Nova Guide

For school IT administrators

# A study planner that only reads — and keeps everything on the student's iPhone.

If a student asked to connect Nova Guide to their school Google account, this page explains what the app is, exactly what it reads, and how it handles that data, so you can review the request quickly.

**Read-only**
Never writes, submits, or deletes anything in Google

**No servers**
No backend, no database, no Nova Guide account

**Verified by Google**
OAuth verification granted October 2, 2026

**Free for schools**
No ads; nothing is ever billed to the school

WHY YOU'RE SEEING THIS

## A student tried to connect, and Google asked you first

In Google Workspace for Education, students designated as under 18 can't use a third-party app until an administrator configures it. When a student taps *Connect Google Classroom* in Nova Guide, Google shows them:

> **Access blocked: Your institution's admin needs to review Nova Guide**
> Error 400: access_not_configured

If they tapped **Request access**, Nova Guide is now in your Admin console under **App access control → Apps pending review**. That's expected, and it's how it should work. One approval covers every student in the organizational units you choose.

THE APP

## What Nova Guide is

Nova Guide is an iPhone app that helps students decide **what to do, when to do it, and how to begin**. It's designed especially for students who struggle with time management, prioritization, or getting started. It reads a student's assignments and schedule, then builds a realistic plan for the day around their classes and commitments, with work broken into small first steps.

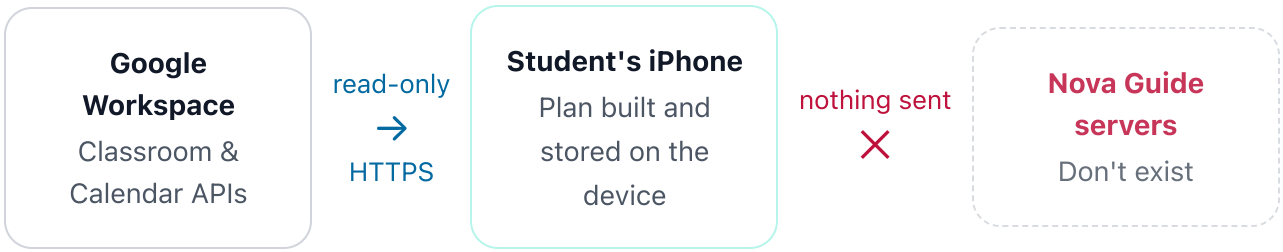
| | |
|---|---|
| **Platform** | iPhone only, iOS 26 or later, from the Apple App Store |
| **Audience** | High-school and college students; designed for ages 14+ (App Store rating 13+) |
| **Cost** | Free to download with no ads. An optional *Nova Guide Plus* subscription is bought through Apple (Family Sharing and Ask to Buy supported). Google Classroom import is free. Schools are never billed. |
| **Google connection** | Optional. Classroom and Calendar are two *separate* connections, each with its own consent screen. Students can connect one, both, or neither, and the app works fully without either. |
| **Other calendars** | Students on Microsoft 365 / Outlook can let the app read the iPhone's own Calendar app instead. That uses Apple's standard calendar permission and doesn't involve Google. |

*Nova Guide is an organizational and educational tool. It is not a medical, diagnostic, or therapeutic product.*

ARCHITECTURE

## How it works technically

There is no Nova Guide server between the student and Google. The app on the student's iPhone signs in with Google's official SDK, reads the student's own data over HTTPS, and stores it on the phone.




- **Network endpoints.** The app contacts only Google's sign-in and API hosts (`accounts.google.com`, `oauth2.googleapis.com`, `classroom.googleapis.com`, `www.googleapis.com`) and Apple's App Store services for the optional subscription.
- **No third-party SDKs of our own for analytics, ads, or crash reporting.** The only third-party code is Google's Sign-In SDK.
- **Sign-in.** Google's standard OAuth 2.0 consent. Nova Guide never sees the student's Google password; the sign-in token stays in the iPhone's secure storage.

- **Planning is deterministic.** The daily plan comes from fixed rules running on the phone. No student data goes to any server or AI service to produce it.
- **Submitting stays with the student.** Marking work done in Nova Guide never turns it in on Classroom. The app reminds the student, once, to submit it there themselves.

PERMISSIONS

## Exactly what Nova Guide requests

Every scope is **read-only**. Nothing else is requested.

| CONNECTION | OAUTH SCOPE | WHY |
|---|---|---|
| Classroom | `classroom.courses.readonly` | The student's own list of active classes, to label assignments |
| Classroom | `classroom.student-submissions.me.readonly` | The student's own assignments and their own submission state |
| Calendar | `calendar.events.readonly` | Events, so study time is planned around real commitments |
| Calendar | `calendar.calendarlist.readonly` | The list of calendars, so classes on shared calendars aren't missed |
| Both | `openid` `email` `profile` | Show the student which account is connected |

### What is read

- **Classroom:** for the student's own coursework in active classes, the title, instructions, due date, work type, the student's own submission state (including when it was turned in), and the course name
- By default only recent work: due in roughly the last 30 days or later, or undated work posted in the last 6 months. Students can widen this in Settings.
- **Calendar:** each event's title, start and end time, and, where present, its location and description

### What is never read

- Grades or the gradebook
- Rosters or any other student's data
- Gmail, Drive, or contacts
- Any administrative Workspace data

DATA HANDLING

## Where the data lives, and how it's removed

| DATA | WHERE IT LIVES | HOW IT'S REMOVED |
|---|---|---|
| Imported Classroom assignments and Calendar events | The student's iPhone only, as a local read-only copy so the app works offline | Deleted when the student disconnects that connection, or deletes the app |
| A short history of assignments the student marked completed (title, class, due date, completion time) | The student's iPhone only, kept so their progress history survives a disconnect | Deleted when the student deletes the app |
| What the plan has learned (for example, how long work actually takes) | The student's iPhone only | Cleared in Settings → Plan learning, or by deleting the app |
| Anything on Nova Guide servers | **Nothing.** There are no Nova Guide servers. | |

A student can revoke access in the app or at myaccount.google.com, and you can revoke it in the Admin console. Either way, reads stop immediately. Revoking never changes anything in Classroom or Calendar, because the app never wrote to them.

AI

## AI, explained plainly

- **There is no chatbot.** Students can't type questions or free text to an AI anywhere in the app.
- **The core plan uses no AI.** It's built by fixed, predictable rules on the phone.
- **Optional on-device wording.** On iPhones that support Apple Intelligence, Plus subscribers who turn it on can let Apple's *on-device* model word suggested assignment steps (from the assignment's instructions), study tips, and plan explanations. When it isn't on, built-in templates are used instead.
- **Nothing leaves the phone, and nothing trains a model.** Nova Guide uses no cloud or third-party AI provider, and no Workspace data is used to train or improve any AI model. That's consistent with Google's Workspace API Limited Use requirements.

VERIFICATION

## Verification and privacy status

| | |
|---|---|
| **Google OAuth verification** | Granted **October 2, 2026**, after Google reviewed the branding, privacy policy, read-only scopes, and Limited Use compliance. Students see Google's standard consent screen with no "unverified app" warning. |
| **Apple App Store** | Nova Guide 1.0 is approved by Apple. The App Store privacy label declares no tracking. |
| **Privacy policy** | nova-guide.com/privacy, including Google's Limited Use disclosure |
| **Domain** | nova-guide.com is verified in Google Search Console |

> Google's verification and your Admin console setting are **separate controls**. On a domain that restricts third-party apps, students can connect only after you approve. Approving doesn't install the app for anyone. Students still choose whether to download it and whether to connect.

QUESTIONS REVIEWERS ASK

## Compliance and security FAQ

These answers describe how the app works technically. Where something is a legal determination, we say so. We make no formal compliance certification at this time.

### FERPA

Nova Guide has no backend and stores nothing on a server, so the app itself never receives, holds, or discloses education records. Each student reads *their own* data onto *their own* device through their own Google sign-in, and nothing passes through us or any third party. We designed the architecture with FERPA in mind and are glad to share details with your reviewers.

### COPPA and students under 18

Nova Guide is designed for students 14 and older (App Store rating 13+) and, with no server, collects no personal information online at any age. Google notes that for users under 18, your organization is responsible for any parental consent required by applicable law before allowing third-party app access. The Admin console shows a "Confirm parental consent" notice when you approve.

### HIPAA

Not applicable. Nova Guide is a study planner, not a health or medical app. It collects no health information and is neither a HIPAA covered entity nor a business associate, and it makes no medical or clinical claims.

### Can Nova Guide change grades, submit work, or delete anything?

No. Every scope is read-only. The app can't modify, submit, or delete anything in Google Workspace.

### Can it reach Gmail, Drive, or other Google services?

No. The scopes grant only read-only Classroom and Calendar access plus basic profile, and Google enforces that at the token level. If you approve with **Specific Google data**, the Admin console also caps the app at exactly those scopes.

### Can students see each other's data?

No. The Classroom scope is the `.me` (own data) variant, so each student's app reads only that student's own courses, assignments, and calendars.

**– Does the schedule show event locations?**

Yes. If a Calendar event has a location (for example "Room 204"), it's shown under that event, only on that student's own device. It's never transmitted or stored anywhere central.

**– Do we have to allow both Classroom and Calendar?**

No. You can allow only the Classroom scopes. Students can still add their schedule by typing it in or by using the iPhone's own Calendar app.

**– What happens if we revoke access, or a student leaves?**

Reads stop immediately. Disconnecting in the app deletes the imported copy from the iPhone. The student's own completed-assignment history stays on their phone until they delete the app, and is never transmitted. Nothing needs cleaning up on the Google side.

NEXT STEP

## Approving Nova Guide

In the Admin console: **Security → Access and data control → API controls → Manage App Access → Configure new app**. Search for the client ID, choose your organizational units, and set **Access to Google data** to **Specific Google data** with Nova Guide's seven scopes. **Trusted** also works and is simpler.

OAuth client ID:

`390192294129-jgod8s2foofbsmmjpm9t003vlg2qdrt3.apps.googleusercontent.com`

Full click-by-click steps, the copy-paste scope list, and troubleshooting: nova-guide.com/schools/approve

QUESTIONS?

### We're happy to talk with your reviewers

Email us with any security, privacy, or setup question. We usually reply within a couple of business days.

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