

Title: Computer Science for English Learners (CSforEL): Increasing Participation and Achievement in Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) for ELs

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

Number of Students and Grade Levels Served: 1,399 high school (9th-12th grade) students

High-Need Student Definition: CSforEL will work exclusively with English Learners in San Diego County, New Mexico, and Arizona, a high-need student population. CSforEL will also initiate and develop computer science skills for underrepresented students—females, low-income students, and students of color.

Description and Activities: CSforEL will attract, retain and engage ELs in AP CSP by integrating EL and CS instructional practices and leveraging a strong CS network organized into regional Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for teachers. After selecting participants, CSforEL will examine access to CS for ELs in the districts and tailor developing its corresponding 14-month professional learning programming for principals, counselors, and teachers. Teachers will engage in 14 total days of in-person and bi-monthly virtual and/or in person PLC meetups throughout the school year. A principal, a counselor, or both will engage in two days of in-person PD and two virtual PLC meetups over the course of the program.

Objectives and Expected Outcomes: 1) Increase AP CSP enrollment for EL students, as measured by enrollment data from the College Board; 2) Increase qualifying scores on the AP CSP exam for underrepresented students, including EL students, as measured by exam data from the College Board; 3) Increase grades in AP CSP; and 4) Increase ELA proficiency in EL and ever EL populations.

Special Features: Partnership with districts begins with an equity audit to evaluate the current state of access. It then incorporates strong PLCs to enhance local ownership and investment for the long term.

Partners: CSTA (Fiscal Agent); CRLP and UCSD EDS (Implementation Partners); and UCSD's Center for Research in Educational Equity, Assessment and Teaching Excellence (Evaluation Partner)