no purchasing)
- Apple Pay
- Find My Friends
- Find My iPhone
- FaceTime*
- iMessage*
- iCloud Backup*
- Diagnostics and Usage*
- iCloud Mail
- HomeKit connected devices
- iCloud Keychain
- Touch ID

* You can choose to enable these services for students.

Classroom app

Classroom, a new app for iPad, enables educators to take full advantage of iPad in the classroom to teach. It provides elegant ways to keep students on task and tools for teachers to manage common classroom workflows. Classroom works seamlessly with Managed Apple IDs and your MDM solution, so setup is simple and works in both shared and one-to-one environments.

To get set up, you create groups (called Classes) of devices and users with your MDM solution. Once in the hands of a teacher, Classroom uses Bluetooth and Wi-Fi to establish a connection between the teacher's iPad and the student's iPad. Commands and interactions are delivered over the school's existing Wi-Fi infrastructure. Profile Manager supports configuring iPad for teacher and student use with Classroom.

Classroom helps educators use their iPad in the classroom to keep things on track. Teacher's can quickly launch the entire class into a specific app or share and open a link to a website. When it's time to take a quiz, the teacher can open and lock an app while the students take the quiz. Or teachers can use Classroom to present one of your student's work on Apple TV. All with just a few taps.

Teachers can also reset passwords, see who's connected, which apps students are using, and assign students to a specific iPad for a class period. Classroom can also view the actual screen of the student's iPad.

Classroom requires Internet access, and will be available on the App Store when iOS 9.3 is publicly available.

Shared iPad

iOS 9.3 on iPad introduces a new feature called Shared iPad. This is a totally new way to use iPad in shared learning environments, enabling multiple students to use the same iPad. Students simply log in with their Managed Apple ID. While they work, apps that support cloud storage solutions are silently syncing their data. When they're done, they log out and their iPad is ready for the next student. Data is cached locally on iPad and if necessary, it continues to push to the cloud even after they log out. Thanks to this intelligent caching, when students log in they don't have to wait for everything to download—it's already there.

Shared iPad supports a simplified login experience for younger students that makes signing in with their Managed Apple ID as easy as typing a pin code.

Using the Shared iPad feature requires the iPad be supervised. Using an MDM solution to configure Shared iPad is highly recommended. Profile Manager and Apple Configurator 2 also support configuring Shared iPad.

iOS configuration payloads

Home screen layout

You can manage how apps, folders, and web clips are arranged on the home screens of supervised devices.

Notifications

Notifications, such as app badges, sounds, banners, and alerts can be managed on a per-app basis on supervised devices.

Safari domain additions

You have the ability to restrict the saving of website passwords to only those in an approved list.

Shared iPad

Supervised devices in Shared iPad can show both an "If lost, return to" message and, if applicable, asset tag information. Both of these can be viewed on the login window and Lock Screen.

User-specific configurations

Home screen layout, notifications, restrictions, and Safari AutoFill can be specified per-user with Shared iPad.

New device restrictions

iOS Device Restrictions

- Allow Apple Music
- Allow Apple Music Radio
- Allow changes to Notifications settings
- Show/hide specific apps on Home Screen

New mobile device management (MDM) controls

iOS Device Commands

The following are new commands that can be issued by MDM solutions, such as Profile Manager:

- Set maximum cached user accounts: Using this setting with Shared iPad allows you to control the number of accounts that are cached
- Delete user
- Log out user
- Enable Lost Mode
- Disable Lost Mode

iOS Device Queries

The following are new queries that can be issued by MDM solutions, such as Profile Manager:

- User list
- Device location
- Device information
    - Is Lost Mode enabled
    - Maximum cached users

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