Your Question:

You asked about states requiring computer science or data science as a graduation requirement.

Our Response:

In recent years, many states have added provisions concerning computer science to their high school graduation requirements. Education Commission of the States has conducted a **50-State Comparison on high school graduation requirements**, last updated in 2019. The comparison includes a metric on **state course requirements for high school graduation** that you may find useful when looking at computer science as part of state graduation requirements.

State Graduation Requirements

Some states require computer science courses for high school graduation, while other states allow computer science courses to fulfill other graduation requirements. Examples of both are listed in the table below:

State	Any computer science coursework required?	Can computer science count toward another requirement?	Sources
Arizona	No	Yes – math. Students may meet a credit covering algebra II by completing alternative courses, including computer science.	**High School Graduation Course Requirements**
Arkansas	Yes – students are required to take one credit of computer science.	N/A	**Required High School Courses**
California	No	Yes – if a school district requires more than two math courses, a computer science course may be counted toward a math credit.	**Cal. Educ. Code § 51225.35**
Idaho	No	Yes – math or science. AP and dual credit computer science courses may be used as either math or science credit.	**IDAPA 08.02.03 - 105**
Maryland	No	Yes – math. Students may use AP Computer Science to satisfy a math credit. A computer science course that is not AP Computer	**COMAR 13A.04.12.01**

		Science may count toward math credit if the local school system determines it meets the math standards.	
Michigan	No	Yes – math or science. Students can partially or fully complete the algebra II requirement by completing curriculum in computer science and can fulfill a science credit by completing a department-approved computer science curriculum.	**MCL 380.1278a** **MCL 380.1278b**
Mississippi	Yes – students are required to take one technology or computer science course.	N/A	**Mississippi Diploma Options**
North Dakota	No	Yes – math. Computer science may be used as one of the three required math units.	**N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-21-02.2**
South Carolina	Yes – students are required to take one computer science course.	N/A	**High School Courses and Requirements**
South Dakota	No	Yes - science. One unit of computer science may be substituted for one unit of science, but may not be substituted for biology.	**South Dakota Administrative Rules 24:43:11:02**
Utah	No	Yes – science. Computer science is considered one of the five science foundation areas. Students must complete two units from two of the five areas.	**Utah State Board of Education High School Requirements**
Virginia	No	Yes – math or science.	**Virginia Department of Education Standard Diploma Course Requirements**
Wyoming	No	Yes – science. One year of science requirements may be satisfied with one year of computer science.	**Wyoming Administrative Rules Chapter 31, Section 4**