

App Approval Checklist

When approving apps, we will look for the following:

- ❑ Is this app a “paid” app?
It there is a cost associated with an app, that does NOT disqualify it; however, it will undergo a slightly higher level of scrutiny to justify the expense
- ❑ Does the App Require a Log-in?
 - ❑ If so, is it COPPA Compliant (<http://www.coppa.org/comply.htm>)?
If the privacy statement says it is “COPPA Compliant” the app can be considered
Apps that are not COPPA compliant can NOT be approved for children under 13.
It can be considered for HS only.
- ❑ Does it have “In-App” purchases?
A lack of in-app purchases is preferred.
If there are in-app purchases, we will consider whether those purchases are necessary for the app to function properly
 - If the functionality of the app is dependent on the in-app purchases (i.e. the ability to save outside the app) it will NOT be approved.**
 - If the in-app purchases are simply for “extras”, it can be considered.**
- ❑ Does it have advertisements built in?
Apps without advertisements are preferred
However, if the value of the app outweighs this feature, it can be considered.
- ❑ Is there another app in the App Catalog that already provides this function/resources?
We are looking for apps that fill holes in the App Catalog, not duplicate it.
If another app already performs this function, it is not likely to be approved, unless its functionality dramatically improves upon the already approved app.
- ❑ Does the app’s functionality duplicate or impede a curriculum, or service that we in VPS are promoting?
*for example, “Remind” is a great app, but we want them to use the functionality in our new LMS: **Canvas**. “Remind” would confuse the situation.*
Apps will not be approved if they detract from VPS curriculum or programs.
- ❑ Does the app have solid educational relevance? Does it address standards?
An app must have compelling educational value to be approved.

Generic App Approval Process Timeline:

Dates will vary by month, but all apps submitted by the first of the month, will (if approved) be released to students by the end of the month.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 Submissions Due	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Approval Decision	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Released to teachers	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Released to students			