Online Course Technical Requirements

Students in online courses use Brightspace and StudyForge to engage with course material. Synchronous students are also required to use Zoom for weekly synchronous meetings. HCOS students are encouraged to request a Google Workspace account to gain access to Google apps (e.g., Docs, Slides, Drawings) to collaborate and share their learning. Students interested in using Chromebooks should set up a profile using their HCOS Google Workspace account for easy integration with Google apps.

> Visit our Google Workspace for Education page to learn more and request an HCOS Google Workspace account.

We highly encourage students to use a desktop or laptop to engage with their online courses. The best computers for middle school online courses are typically lightweight laptops that balance performance, portability, and affordability. These devices should have a reliable processor (like an Intel Core i3 or i5), at least 8GB of RAM for smooth multitasking, and sufficient storage (128GB or more) for files and apps. A good battery life (8+ hours) is essential for all-day use. Additionally, they should have a webcam and microphone for video conferencing, and a screen size between 11 to 14 inches for comfortable viewing.

> Cell phones, iPads, and tablets are **not** adequate devices to fulfill the requirements of online course completion.

Our online courses are designed to work on most popular operating systems and in most browsers.

Operating Systems:	Web Browsers:	Office Suites:
• Chrome OS • Linux • macOS • Windows	• Apple Safari • Google Chrome • Microsoft Edge • Mozilla Firefox	• Apple iWork Apps • Google Workspace Apps • LibreOffice • Microsoft Office

Revision #5
Created 30 August 2024 20:50:37 by Karen Roeck
Updated 5 September 2025 15:24:28 by Karen Roeck