

## Elevator Pitch

CSforCA is a statewide coalition of educators and advocates working to ensure that *every* student in *every* school across California has access to computer science education that prepares them for college, careers, and community engagement.

## Talking Points

***Equity:* Students of color, girls, and students in low-income and rural communities do not have access to the same high-quality computer science education as their peers.**

- **Low-income schools** are 3x less likely to offer core CS courses.
- **Rural schools** are 2x less likely to offer CS courses than urban schools.
- **Black, Latinx, Native American students, and girls** are underrepresented in CS courses relative to their population.
- The technology sector in California does not reflect the demographic diversity of the state and contributes to income wealth inequality by restricting access to the highest-paying and fastest-growing economic sector.

***Economy:* Teaching all students computer science will benefit California's economy, as well as our students' futures.**

- California leads the nation in **tech and employment across all fields** and is home to five of the top ten highest-grossing global tech companies.
- The need for a **skilled technology workforce will only continue to grow** over the next decade.
- Computer science education is a critical foundation for broadening participation in California's workforce and the jobs of the future.

***Skill-Building:* Widely-accessible, quality computer science education will equip our students for future success in not just the tech industry, but across all fields.**

- Computer science education develops **computational, critical thinking and problem-solving skills** that are foundational knowledge for all students, regardless of their ultimate field of study or occupation.
- Technological innovation plays a significant role across **all industries and sectors**.

***California's Future:* The rapid expansion of a technology-powered global economy requires California to continue making long-term efforts to remain competitive.**

- **Technology has made California one of the world's leading hubs of innovation** in fields as diverse as entertainment, social media, biotechnology, agriculture, transportation and energy.
- **However, only 5% of high school students** in California were enrolled in any type of CS course in 2018-2019.
- **California ranks behind 34 other states** for the percentage of high schools offering at least one CS course.

### **About the Coalition**

- By 2025, CSforCA wants all students in California to have access to, and engagement in, high-quality computer science education that prepares them for college and career success and community engagement.
- The CSforCA Coalition is led by Co-Directors Julie Flapan and Allison Scott, along with five working groups that represent an array of school districts and local education agencies, nonprofit organizations, higher education institutions, advocacy groups, and tech companies.

You can **take action** by using our Advocacy Toolkit, and **stay up-to-date** by following us on Twitter [@CSforCA](https://twitter.com/CSforCA).