## Professional Learning Program for CS Discoveries: FAQs



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## What is Code.org's Professional Learning Program?

Code.org collaborates with Regional Partners across the country to suppport and expand computer science learning to all students in all schools. Together with your local Regional Partner, we are pleased to offer you the opportunity to apply to Code.org's Professional Learning Program for Computer Science (CS) Discoveries, a year-long professional development experience.

Code.org's CS Discoveries course is designed to broaden participation in computer science for 7th - 9th grade students. Visit the <u>Code.org's middle school curriculum page</u> to learn more about CS Discoveries, including a Curriculum Syllabus and Code.org's Professional Learning Program overview.

## What am I committing to by joining the Professional Learning Program?

While your Regional Partner has established a partnership with us, we also require that all participating teachers personally commit to the year-long Professional Learning Program, and that their participation is approved and supported by their school administration.

#### **Teacher commitments**

By completing this application, you are agreeing to participate in the following professional development experiences:

- One five-day summer workshop in 2017 (reasonable travel, lodging and meal expenses will be covered for participants). Dates and locations will be shared in the application.
- Four one-day local workshops during the 2017-18 school year (usually held on Saturdays). Meals and course materials will be provided. Dates and locations will be determined by your local Regional Partner.
- 20 hours of online professional development during the 2017-18 school year

#### You are also agreeing to:

- Teach the course in a school served by one of Code.org's Regional Partners.
- Work with your administration to ensure CS Discoveries is offered on your school's master schedule in 2017-18.
- Support the recruitment and enrollment of a diverse group of students in your CS Discoveries course(s), representative of the school's overall student population

## What is my school administration committing to in this program?

By approving a teacher's application to join Code.org's Professional Learning Program for CS Discoveries, the administration is agreeing to:

- Include CS Discoveries on the school's 2017-18 master schedule.
- Support the recruitment and enrollment of a diverse group of students in the course, representative of the school's overall student population.
- Have the teacher who joins the Professional Learning Program teach CS Discoveries in 2017-18.

## What technology does my school need to teach this course?

The technical requirements to teach Code.org's CS Discoveries course are:

- Code.org website and emails are whitelisted (not blocked by a district's firewall).
- Computer lab with 1:1 computers set up so that group work is possible OR an additional non-computer classroom that the teacher can use for group work.
- Code.org supports the following combinations of operating systems and browsers:

Chrome 33.x and higher	<ul><li>- XP &amp; Windows 7 and higher</li><li>- Mac OS 10.6 and higher</li><li>- Android 4.1.2 and higher</li></ul>
Safari 7.0.x and higher	- Mac OS 10.6 and higher - iOS 7.x and higher
Internet Explorer 9, 10, 11	- Windows 7 and higher - Mac OS 10.6 and higher
Firefox 25.x and higher	- Windows 7 and higher

## What expenses are covered in the Professional Learning Program?

#### **Summer Conference Expenses**

If accepted to Code.org's Professional Learning Program, Code.org will pay for relevant travel, accomodation and meal expenses for your summer conference. Upon acceptance to the program, additional information will be provided so that you can plan your travel.

#### **Local Quarterly Workshop Expenses**

Meals and course materials will be provided to participants who attend the local quarterly workshops. Your Regional Partner will schedule and lead these workshops, and will provide more details.

# I was trained to teach Exploring Computer Science. Can I apply for the Professional Learning Program this year?

The answer to this primarily depends on which course you're applying for. For **CS Discoveries**, we are focusing our support during this first year of the program on teachers who do not have Computer Science course in their school, so we are not able to offer you a space in the program this year. If your school is committed to offering **CS Discoveries** in 2017-18, you are able to apply for this Professional Learning Program this year.

## When are applications available?

Applications for the Professional Learning Program will be available online January 5 - March 17, 2017. All application materials, including the teacher application and the principal approval form, must be submitted by March 17, 2017.

## What are the application questions?

You can review the <u>application questions</u> in advance to make sure you have all of the information you need.

## How do I apply?

- 1. To apply, follow these steps:
  - a. Review the overview of <u>CS Discoveries and the Code.org Professional Learning Program</u> to make sure the course and the program are the right fit for you and your school.
  - b. Set aside approximately 15 minutes to complete the application.
  - c. Make sure you're able to receive emails from <a href="teacher@code.org">teacher@code.org</a> and <a href="hadi\_partovi@code.org">hadi\_partovi@code.org</a> at the email address you will use for your application. If

- this address is blocked by your district's firewall, please contact the appropriate IT representative at your school or district to whitelist this address.
- d. Complete your online application! Note: only electronic applications will be reviewed.
- e. Remind your principal to look for the principal approval message in his or her email, and to complete the approval form as soon as possible. Your principal may also need to whitelist emails from <a href="mailto:teacher@code.org">teacher@code.org</a> and <a href="mailto:hadi\_partovi@code.org">hadi\_partovi@code.org</a>. Your application will not be considered complete until your principal submits the approval form (due on March 17, 2017).

## When will I find out if I'm accepted to the program?

You should expect to receive a status update from Code.org within three weeks of submitting your application. Due to the volume of applications we will receive, we are not able to respond to individual requests for status updates. However, if you need to change or withdraw your application, or if you have additional questions, please contact <a href="mailto:teacher@code.org">teacher@code.org</a>. We look forward to reviewing your application!

## I still have questions! Who can I contact?

We're here to help! Please email teacher@code.org.