**Blue Waters Petascale Semester Curriculum v1.0**

**Unit 1: Computation Across the Curriculum**

**Lesson 1: Introduction to Parallel Computing**

**Sample Assessment**

*Developed by Beau Christ for the Shodor Education Foundation, Inc.*



*Except where otherwise noted, this work by The Shodor Education Foundation, Inc. is licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0. To view a copy of this license, visit*[*https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0*](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0)

*Browse and search the full curriculum at*[*http://shodor.org/petascale/materials/semester-curriculum*](http://shodor.org/petascale/materials/semester-curriculum)

*We welcome your improvements! You can submit your proposed changes to this material and the rest of the curriculum in our GitHub repository at*[*https://github.com/shodor-education/petascale-semester-curriculum*](https://github.com/shodor-education/petascale-semester-curriculum)

*We want to hear from you! Please let us know your experiences using this material by sending email to* [*petascale@shodor.org*](mailto:petascale@shodor.org)

1. How is **parallel programming** different from **sequential programming**?
2. How does a **multi-core computer** attempt to improve performance as compared to a **single-core computer**?
3. What is **High Performance Computing (HPC)**?
4. What is [www.top500.org](http://www.top500.org) ?