

## MFi Program

### How MFi Certification Works

Here is an overview of the steps required to create an MFi accessory, from conception to production.

#### 1. Product Plan

Submit a Product Plan for an accessory that integrates MFi licensed technology.

#### 2. Development

Design, develop, and test the accessory. Procure any MFi components as needed.

#### 3. Certification

Use Apple's certification tools to help ensure optimal user experience and interoperability. Submit production-ready samples and packaging materials for review.

#### 4. Mass Production

Upon completion of certification approved by Apple, begin manufacturing and sales.

### How to get started

Create an Apple ID using your company's domain name to complete the enrollment form, execute the online NDA, and submit the form. This Apple ID cannot be a shared company Apple ID. If you already have an Apple ID that uses your company's domain name, you do not need to create a new one. Visit [MFi Login Help](#) for more details.

Some of the information you will be asked to provide on the enrollment form:

A registered legal entity name

Address for the principal place of business or corporate headquarters. Post office boxes are not accepted.

Corporate domain name and website

Your work email address associated with the domain name

Company D-U-N-S number

Note: Your Apple ID must match your corporate email address that uses your company's domain name and is for your sole use. Department or generic email addresses such as "info@" or "developer@" are not permitted.

Once identity verification is completed and your enrollment form is approved, you will receive the MFi License Agreement for review and signature.

## Costs

What is the royalty associated with MFi accessories?

This information is only available under NDA. You will be able to review this information once your application for the MFi License has been approved.

Costs of membership?

The MFi Program is USD \$99 (plus any applicable taxes and fees) per membership year.

(Note that this is separate to the \$99 per year for the developer license needed to build apps on the Apple App Store)

Additional Costs?

There may be upfront costs associated with testing and getting the physical device approved. Sending samples to a test lab usually costs around \$600.

## Timeline

The registration process usually takes 1-4 weeks to complete, however once registered, we will be required to integrate an existing apple chip into our device to meet their standards. Once we've gathered all the necessary documentation and create a prototype with the apple chip, then we can submit these materials to a testing lab which will get back to us in around 3-7 business days, after which we can send the materials to apple for certification.

In short, it may take 3-4 weeks just for the back and forth, however this does not include the work of integrating the apple chip and matching the specifications, nor any potential failures during any steps of the process, which can turn this into a 2-3-month process.

## Why?

Our device is classified as an external accessory due to the nature of our Bluetooth protocol, which requires MFi certification. If we change our Bluetooth protocol to BLE, then we can avoid needing the MFi program, however that naturally comes with reduced speed due to the nature of the BLE protocol.

<https://developer.apple.com/documentation/externalaccessory>

## Additional Resources

<https://mfi.apple.com/>

<https://wandkey.com/how-to-get-mfi-certification/>

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/55136062/mfi-certification-for-bluetooth-classic-device>