

Computer Science

1. **Purpose:** The purpose/objective of this program is to coordinate Washington’s work with ongoing national computer science standards and framework development and to coordinate computer science and education grants authorized by SSB 5883.
2. **Description of services provided:** Leadership, guidance, resource development, professional development, and program management ensuring achievement of state learning goals related to computer science for all Washington students. Work with schools and districts to support the implementation of K–12 Computer Science Learning Standards, including cross-subject connections and development and/or identification of professional learning and technical assistance.
3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

Beneficiaries in 2017-18 School Year:

of School Districts: All districts statewide
 # of Schools: All schools statewide
 # of Students: All schools statewide
 Other: AESD, Universities, Next Gen WA, Higher Education, Code.org, TechStart, education and Industry partners, OSPI Internal partners (Social Studies, Art, Math, etc.), PESB, and other agency’s as applicable to work.

of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 01
 # of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 00

FY18 Funding: State Appropriation: \$117,000
 Federal Appropriation: \$0.0
 Other fund sources: \$0.0
 TOTAL (FY18) \$117,000

4. Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding? If yes, explain. No
5. State funding history:

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY18	\$117,000	\$117,000
FY17	\$117,000	\$113,422
FY16	\$122,000	\$109,222

6. Number of beneficiaries (e.g., schools, students, districts) history:

Fiscal Year	# of Beneficiaries
FY18	# of School Districts: All districts statewide # of Schools: All schools statewide # of Students: All schools statewide Other: AESD, Universities, Next Gen WA, Higher Education, Code.org, TechStart, education and Industry partners, OSPI Internal partners (Social Studies, Art, Math, etc.), PESB, and other agency's as applicable to work.

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):** New learning standards were adopted in 2016 and an update for 2018 is in progress.

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:** The number of high schools offering AP Computer Science in Washington has grown substantially from 14 schools in 2011 to 98 schools in 2017.* Simultaneously, the number of students taking the AP Computer Science exam has grown from 1,048 students in 2014 to 1,900 students in 2017. Among those, 73% earned a score consistent with college credit, up from 66% in 2014. While there has been progress, less than 15% of high schools offer AP computer science. Support to schools and districts to increase curriculum opportunities for students in computer science is still a need. While there has been an increase in the percentage of students, the number is still too low to meet workforce needs.

* WA State STEM Education Innovation Alliance, [2018 STEM Education Report Card](#).

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:** A staff person was hired to lead the work; however, no funds were provided for professional development to implement the Computer Science standards. In addition, funding for administrative assistance was not part of the original fiscal note, and the agency has subsequently determined that administrative assistance is needed to support the work. A .5 FTE administrative support person is needed.

10. **Future opportunities:** Leadership for computer science education is consistent with the state's focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) opportunities to prepare students for Washington jobs and careers. With the Legislature's continued funding for computer science grants in FY18 and FY19, and the implementation of new computer science standards, the need for state coordination and leadership remains vital.

11. **Statutory and/or Budget language:**
 Budget Proviso: SSB 5883 Section 501(32) - \$117,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2018 and \$117,000 of the general fund-state appropriation for fiscal year 2019 are provided solely for professional implementation of chapter 3 (SHB No. 1813), Laws of 2015 1st sp. Sess. (computer science).

12. **Other relevant information:** None

13. List of schools/districts receiving assistance: See OSPI [website](#).

14. Program Contact Information:

Shannon L. Thissen, MEd
Computer Science Program Supervisor
Learning and Teaching
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
P.O. Box 47200 | 600 Washington St. SE
Olympia, WA 98504-7200
office: 360-725-6092 | cell: 253-686-9299
shannon.thissen@k12.wa.us