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Canvas Student Apps

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Before You Start

You need the following to use the Canvas mobile app:

- An active PennKey
- A camera-equipped mobile device running iOS or Android (for the QR code feature)
- Membership in a course site on Penn Canvas

Canvas Apps

The mobile apps provide quick access to most parts of a Canvas course site or group sub-site, including viewing and downloading of Files as well as view-only access (no saving or downloading) for reading Study.Net Materials. They contain much of the same functionality as the full browser version of Canvas.

In August 2025, the Canvas Student app was renamed to the Canvas by Instructure app.

Canvas By Instructure for iOS (Download)	Canvas By Instructure for Android (Download)

Mobile Guides for iOS and Android: https://community.instructure.com/en/kb/articles/662784-what-is-the-canvas-student-app

If a Canvas feature is not yet available in the mobile version, switch to a mobile browser on your device, preferably Chrome. You might also choose to subscribe to your Calendar Feed with your preferred mobile calendar app.

Authorizing this App for Penn Canvas

You have two options for authorizing this app to work with your account and Penn Canvas user record:

- **Authorization via Login,** OR
- **QR code**

Authorization via Login

This method works anywhere you can access mobile data or Wi-Fi, provided you meet the **Before You Start** requirements above and have already installed the Canvas By Instructure app:

Authorization via QR Code

This quick method doesn't require typing on your mobile device, but it does require having both your camera-equipped mobile device and *another* device -- your laptop or other computer with a display screen showing Penn

Canvas in a web browser.

Using more than one Canvas Platform?

Most, but not all, of Penn's students use the same Canvas platform. **JD/MBA students and students taking another school's courses on different Canvas platforms** may want to take advantage of multi-user login capability, which will give you a **Profile** for each Canvas platform you use. Here are instructions for multi-user logins:

- Switch to another account in the Canvas app on an **iOS device**.
- Switch to another account in the Canvas app on an **Android device**.

Questions?

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