

Computer Science Promise Program Request for Information (RFI)



Courses and Providers

2026 – 2027 Academic Year



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

Program Overview and Purpose

[The Computer Science \(CS\) Promise program](#) was established in 2023 by the Ohio General Assembly. 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 under the program](#).

- 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 under [ORC 3322.20](#) and their district or school's advanced coursework policy.

[ORC 3322.20](#) requires the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to annually publish a list of approved CS Promise program-eligible providers and courses. The Department has released this Request for Information (RFI) to gather information from eligible providers and courses to be offered under the CS Promise program. This RFI includes the eligibility criteria, available courses, and the application process for determining the list of providers and quality computer science courses.

Program Requirements and Design

Approved Provider Expectations

Approved providers will deliver one or more of the courses listed in this document to students who attend secondary schools that do not offer one or more of the listed computer science courses.

- Approved providers must be ready to deliver courses for the 2026-2027 school year in August 2026.
- Approved providers will share necessary data with schools and districts to determine awarding of credit as outlined in [ORC 3222.24](#).
- Approved providers will share all data and information created through participation in the CS Promise program, including criteria for schools to determine course grading, which [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#) were covered, enrollment data, and number of credits completed in the program

Approved providers for the CS Promise program can deliver computer science courses that align to [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#). The computer science courses should be appropriate in level and rigor for high school level courses. Approved providers will have evidence of success in computer science course delivery and evidence of positive impact on student achievement.

Computer Science Courses

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).

290210 Artificial Intelligence

In this course, students will learn the concepts, tools, and building blocks of artificial intelligence (AI). Specifically, the course should address AI components including perception, representation and reasoning, machine learning, natural interaction, and societal impacts. Students will learn about the use and inherent risks associated with AI.

290220 Cybersecurity Education

Students will be introduced to the components of cybersecurity and the role each plays in computing. The course will address security protocols and tactics for infrastructure, network, and system security, which lead to the prevention, detection, and mitigation of common vulnerabilities and attacks. Throughout this course, students will examine, test, and implement security safeguards.

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.

CS Promise Program RFI Details

The Department will publish a list of approved providers that can deliver computer science courses aligned to [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#). The details provided below includes eligibility criteria, application cycle timeline, and application components.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible providers who can apply for participation in the CS Promise program include:

- K-12 public schools;
- K-12 nonpublic schools;
- Educational service centers (ESCs);
- For-profit organizations;
- Nonprofit organizations; and
- Higher education institutions.

Educational providers with a track record of previously delivering technology and computer science course content are encouraged to apply.

Application Timeline

CS Promise Program Important Dates	Date
Application Period	May 01 – 22
CS Promise RFI and Application Webinar	May 06
CS Promise Application Review	May - June
2026 – 2027 CS Promise Program Provider List Release	July 2026

The list of approved providers and courses will be posted on the Department's [CS Promise webpages](#).

Application Submission Method

Eligible providers must submit a completed application and any supporting documentation to ComputerScience@education.ohio.gov by the end of the application period. **Use of the application template is required.**

- *New Applicants.* New applicants must submit the completed application template and any supporting documentation. **All questions must be answered**, including the technical review and quality review sections.
- *Returning Providers.* Returning providers **must complete the technical review section** of the application and indicate whether there are *no course changes or updates, course changes or updates, course additions, or course deletions*.
 - If there are course changes or additions, returning providers **must complete the quality review section** of the application.
 - If there are no course changes or course deletions, returning providers **do not need to complete the quality review section** of the application.

Application Review

A Department internal team will review submitted CS Promise provider applications. The internal application review team will:

- Have knowledge of K-12 computer science learning standards;
- High-quality instruction; and
- Ohio's educational landscape.

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 a minimum of 3 reviewers.

CS Promise Provider Application Components

Section A: Technical Review

Eligible applicants must **fully complete** the required technical review to be considered. 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 be scored on a pass/fail component.

*Applications that fail the technical review **will not** be scored based on the quality review.*

1. **Name of Organization**
2. **Address (include City, State, and Zip Code)**
3. **Phone**
4. **Organization Email**
5. **Name and Title of Authorized Contact**
6. **Authorized Contact Address (if different from above)**
7. **Authorized Contact City, State, and Zip Code**
8. **Authorized Contact Phone**
9. **Authorized Contact Email**
10. **Organization Type (Select all that apply)**
11. **Instructors.** *Will instructors or educators be provided for the courses included in the application?*
12. **Background checks.** *Providers **must** perform background checks and other screening procedures for instructors/educators to be considered for approval on the CS Promise Program Provider List. See [Ohio law](#) for information regarding background checks.*
13. **Number of schools the organization can support during a school year**
14. **Number of years the organization has been providing educational services**

Section B: Quality Review

Applicants must **fully complete** the quality review elements if reviewed. This section of the application captures information about the proposed courses and criteria aligned to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's priorities and initiatives.

Information in Section B is for quality review and will be evaluated using the included rubric. Quality review elements will be rated using the scores "0" to "4".

15. **Please provide an executive summary of the provider's application that includes a high-level overview of the proposal.**
16. **Computer Science Course Offerings (Select all that apply).** *For each course a provider is applying to add to the list, applications must 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](#). Providers should include the college and career readiness skills and industry certifications students have an opportunity to earn through the 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 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 provider application. Each of the questions in this section must be answered in 1,500 characters or less.

18. **Please describe how the coursework and programming align to [Ohio's High School Learning Standards for Computer Science](#).** Indicate whether the coursework and programming align with the Foundational Level or Advanced Level standards.
19. **Please provide an overview and explanation of how the program is aligned with research-based and evidence-based teaching and learning practices.**
20. **How will instruction be provided to students? What specific supports are 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:
 - Standards-aligned instructional content.
 - A coherent scope and sequence for grade-level lessons and unit plans.
 - Evidence-based instructional strategies and embedded formative assessments that support data-driven instruction.
 - 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 the organization’s prior experience as a computer science content provider. Please provide evidence of the organization’s successes in computer science course delivery. Describe any program evaluations that demonstrate positive impact on student achievement.**

Section C: Application Course Attachments

For each course, 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](#).

CS Promise Provider Application Evaluation

The CS Promise provider application has three components: technical review, quality review, and course attachments.

- Applications missing **one or more** technical review elements (Section A) **will not be scored**.
- Applications missing **one or more** quality review elements (Section B) **will not be scored, if required**.
- Applications that are missing the required course attachments (Section C) **will not be scored**.

The technical review is evaluated as a **pass/fail component**. The quality review will be evaluated using a rubric by the Department team of reviewers. The quality review elements will be rated using a score of “0” to “4.” The description for each of the score ratings are below.

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 but is lacking details on how the response would be implemented effectively.

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.