

App Store Deployment Guide

Mobile Dev Guide · Module 6 of 8 · CHERIEDU Dev Series

1. Before You Submit

- App icon: 1024x1024px PNG (no transparency for iOS).
- App screenshots: Required for all device sizes in both stores.
- Privacy policy URL: Both stores require one.
- App description: Clear, keyword-rich, benefits-first language.
- Version number: Follows semantic versioning (1.0.0).

2. Google Play Store — Android Deployment

1. Create developer account at play.google.com/console (one-time \$25 fee).
2. Build release APK/AAB: `flutter build appbundle --release`
3. Sign the app: Create a keystore (NEVER lose this file!).
4. Create app in Play Console! Upload AAB.
5. Fill: Store listing, content rating, pricing, release notes.
6. Submit for review (usually approved within 1–3 days).

3. Apple App Store — iOS Deployment

1. Apple Developer account required: \$99/year at developer.apple.com.
2. Build in Xcode: `flutter build ios --release`
3. Archive and upload via Xcode Organizer.
4. Create app record in App Store Connect.
5. Fill: screenshots, description, age rating, pricing.
6. Submit for review (usually 1–2 days, can be longer).

4. Release Build Checklist

- Remove all debug print statements and test credentials.
- Environment variables point to production API, not local.
- ProGuard/R8 enabled for Android to obfuscate code.
- App tested on real devices (not just emulators).
- All API endpoints use HTTPS (not HTTP).
- Crash reporting tool integrated (Firebase Crashlytics).

5. Over-the-Air Updates

- CodePush (React Native) — update JS bundle without store review.
- Firebase Remote Config — change app behaviour without updates.
- Feature flags — enable/disable features for specific users.
- Flutter does not support OTA updates — all changes require a new store release.

MILESTONE

Build a release version of your CHERI SMS Flutter app. Generate a signed AAB file for Android. Test it on

a real Android device using adb install. You are now one step from the Play Store!

