



EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES

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More states are including computer science in high school graduation requirements

Computer science knowledge and coding skills are in high demand in today's workplace, and this demand is expected to continue growing.

To encourage districts to offer high school computer science coursework -- and to encourage students to complete computer science classes -- some states have amended high school graduation requirements to either allow or require computer science to fulfill math, science or foreign language course requirements.

A new [Education Trends report](#) from Education Commission of the States highlights what states are doing to address the need for quality computer science and coding education.

"Education Commission of the States has been working with policymakers across the U.S. as they focus on making computer science education more accessible to high school students," said Jennifer Dounay Zinth, director of ECS' STEM and High School institutes. "This is a significant aspect of ensuring a broader array of students have the opportunities they deserve to complete computer science credits and have it count toward a high school diploma."

Some highlights from this report:

- Fourteen states require a student to be allowed to fulfill a math, science or foreign language credit for high school graduation by completing a computer science course.
- Two states - Arizona and California - don't require computer science to be recognized statewide as fulfilling graduation requirements, though districts may allow computer science courses to apply toward math requirements.
- At least four states -- Louisiana, Massachusetts, Texas and Virginia -- award a special diploma, endorsement or other recognition to high school graduates who have earned certain computer science credits.

For questions, contact ECS Director of Communications Amy Skinner at askinner@ecs.org or (303) 299. 3609.