Support K-12 Computer Science Education in Indiana

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 35% of U.S. high schools teach any computer science courses and only 10% of STEM graduates study it. We need to improve access for all students, including groups who have traditionally been underrepresented.

93% of parents want their child’s school to teach computer science, but only 35% of high schools teach it.

75% of Americans believe computer science is cool in a way it wasn’t 10 years ago.

67% of parents and 56% of teachers believe students should be required to learn computer science.

50% of Americans rank computer science as one of the two most important subjects of study after reading and writing.

Students who learn computer science in high school are 6 times more likely to major in it, and women are 10 times more likely.

Computer science in Indiana

- Indiana currently has 4,863 open computing jobs (2.6 times the average demand rate in Indiana).
- The average salary for a computing occupation in IN is $75,109, which is significantly higher than the average salary in the state ($43,950). The existing open jobs alone represent a $365,257,207 opportunity in terms of annual salaries.
- Indiana had only 1,886 computer science graduates in 2017; only 21% were female.
- In Indiana, only 51% of all public high schools teach computer science.
- Only 1,743 exams were taken in AP Computer Science by high school students in Indiana in 2018 (823 took AP CS A and 920 took AP CSP).
- Only 22% were female (17% for AP CS A and 27% for AP CSP); only 133 exams were taken by Hispanic or Latino students (61 took AP CS A and 72 took AP CSP); only 62 exams were taken by Black students (28 took AP CS A and 34 took AP CSP); only 4 exams were taken by American Indian or Alaska Native students (3 took AP CS A and 1 took AP CSP); only 2 exams were taken by Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander students (2 took AP CS A and 0 took AP CSP).
- Only 93 schools in IN (22% of IN schools with AP programs) offered an AP Computer Science course in 2017-2018 (14% offered AP CS A and 15% offered AP CSP), which is 16 more than the previous year. There are fewer AP exams taken in computer science than in any other STEM subject area.
- Universities in Indiana only graduated 1 new teacher prepared to teach computer science in 2016.
According to a representative survey from Google/Gallup, school administrators in IN support expanding computer science education opportunities: 60% of principals surveyed think CS is just as or more important than required core classes. And one of their biggest barriers 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 Indiana?

1. Nominate a teacher for a professional learning scholarship: [www.code.org/nominate](http://www.code.org/nominate)
2. Send a letter:
   - To your school/district asking them to expand computer science offerings at every grade level: [www.code.org/promote/letter](http://www.code.org/promote/letter)
   - To your elected officials asking them to support computer science education policy in Indiana: [www.votervoice.net/Code/campaigns/58463/respond](http://www.votervoice.net/Code/campaigns/58463/respond)
3. Find out if your school teaches computer science or submit information about your school's offerings at [www.code.org/ysourschool](http://www.code.org/ysourschool).
4. Visit [www.code.org/educate/3rdparty](http://www.code.org/educate/3rdparty) to find out about courses and curriculum from a variety of providers, including Code.org.
5. Visit [www.code.org/promote/IN](http://www.code.org/promote/IN) to learn more about supporting computer science in your state.

Code.org's impact in Indiana

- In Indiana, Code.org’s curriculum is used in
  - 20% of elementary schools
  - 17% of middle schools
  - 17% of high schools
- There are 10,929 teacher accounts and 444,837 student accounts on Code.org in Indiana.
- Of students in Indiana using Code.org curriculum last school year,
  - 39% attend high needs schools
  - 40% are in rural schools
  - 44% are female students
  - 31% are underrepresented minority students (Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian, or Hawaiian)
- Code.org, its regional partner(s) Nextech, and 13 facilitators have provided professional learning in Indiana for
  - 2,373 teachers in CS Fundamentals (K-5)
  - 129 teachers in Exploring Computer Science or Computer Science Discoveries
  - 86 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.”
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](https://code.org/files/Making_CS_Fundamental.pdf) and see our rubric for describing state policies at [http://bit.ly/9policiesrubric](http://bit.ly/9policiesrubric).

- Indiana has created a state plan for K-12 computer science.
- Indiana has established K-12 computer science standards.
- Indiana has allocated funding for rigorous computer science professional development and course support.
- Indiana has clear certification pathways for computer science teachers.
- Indiana has established programs at institutions of higher education to offer computer science to preservice teachers.
- Indiana has a dedicated computer science position in the state education agency.
- Indiana requires that all secondary schools offer computer science.
- Indiana allows computer science to count as a core admission requirement at institutions of higher education.

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 students of color. 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.