# Can a Computer Scientist Find a Role in the Field of Education?

In almost every industry, computers play a vital role, and a computer scientist in education is able to develop systems and programs to benefit students, teachers, and administrators. From curriculum delivery to managing information, computer scientists can find a variety of positions within the education industry.

# The Role of a Computer Scientist

Completing a computer science degree prepares graduates to manage several different types of projects. The role of a computer scientist is largely dependent on the position and industry in which he or she is working; however, the fundamental responsibilities often include development of software and applications to solve problems or perform tasks.  [Skills](http://www.computer.org/web/careers) that a computer scientist should have include communication, logical thinking, critical and creative thinking, mathematical aptitude, and an understanding of coding.

# Positions in Education for Computer Science Professionals

Within the field of education, computers and software are used for a number of different tasks in order to support student learning, staff development, and instructional delivery. School districts at the primary and secondary levels as well as colleges and universities employ professionals for a number of information technology positions. A computer science degree helps candidates to meet the qualifications for these types of positions.

Many of the [job position possibilities in education](http://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=46) will involve curriculum design, incorporating various elements of online instructional delivery for alternative programs or to enhance in-seat instruction. This continues to grow in demand as more and more facets of education rely on online delivery. Information security is also a necessity in order to keep student records private and to manage and protect networks. This is particularly essential when working with students to ensure that none of their information is released that might compromise safety.

Another option for a computer science graduate pursuing a job in education is to teach computer science courses. With a bachelor’s degree, computer science graduates have options for obtaining alternative certification to teach middle and high school classes. Additionally, completion of a master’s degree is often the main qualification required to find a position teaching at the community college or undergraduate university level.

# Degree Specializations and Training

There are a number of options for computer science students to consider when determining a specialization to concentrate course work. Although options for specialization vary by institution, some of the common options include mobile and internet computing, software theory, biocomputing, and artificial intelligence. Some specializations are helpful for gaining knowledge and skill that are particularly beneficial in various education positions. These specializations include human and computer interaction, information management, data analytics, and information security.

In each specialization, future [computer science](http://www.computersciencedegreehub.com/faq/important-computer-scientist-people-skills/) professionals are able to develop the skills needed to support students at all phases of learning from early childhood education to post-secondary study. Whether working directly with materials for delivery of instruction to students or developing programs for data management of records and other information, a computer scientist in education is able to become a part of the rewarding field of education.