Title: Equity in AP Computer Science Principles

Grant Type / Priorities: Early Phase; AP 1: Demonstrates a Rationale; AP 3: Field-Initiated Innovation STEM-CS; and CPP: Computer Science

Number of Students / Grade Levels Served: 12,500 high school (9th–12th grade) students

High-Need Student Definition: Students who are historically underrepresented in computer science, including women, underrepresented minorities, and rural populations across five states—Alaska, Idaho, Kentucky, Texas, and West Virginia.

Description / Activities: Equity in AP CSP will develop and implement: 1) an outreach and recruitment program for school administrators to adopt, and for school counselors to enroll students in, AP CSP; and 2) a blended professional learning program for AP CSP teachers that builds on Code.org’s open source curriculum, associated in-person Professional Learning Program, and robust network of Regional Partners.

Objectives / Expected Outcomes: Equity in AP CSP will: 1) train new AP CSP teachers, 2) increase the number of schools adding AP CSP into their master school schedules through work with school administrators and counselors; and 3) increase the number of women, URM, and rural students participating and earning qualifying scores on the AP CSP exam thereby demonstrating increased college readiness.

Resulting in: 1) Greater # and % of teachers report increased knowledge of CS and confidence in ability to teach AP CSP, especially those new to computer science; 2a) Greater # and % of women, URM and rural students taking AP CSP, and 2b) Greater # and % of women, URM and rural earning qualifying scores on AP CSP; and 3) Greater # and % of schools offer AP CSP.

Special Features: Seeking to augment Code.org’s systemic approach to expanding CS education in the US, Equity in AP CSP interventions are specifically targeted to breakdown key barriers to participation by women, URM and rural students and thereby improve the CS learning outcomes for these student populations.

Partners: Code.org (Fiscal Agent); Idaho Digital Learning Academy, Center for STEM Education at University of Texas at Austin, Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation, West Virginia University, and Alaska Staff Development Network (Implementation Partners); and AIR (Evaluation Partner)