

# **Computer Science (all grades) Certification and Statement of Continued Eligibility Frequently Asked Questions**

**June 15, 2023**

- 1. Will our teachers who teach computer courses need the Statement of Continued Eligibility (SOCE) or Computer Science (all grades) certification?**

The memo released on April 13, 2023, outlines the ten course codes which will require the Computer Science (all grades) certification or SOCE to teach them beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. If the course is reported using any of these ten course codes, then a business, technology, or computer technology teacher would need the SOCE or Computer Science (all grades) certification in order to continue to teach them. For confirmation of the exact course codes used to report teaching assignments, please reach out to your district data coordinator.

- 2. I have a computer science position opening for the 2023-2024 school year and want to have the individual remain eligible to teach computer science after that year? What certifications can I hire?**

To be eligible to teach computer science coursework effective September 1, 2024, an individual must hold certification in Computer Science (all grades) or hold the SOCE. In order to be eligible for the SOCE, an individual must have taught at least one eligible course after September 1, 2017, but prior to September 1, 2024, and hold permanent or professional certification in their content area. Eligible courses can be found on the [Office of Teaching Initiatives' Computer Science SOCE Web Page](#).

- 3. Can I get the Computer Science (all grades) certification without applying for the SOCE?**

Yes. Individuals who meet certain requirements can obtain their Computer Science (all grades) certificate. To search certification requirements for the Computer Science (all grades) certificate, please visit the [Office of Teaching Initiatives' Certification Requirements](#).

#### **4. Should I get the SOCE?**

This would be a decision that is made at the local level. To be eligible for the SOCE, an individual must hold either permanent or professional certification and have taught at least one eligible course after September 1, 2017, but prior to September 1, 2024. Additional information about the SOCE can be found on the [Office of Teaching Initiatives' Computer Science SOCE Web Page](#).

#### **5. I am a business teacher. Will I need the SOCE?**

If any of the courses taught by an individual is listed on the on April 13, 2023, memo from the New York State Education Department (NYSED), then the individual will need either Computer Science (all grades) certification or the SOCE to continue to teach those courses.

The following courses will require Computer Science (all grades) certificate, the SOCE, CTE Computer Technology certificate, Technology Education certificate, or a Business and Marketing certificate:

10151: Business Programming  
10201: Web Page Design  
10203: Interactive Media  
10204: Particular Topics in Media Technology  
10249: Media Technology--Other

#### **6. I am a technology education teacher. Will I need the SOCE?**

If any of the courses taught by an



**9. Are the course codes listed in the memo the only courses that will require the Computer Science (all grades) certification?**

The ten courses listed in the April 13, 2023, memo from NYSED are the only courses that require the Computer Science (all grades) certification. The ten courses are: Computer Science 1 (C1), Computer Science 2 (C2), Computer Science 3 (C3), Computer Science 4 (C4), Computer Science 5 (C5), Computer Science 6 (C6), Computer Science 7 (C7), Computer Science 8 (C8), Computer Science 9 (C9), and Computer Science 10 (C10).

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**12. Where can I view a list of teacher preparation programs for computer science?**

To view a list of teacher preparation programs for the Computer Science (all grades) certificate, please visit the [Office of College and University Evaluation's Inventory of Registered Programs](#).

**13. Is the SOCE renewable after 10 Years?**

The SOCE will expire ten years after it is issued. To continue teaching courses requiring certification after the expiration date, individuals possessing the SOCE will need to work towards receiving initial certification in Computer Science (all grades) during that ten-year period. For more information about the Computer Science (all grades) certificate, please visit the [Office of Teaching Initiatives' Certification Requirements](#).

**14. What college courses will qualify for the Computer Science (all grades) certification?**

For the Computer Science (all grades) certificate, acceptable courses would typically be offered by a computer science department at an institution of higher education and would include courses that address one or more of the following four computer science concept areas in the [NYS Computer Science Learning Standards](#):

- Impacts of computing (e.g., society, ethics, accessibility)
- Computational thinking (e.g., modeling and simulation, data analysis and visualization, abstraction and decomposition, and algorithms and programming)
- Networks and systems design (e.g., hardware, software, networks, and the internet)
- Cybersecurity (e.g., risks, safeguards, and response)

The courses may have been completed at any time in the past. For more information about acceptable college courses, please visit the [Coursework for Computer Science Certification Webpage](#)

**15. How is the Superintendent Statement submitted? What must be included in the Superintendent Statement?**

The Superintendent Statement is submitted in TEACH by the employer. The statement should verify that the teacher taught an acceptable computer science course by recording the course number and course name from the [acceptable](#)



**20. What grade levels are considered Computer Science Discoveries – Prior to Secondary?**

Course codes that are considered prior-to-secondary are for grades six and below.

**21. Is NYSED still working on the “Industry experience” pathway to Computer Science (all grades) certification?**

NYSED is still working on the industry experience pathway. There are no updates at this time.

**22. Can I apply for the SOCE after September 1, 2024?**

No, teachers must apply for the SOCE in TEACH and pay the application fee on or before September 1, 2024.

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