Computer Science Education in Louisiana: Frequently Asked Questions

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This document answers general questions about computer science education in Louisiana and the implementation of the K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science.

Louisiana K-12 Student Standards for Computer Science

How were the standards created?

The K-12 Computer Science Standards Writing Committee, which included parents, university professors, business and industry leaders, students, school administrators, and teachers, developed the standards collaboratively from May to August 2024. Using the Louisiana Computer Science Framework as the foundational structure, the committee worked in three grade-band groups and consulted existing computer science standards. On August 27, 2024, a nine-member steering committee representing all grade bands endorsed the K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science.

Where can the standards be found online?

The K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science are available on the Louisiana Department of Education's Computer Science web page.

What is the timeline for standards implementation?

Starting in the 2025-2026 school year, educators, schools, and systems will use the standards to build understanding and develop system-level plans. Implementation will continue in the 2026-2027 school year as systems integrate computer science into existing coursework and introduce new courses where appropriate. Full implementation is expected in the 2027-2028 school year.

What additional support can schools expect from the LDOE for computer science integration?

School systems should consult the Louisiana K-12 Computer Science Education Plan for guidance on next steps and tools for preparing system-level computer science implementation.

Computer Science Certification

Is computer science certification required to teach computer science courses?

According to Bulletin 741, computer science certification is required to teach Computer Science I and II. Teachers identified to teach one of the other computer education course offerings at the high school level must hold a valid Louisiana secondary certificate or CTTIE certificate in any area and demonstrate sufficient technology proficiencies to teach the course. The school system and school shall ensure that teachers have the necessary technology knowledge and skills to teach the course.

What are the requirements for teachers to become certified in computer science?

Bulletin 746 - Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel outlines the options for Grade 6-12 teachers to add a Computer Science endorsement to a valid secondary teaching certificate.

Teacher Training Opportunities

What training opportunities are available to teachers to enhance their computer science instruction?

For teachers in grades 6-12, the LDOE offers no-cost Praxis (5652) exam preparation through the Energize Project. This professional training prepares currently licensed teachers for the Praxis Computer Science Content Exam (5652) needed to add 6-12 Computer Science to their Louisiana teaching license.

The Ignite Initiative prepares K-5 teachers to instruct students in computer science. This professional training strengthens teachers' ability to connect existing content areas with computational thinking practices and the K-5 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science.

General Information

What are effective ways to stay up-to-date on new information related to computer science?

School leaders and educators can find ongoing guidance on the LDOE Computer Science web page, in LDOE Newsletters, and during the monthly Office of Teaching and Learning Call.