Spring 2019

Hello, and welcome to the Code.org family!

Over the next year you will be part of a new wave of facilitators leading Code.org Professional Learning workshops for teachers in classrooms around the country. Thanks to leaders like you, teachers and students will have more opportunities for a meaningful and rich introduction to computer science than ever before.

The Facilitator Development Program you're about to embark on will help you develop the content knowledge, facilitation practices, and supportive peer network needed to successfully lead Code.org workshops. With your guidance, teachers will leave the Professional Learning Program ready to prepare their students with deep understanding of the ways computer science shapes our world.

We'll be in touch with more information about your Facilitator Development program throughout the spring as we approach your summer training. In the meantime, please check out the enclosed digital resources to learn more about the role of your Regional Partner, your role as a facilitator, the Code.org team, important dates, and more!

Inside, you'll find:

1. **Your Year at a Glance**: mark your calendar for two important upcoming webinars and check out what's in store
2. **Your Regional Partner and You**: learn more about working with your Regional Partner
3. **Intro to the Deeper Learning Program**: an overview outlining the phases of the Deeper Learning Program
4. **Intro to the Professional Learning Program**: learn more about the year-long teacher program
5. **Meet the Code.org Team**: learn more about the team that will support your development this year and beyond!

Thank you again for all of your hard work and dedication. We are so excited to start working with you!

Sarah Fairweather
Education Team Program Manager
Code.org

Your Year at a Glance

Important Dates

Please mark your calendars for the following webinars:

Facilitator Development Program Kick-off Call	Summer Workshop Prep Call
Join us for the first of two hour-long webinars as we welcome you to the program, provide an overview of the program, discuss your role as a Code.org facilitator, and give you the opportunity to meet some of your fellow facilitators! **When:** Tuesday, May 7th, 8:00 pm ET / 5:00 pm PT **Recording:** bit.ly/apprentice-kickoff-recording-2019	During this call, you'll learn more about your 5-day summer workshop and what to expect during your Facilitator in Training (FiT) Workshop. We'll also provide specific guidance about the role you'll play during your 5-day summer workshop. **When:** Thursday, May 23rd, 7:00 pm ET / 4:00 pm PT **Recording:** bit.ly/apprentice-prep-recording-2019

Your Year at a Glance

Spring 2019	Summer 2019	Fall - Winter 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020
• Join the Code.org Facilitator Development Program • Attend Facilitator Development Program Kick-off Call • Attend Summer Workshop Prep Call	• Attend 5-day Local Summer Workshop • Attend 2.5-day FiT Workshop • Complete Summer Reflection Questions	• Facilitate Academic Year Workshops locally, in partnership with your Regional Partner • Complete Deeper Learning Reflections • Participate in Facilitator Chats • Complete Fall and Winter Check-in Surveys	• Attend training event(s) hosted by Code.org to prepare for facilitating 5-day Local Summer Workshop	• Facilitate 5-day Local Summer Workshop in your region.

Your Regional Partner and You

The Role of Your Regional Partner

Code.org, facilitators, and Regional Partners work closely together to support teachers in Code.org's Professional Learning Programs. Regional Partners are charged with building and supporting computer science hubs in their communities, and work diligently to recruit districts, administrators, and teachers for Code.org's programs.

As a facilitator, you will work throughout the year with your Regional Partner to support effective, engaging workshops for the teachers in your cohort. Regional Partners will drive teacher recruitment and communication, as well as all the logistics involved in organizing and hosting workshops, so that you and your co-facilitator can focus on planning for and delivering high-quality workshops. The strongest partner-facilitator relationships we've seen are those that prioritize regular communication and collaboration, so we encourage you and your Regional Partner to start getting to know each other as soon as possible.

Your Regional Partner will also manage your compensation for leading workshops during the 2019-20 school year, as well as the local five-day summer workshop in 2020. Please send any questions you have about workshop compensation processes and agreements to your Regional Partner.

Your Role as a Facilitator

You're starting the 2019-20 Facilitator Development program as an **apprentice facilitator**. This means that you have previously participated in the Code.org Professional Learning Program.** We will discuss your role as an apprentice facilitator during your upcoming summer kick-off call (see Your Year at a Glance for more details). In the meantime, please review the [Participation Agreement](#) you received when you were accepted to the program.

Once you complete the five-day workshop as an apprentice, you will attend the FiT Workshop where your designation as an apprentice disappears - at that point, you will be a Code.org lead facilitator! The FiT Workshop will be your opportunity to dive into Code.org's facilitation process and resources, and to begin to prepare to co-lead academic year workshops in your region. Note that attending the FiT Workshop will not prepare you to lead a 2019 five-day summer workshop, so if you are requested to do so by a Regional Partner, please let us know.

If you have **not** participated in the Code.org Professional Learning Program for the course you are facilitating for, please contact facilitators@code.org so we can update your status.

Intro to the Deeper Learning Program

Background

It's important for facilitators from all backgrounds to be able to develop proficiency with the Code.org curriculum and practice sharing that knowledge with teachers. To aid that goal, we've developed the Deeper Learning Program, which is a framework to help you become comfortable addressing the types of questions we commonly get from teachers during workshops. The Deeper Learning Program is required for all facilitators who have joined the 2019-2020 Facilitator Development Program.

Why Deeper Learning?

As part of workshop preparation, completing the Deeper Learning Reflections allows you to develop a sense of the types of curriculum-focused questions you will need to answer as a Code.org facilitator. It also helps Code.org better understand aspects of the curriculum that facilitators might need more support with. Code.org will use your Deeper Learning reflections as one indicator of your development throughout the year, and your readiness to co-lead your local five-day summer workshops the following summer.

What is the Process?

At a high level, the Deeper Learning Plan for facilitators can be broken into three stages:

|	
Step 1: *Understanding the Curriculum*	**The facilitator studies and gains an understanding of the curriculum. This step can be done alone or with a partner.** An example process is: ● Read and work through the lessons ● Use provided reflection prompts to do a gut check of understanding ● Seek help through office hours or on the forum for topics that are unclear
Step 2: *Demonstrate Understanding*	**The facilitator demonstrates that understanding of the curriculum.** This step must be done on your own. ● **Complete and submit the provided reflection prompts for a given unit.** All deeper learning reflections will be evaluated by a member of the lead review team of experienced facilitators. Feedback will be provided by the lead reviewer.
Step 3: *Grow Community of Knowledge*	**The facilitator reviews peers' submissions.** Once you have completed your own reflections for a given unit, you can review the reflections submitted by your peers and provide feedback on their reflections.

We will cover information about the Deeper Learning Program, such as how to write and submit reflections, complete peer reviews, and receive payment related to Deeper Learning in much further detail over the summer, during your FIT Workshop.

The Code.org Professional Learning Program

Whether teachers are new to teaching computer science (CS) or have experience teaching other CS courses, the Code.org Professional Learning Program is designed to promote growth by providing space for them to become comfortable with curricular materials, CS content, and pedagogy. The program supports teachers with diverse teaching backgrounds as they prepare to teach either of the following courses:

- **Computer Science Discoveries:** an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. The curriculum is recommended for middle and high school students (grades 6-10), and can be taught either as a semester or full-year offering.

- **Computer Science Principles (can be taught as an AP® course):** also an introductory course that requires no computer science background (from students or teachers). We recommend it for 9th-12th grade students with stronger reading and writing skills. More than a traditional introduction to programming, it is a rigorous, engaging, and approachable course that explores many of the foundational ideas of computing so all students understand how these concepts are transforming the world we live in.

Our curriculum supports teachers new to the discipline with a complete set of lesson plans that include inquiry-based activities, videos, assessment support, and educational tools.
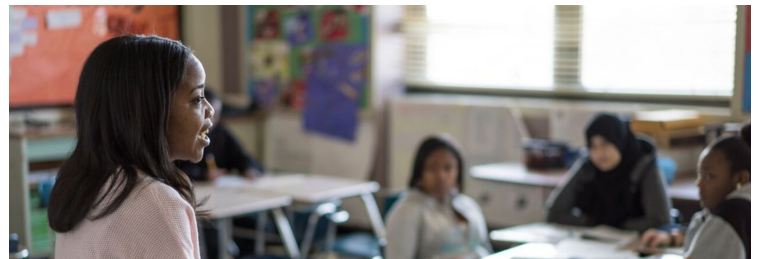
Professional Learning Program features:

- **One cohesive set of resources:** Our professional learning and curriculum flow seamlessly together, empowering teachers to deliver the course with confidence. In-person workshops combine with online tools to provide participants with a broad selection of resources to help them plan ahead for implementing the course in their classrooms, while also collaborating with other educators.

- **Teaching and learning in context:** Participants will engage with the curriculum both as instructors and as learners. By experiencing the course content as an active learner, participants will gain important, concrete insight into the perspective their students will have during the academic year. By interacting with curriculum content as instructors, participants will learn how to plan and deliver lessons.

- **A collaborative, participant-centric approach:** Teachers and facilitators will have the opportunity to share their expertise from the field and collaborate on strategies to bring to the CS Principles and CS Discoveries classrooms, giving participants a chance to learn from everyone in the room. Facilitators model pedagogical strategies and participants share their own approaches by planning and delivering lessons.

Intro to the Professional Learning Program

Program Commitments:

The Code.org Professional Learning Program has both in-person and online supports designed to prepare teachers before and during their first year teaching CS Principles or CS Discoveries.

Timeline:

Summer Workshop	Ongoing Support
Summer	**School Year (September - June)**
• 5-day in-person session (travel may be required)	• 4 in-person sessions (usually on Saturdays; virtual options available) • Continued professional development and resources

Summer Workshop:

Participants kick off the Professional Learning Program with a 5-day workshop where they explore the curriculum and learning tools, discuss classroom management and teaching strategies, and build a community of teachers. With a focus on a customized experience, participants will develop skills while working in small groups to deepen their understanding of the materials.

Ongoing Support:

Participants attend local, 1-day follow up workshops throughout the academic year. These meetings are hosted by Code.org Regional Partners and run by local, Code.org-trained facilitators (YOU!). The workshops focus on the essential elements of the course, such as teaching new content, keeping the classroom environment equitable and engaging, and continue to build pedagogical strategies.

In addition, all teachers have access to the Code.org forum, an online professional learning community that offers continued support with tools and content, introduces new and helpful resources for teaching the course, and lets teachers continue to explore the curriculum.

Meet the Code.org Team!

We're here to support your development as a Code.org facilitator this year and beyond!

Sarah Fairweather

Education Program Manager, Middle and High School Programs
Areas of Focus:
- Systems and structures to allow our teacher and facilitator development programs to be engaging, meaningful, and impactful
- Team development

Fun Fact: I started my career as a first-grade teacher, where the only computer in my classroom came from a garage sale and took 10 minutes to boot up each day.

Andrea Robertson-Nottingham

Facilitator Development Specialist, Middle and High School Programs
Areas of Focus:
- 1-on-1 and small group facilitator support, including hosting bi-weekly Facilitator Chats
- Managing Deeper Learning program

Fun Fact: I first started programming when my dad brought home a Commodore 64 for Christmas.

Jordyn Seni

Program Associate, Middle and High School Programs
Areas of Focus:
- General teacher and facilitator support. You might hear from me if you're writing to teacher@code.org or facilitators@code.org :)
- Survey and evaluation for our middle and high school courses

Fun Fact: I learned how to code in 6th grade when I joined my middle school's robotics team.

Amy Cox

Program Associate, Middle and High School Programs
Areas of Focus:
- Emails! Newsletters! Updates! You read 'em, I send 'em (mostly on behalf of Sarah and the team).
- Manages collateral and website content related to our middle and high school courses, and the associated professional learning opportunities

Fun Fact: In my 2.5 years at Code.org, I have sent over 19,000 emails.

Brook Osborne

Professional Learning Program Manager
Areas of Focus:
- Professional Learning expansion and improvement. I work with our stakeholders to identify unmet and new needs that our program should support, then pilot solutions.
- Developing resources to prepare facilitators for leading virtual and in-person workshops.

Fun Fact: I starting working on the development of the AP CS Principles course in 2011 as part of the College Board's original pilot.

Jessica Baker

Professional Learning Specialist
Areas of Focus:
- Updating existing and create new workshop experiences for teachers in Code.org Professional Learning Programs
- Supporting Code.org facilitators at development events

Fun Fact: Before teaching my first computer science class, I used the Code.org curriculum to learn the basics of computer science.

Kaitie O'Bryan

Professional Learning Specialist
Areas of Focus:
- Working with Brook and Jessica on all things related to professional learning.

Fun Fact: I have been facilitating Code.org CS Principles workshops since 2016, but I'm looking forward to joining the team as a full time staff member this summer!