Creative Thinkers Wanted

The Power of Computer Science

The Innovation Engine
Wherever you look in today's world, computer science is there. From 3-D animation to medicine, fashion, engineering, visual design, finance, music production, statistical analysis, and much more, computer science powers the technology, productivity, and innovation that drives the world.

Ideas Come to Life
AP® Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) helps you understand how computing and technology influence the world around you. As part of this course, you’ll create digital projects, such as videos and mobile apps, to address real-world issues in the same way that writers, programmers, engineers, and designers would. Students will conceive and implement digital projects, utilizing some of the same processes that writers, programmers, engineers, designers, and other creators use to bring their ideas to life.

AP CSP students have created projects like:
- A travel app to plan what clothes to pack based on the destination’s weather
- A program that identifies threats to cybersecurity and ways to use the internet to address them
- An educational app that helps children learn their ABCs

Beyond Computing
AP CSP can prepare you for success not only in computer science majors and careers but also in other fields and interests. For example, computer science skills can help you:
- Create apps to track health data and provide real-time suggestions for ways to live healthier
- Program models and experiments that aid in answering biology, physics, and sociology questions
- Design and create robots to assist in fields like manufacturing, surgery, research, and transportation
- Create tools that allow people to collect money for important causes they care about
Why CSP?

You don’t need to know coding or have computer science experience to be successful in AP CSP. Algebra I is the only recommended prerequisite. Students who took AP CSP say that it:

→ Allows them the freedom to pursue their passion
→ Prepares them for many different jobs
→ Enables them to investigate computing innovations
→ Provides an opportunity to work together with classmates to solve problems

“AP Computer Science Principles opened my mind to just about everything. I learned that computer science and programming is not just for some people—it’s for anybody.”

—Mikiyah Smith, Sophomore

“I think the students liked the use of creativity. They liked the relevance and the ability to research things that excited them.”

—Barbara Froehlich
AP Computer Science Principles Teacher

Create the Future

Ask a school counselor or AP coordinator whether AP Computer Science Principles will be offered at your school and how to enroll.

For more information, visit collegeboard.org/CSP