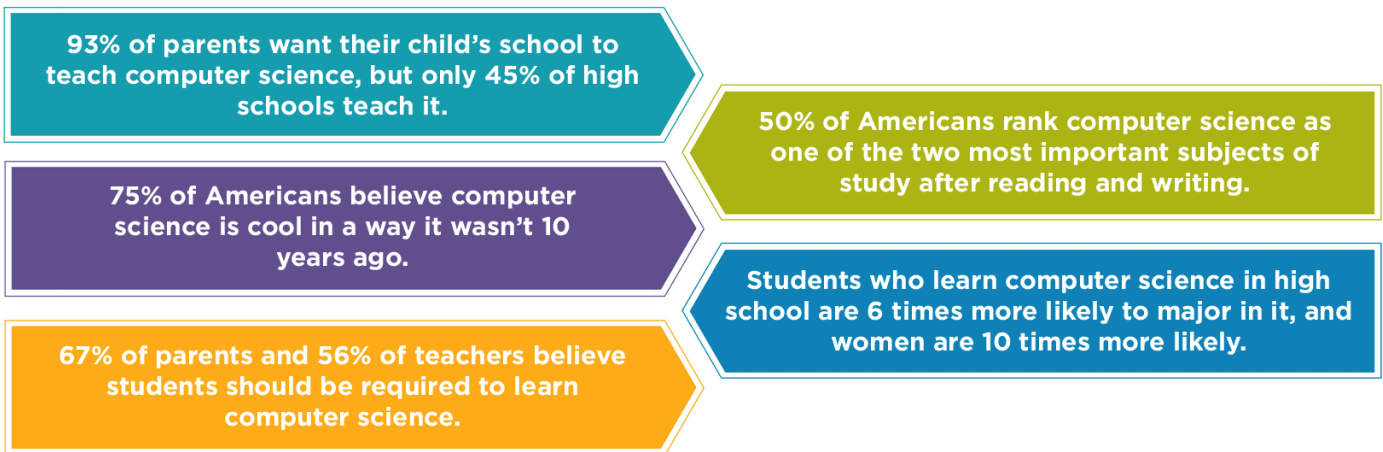
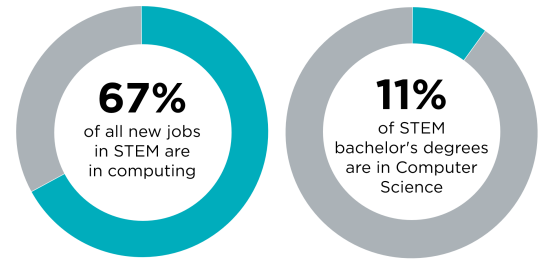


Support K-12 Computer Science Education in Georgia

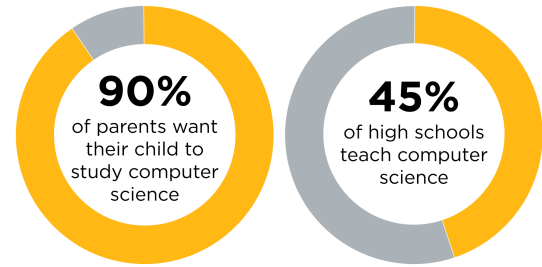
Computer science drives job growth and innovation throughout our economy and society. Computing occupations are the **number 1 source of all new wages in the U.S.** and make up over half of all projected new jobs in STEM fields, making Computer Science one of the most in-demand college degrees. And computing is used all around us and in virtually every field. It's foundational knowledge that all students need. But computer science is marginalized throughout education. Only 45% of U.S. high schools teach any computer science courses and only 11% of bachelor's degrees are in Computer Science. We need to improve access for all students, including groups who have traditionally been underrepresented.



Computer science in Georgia

- Georgia currently has **13,454 open computing jobs** (3.5 times the average demand rate in Georgia).
- The average salary for a computing occupation in GA is **\$93,862**, which is significantly higher than the average salary in the state (\$48,280). The existing open jobs alone represent a **\$1,262,819,069 opportunity** in terms of annual salaries.
- Georgia had only **2,730 bachelor's degrees in Computer Science** in 2018; only **22%** were female.
- In Georgia, only **52% of all public high schools teach a foundational computer science course**.
- Only **5,882 exams were taken in AP Computer Science by high school students** in Georgia in 2019 (2,257 took AP CS A and 3,625 took AP CSP).
- Only 29% were female (27% for AP CS A and 30% for AP CSP); only 508 exams were taken by Hispanic/Latino/Latina students (191 took AP CS A and 317 took AP CSP); only 680 exams were taken by Black/African American students (226 took AP CS A and 454 took AP CSP); only 11 exams were taken by Native American/Alaskan students (0 took AP CS A and 11 took AP CSP); only 6 exams were taken by Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students (2 took AP CS A and 4 took AP CSP).
- Only **195 schools** in GA (31% of GA schools with AP programs) offered an AP Computer Science course in 2018-2019 (21% offered AP CS A and 22% offered AP CSP), which is 18 more than the previous year. There are fewer AP exams taken in computer science than in any other STEM subject area.
- Teacher preparation programs in Georgia did not graduate a single new teacher prepared to teach computer science in 2018.
- According to a representative survey from Google/Gallup, school administrators in GA support expanding computer science education opportunities: 71% of principals surveyed think CS is just as or more important than required core classes. And their biggest barrier to offering computer science is the lack of funds for hiring and training teachers.

What can you do to support K-12 CS education in Georgia?



- Send a letter:
 - To your school/district asking them to expand computer science offerings at every grade level: www.code.org/promote/letter
 - To your elected officials asking them to support computer science education policy in Georgia: www.votervoice.net/Code/campaigns/58463/respond
- Find out if your school teaches computer science or submit information about your school's offerings at www.code.org/yourschool.
- Visit www.code.org/educate/3rdparty to find out about courses and curriculum from a variety of providers, including Code.org.

Who can you connect with locally to talk about K-12 CS education policy?

- You can reach Code.org's policy contact for your state, Amy Roberts, at amy.roberts@code.org.
- The Expanding Computing Education Pathways (ECEP) Alliance (www.ecepalliance.org), an NSF funded Broadening Participation in Computing Alliance, seeks to increase the number and diversity of students in computing and computing-intensive degrees by promoting state-level computer science education reform. ECEP supports 22 states and the territory of Puerto Rico to develop effective and replicable interventions to broaden participation in computing and to create state-level infrastructure to foster equitable computing education policies. You can reach your ECEP point of contact Bryan Cox at bcox@doe.k12.ga.us.

Code.org's impact in Georgia

- In Georgia, Code.org's curriculum is used in
 - 27% of elementary schools
 - 22% of middle schools
 - 25% of high schools
- There are 25,595 teacher accounts and 1,155,060 student accounts on Code.org in Georgia.
- Of students in Georgia using Code.org curriculum last school year,
 - 58% attend high needs schools
 - 34% are in rural schools
 - 44% are female students
 - 53% are students from marginalized racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in computer science (Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino/Latina, Native American/Alaskan, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander)
- Code.org, its regional partner(s) Georgia Tech Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing, and 12 facilitators have provided professional learning in Georgia for
 - 3,407 teachers in CS Fundamentals (K-5)
 - 124 teachers in Exploring Computer Science or Computer Science Discoveries
 - 144 teachers in Computer Science Principles

“Computer Science is a liberal art: it’s something that everybody should be exposed to and everyone should have a mastery of to some extent.”

— Steve Jobs

What can your state do to improve computer science education?

States and local school districts need to adopt a broad policy framework to provide all students with access to computer science. The following nine recommendations are a menu of best practices that states can choose from to support and expand computer science. Not all states will be in a position to adopt all of the policies. Read more about these 9 policy ideas at https://code.org/files/Making_CS_Fundamental.pdf and see our rubric for describing state policies at <http://bit.ly/9policiesrubric>.

State Plan - The Georgia Department of Education developed a state plan for expanding computer science in 2018. The plan includes strategies to build diversity in computer science education, which includes rural and economically challenged communities.

K-12 Standards - Although Georgia does not yet have a discrete set of rigorous computer science standards across K–12, K–8 computer science standards were adopted in 2019.

Funding - HB 793 (FY 2021) and HB 31 (FY 2020) appropriated \$656.5K and \$750K for the grant program established by SB 108 (FY 2019). HB 683 (FY 2018) appropriated \$500K for middle school coding and teacher professional development. In FY 2016, the Governor's Office of Student Achievement Innovation Funds allocated \$250K for the expansion of computer science.

Certification - In Georgia, teachers with existing licensure can obtain a 6–12 academic endorsement by passing the Georgia GACE Computer Science Assessment. An initial license in computer science requires completing a state-approved program.

Pre-Service Programs - The Georgia Department of Education has approved teacher preparation programs leading to certification in computer science and lists these programs publicly.

Dedicated State Position - The Georgia Department of Education has a Computer Science Education Program Specialist.

Require High Schools to Offer - SB 108 (2019) required all high schools to offer computer science beginning in the 2024–2025 school year. The state set incremental requirements for each year, requiring that at least one high school in each local school system offers a course by the 2022–2023 school year, and half of all high schools offer a course by the 2023–2024 school year. Further, all middle and elementary schools must offer instruction in exploratory computer science by the 2022–2023 school year.

Count Towards Graduation - Of the approved computing courses in Georgia, nine can count as the fourth mathematics credit or the fourth science credit for graduation.

IHE Admission -

Follow us!

Join our efforts to give every student in every school the opportunity to learn computer science. Learn more at code.org, or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Launched in 2013, Code.org® is a nonprofit dedicated to expanding access to computer science, and increasing participation by women and underrepresented youth. Our vision is that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science.

Data is from the Conference Board for job demand, the Bureau of Labor Statistics for state salary and national job projections data, the College Board for AP exam data, the National Center for Education Statistics for university graduate data, the Gallup and Google research study Education Trends in the State of Computer Science in U.S. K-12 Schools for parent demand, the 2018 Computer Science Access Report for schools that offer computer science, and Code.org for its own courses, professional learning programs, and participation data.