

Computer Science Promise Request for Information (RFI)



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

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Computer Science Promise Request for Information (RFI)

Overview and Purpose

[Ohio House Bill 33](#) creates the Ohio Computer Science Promise (CS Promise) program. [ORC 3322.20](#) requires the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to develop a list of approved CS Promise program eligible providers and courses that the Department publishes annually, which is the purpose of this Request for Information (RFI). The Department is providing information about the criteria and process for establishing a list of providers and quality Computer Science courses. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, under the program, students in grades 7-12 can enroll, at no cost to the student, in one computer science course not offered by the student's secondary school per academic year and receive high school credit for the course.

Any student enrolled in a public secondary school may participate in the program if the student meets the applicable eligibility criteria. Any student enrolled in a nonpublic secondary school may participate in the program if the nonpublic school chooses to participate in the program. Students in grades seven and eight may participate in the program for high school credit if permissible under their district or school's advanced coursework policy.

Design Requirements

APPROVED PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY

Approved providers will deliver one or more of the courses listed in this document to students that attend secondary schools that do not offer these computer science courses. Educational providers with a track record of previously delivering technology and computer science course content are encouraged to apply. Providers must have solutions ready to deliver for the FY 25 school year beginning in August 2024. Providers must share all data and information created as part of this project, including criteria for schools to determine course grading. This is to include which [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#) were covered in the course.

Computer Science Courses

The result of this RFI includes a list of organizations that can deliver computer science courses that align to Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science as part of CS Promise. These courses should be appropriate in level and rigor for high school level courses. Organizations selected for the CS Promise will have evidence of success in computer science course delivery and evidence of positive impact on student achievement.

The following computer science subject codes and courses from the [Education Management Information System \(EMIS\)](#) are available for providers to apply to deliver:

290160 Website Development

This course includes planning, designing, and coding webpages to create dynamic, usable websites. Content includes web programming using common design tools (e.g., HTML, XML, CSS, web-based editors). Students study and use web-based protocols (e.g., SFTP, TCP/IP, HTTP, HTTPS). In addition, content includes using tag elements, working with graphics, hypertext links, graphical tables, and accessibility methods including Universal Design.

290170 Networking

In this course, students understand the concepts and use of network servers and devices (e.g., host, firewall, router, switch). Students understand the advantages and disadvantages of network models (e.g., peer-peer, client-server). Content addresses network design fundamentals including network type (e.g., LAN, WAN, MAN). Students also learn the application of network topologies (e.g., Star, bus, hybrid). At an advanced level, students design and build simple networks, understand server virtualization and network security.

290180 Computer Service

This course includes configuration, troubleshooting, and repair of network hardware, clients, and peripherals. In addition, the content should include installation of operating systems including updates, computer security, and customer service.

290200 Computer Programming

This course includes the study and use of programming languages (e.g., C++, C#, Java, Python).

290325 Specific Topics in Computer Science

This course provides a focused examination of specific computer science topics. For the CS Promise, this subject code would only be approved for courses focused on **Cybersecurity** and **Artificial Intelligence**.

101350 Robotics

Application of processes and knowledge in the design, development, and use of systems to manage and control devices. Products of student work in robotics may be descriptive and/or functional models of technology applications across all systems areas.

Request for Information (RFI): Details

ELIGIBLE PROVIDER APPLICANTS

Eligible provider applicants include Ohio's K-12 secondary schools, Institutions of Higher Education, and for-profit and not-for-profit organizations with the necessary content and qualifications to provide courses as described in this RFI.

The Department of Education and Workforce will establish an internal application review team with knowledge of K-12 computer science and education. The application review team will conduct an evaluation of applications based on the specific criteria listed in this RFI. Review team members will be free of any conflicts of interest for all assigned applications. Each eligible application will be reviewed and scored by each member of the review team.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION METHOD

Applicants are required to submit a completed application and any supporting documents to computerscience@education.ohio.gov, including answering all questions included in the RFI Application Template Form. The Department has provided an application template to assist in the organization of the information required in the application. [Use of the template is required.](#)

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Computer Science Promise Important Dates	
CS Promise RFI program provider application available	April 17, 2024
Provider application deadline	May 17, 2024 11:59 p.m.

The initial list of approved programs will be posted on the Department's website for the 2024-2025 (FY 25) school year.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

SECTION A: TECHNICAL REVIEW

Eligible applicants must complete fully the following technical and quality elements to be considered. All fields must be completed. This section of the application captures organizational information. Below is a list of the required information.

Information in Section A is for technical review only and will not be scored.

- 1. Name of Organization**
- 2. Address**
- 3. City, State, and Zip Code**
- 4. Phone**
- 5. Organization Email**
- 6. Name and Title of Authorized Contact**
- 7. Authorized Contact Address (if different from above)**
- 8. Authorized Contact City, State, and Zip Code**
- 9. Authorized Contact Phone**
- 10. Authorized Contact Email**
- 11. Organization Type (Select all that apply)**
- 12. Background checks.** Are background checks and other screening procedures performed for instructors/teachers? Please refer to [Ohio law](#) for information regarding background checks.
- 13. Number of schools the educational program can support during a school year**
- 14. Number of years the organization has been providing educational services**

SECTION B: QUALITY REVIEW

Information in Section B is for quality review and will be evaluated.

15. Executive Summary

16. Computer Science Course Offerings (Select all that apply)

For each course a provider is applying to add to the list, include subject code, a description of delivery, and a pacing guide or similar documentation showing course content and alignment to [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#). Make sure to explain what college and career skills, including industry certification, students have an opportunity to earn as part of these courses. *This information should be attached to the email when the application is submitted in addition to attaching the RFI Application template (See Appendix A).*

17. Course Delivery (Select all that apply).

Please briefly describe the delivery mode for each course offering selected in question number 16.

The following questions are scored as part of the quality review. *These questions do not need to be answered separately for each proposed course but from the perspective of the provider and with the overall goal of quality courses for Ohio students.* This includes an opportunity to expand on provider experience and capacity. These questions are answered directly in the RFI Application Template. Each of the questions in this section must be answered in 1500 characters or less.

18. Please describe how the coursework and programming aligns to [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#).

19. Please provide an overview and explanation of how the program is aligned with research on effective teaching and learning.

20. How will instruction be provided to students? What specific support is available for students?

21. Please outline and describe how the coursework/program is aligned with [High Quality Instructional Materials \(HQIM\)](#). Specifically, be sure to address how the program incorporates the following features:

- a. Standards-aligned instructional content.
- b. A coherent scope and sequence for grade-level lessons and unit plans.
- c. Evidence-based instructional strategies and embedded formative assessments that support data-driven instruction.
- d. Educative materials that provide implementation support for educators to ensure all students' learning needs are met.

22. Explain how the program provides and uses data to drive individualized instruction.

23. Describe prior experience as a provider of educational programming.

APPLICATION APPENDICES

Please attach Course Description appendices to RFI Application Submission email.

RUBRIC SCORING CRITERIA

The Department will use a [rubric to evaluate all applications](#). The CS Promise RFI Application has two components: technical and quality reviews. Applications that are missing the required appendix will not be scored. Applications missing one or more technical or quality review elements will not be scored. The first component is a technical review not scored as part of the provider and course evaluation. The second component is a quality review that will be scored by a team of reviewers.

The following components will be rated using a score of “0” to “4.” Following is a description of the score ratings:

Not Addressed/0 Points

The response is not provided.

Poorly Developed/1 Point

The response is significantly incomplete, missing required evidence, or otherwise raises substantial concerns about the viability of the plan or the applicant’s capacity to execute it.

Partially Developed/2 Points

The response meets less than half of the established criteria or contains substantial gaps in other areas.

Adequately Developed/3 Points

The response meets the established criteria.

Fully Developed/4 Points

The response demonstrates the applicant’s thorough understanding of key issues via specific and accurate information. The response presents a clear, realistic picture of how the applicant expects to operate and inspires confidence in the applicant’s capacity to execute the plan effectively.