



iPad Support

Tablets such as the iPad are fantastic tools! Being mobile and easy to use means that they provide the most efficient means of consuming content. There are some important factors, however, that you should understand.

HTML5 vs. Flash

Tablet internet browsers use a new form of coding called HTML5. The Gold Seal Ground School, on the other hand, uses a more robust programming environment called Adobe Flash. Flash is a wonderful tool and allows you to enjoy rich multimedia including audio, video, and narrations simultaneously. HTML5 does support multimedia, but in a much more primitive way. Because of this, it is not nearly as capable as Flash when it comes to a dynamic viewing experience.

Flash supports multiple media formats simultaneously. For example, it can render separate audio, video, and animation tracks all at the same time. Unfortunately, HTML5 uses a process called "single threading." It processes one media format at any given moment. While this is fine for watching a video (with an embedded audio track), it falls very short when true multimedia is the goal.

Gold Seal Tablet Support

At Gold Seal, we do understand the power and convenience your tablet gives you. Unfortunately, it comes with a price. In order to fully support tablets we would have to disable many of the dynamic features that you enjoy when viewing the Ground School in Flash. And that is just not an acceptable alternative.

To handle this dilemma, the Gold Seal Ground School provides support for the iPad tablet in several unique ways. Lessons that will play on an iPad are marked with an orange icon containing the numeral "5" within. You will need a very high-speed WiFi connection for these lessons. Lessons not marked with the orange icon can only be viewed on a standard laptop/desktop computer. Roughly half of the Ground School lessons will operate on an iPad (but ALL will run on your conventional computer).

In addition to viewing selected lessons, you may use all of the associated resources (which are .pdf documents, videos, or web links) and work with quizzes on your iPad. Full, total iPad capability!

While you will get your best viewing experience on your Flash-based standard computer, the Gold Seal Ground School now provides extensive iPad support. This gives you the access you need from nearly anywhere.