

# The Blended Learning Institute High School Computer Science Track

## Requirements for Participating Schools

All NYC public high schools are eligible to apply. All high school teachers interested in applying must make a commitment to:

- 1) Have at least one teacher complete all four phases of the program and teach *Exploring Computer Science*, a year-long introductory computer science curriculum, starting in the fall of 2015.
- 2) Ensure students and participating teachers have access to 1:1 devices in a lab or classroom setting whenever necessary to effectively implement the *Exploring Computer Science* curriculum.
- 3) Release teachers if necessary to ensure their availability to participate in all in-person workshops.
- 4) Participate in a programmatic evaluation that might include student and teacher surveys, as well as school site visits.

## Requirements for Participating Teachers

All NYC public high school teachers are eligible to apply. All high school teachers interested in applying must make a commitment to:

- 1) Attend and actively participate in all four phases of the program (outlined below).

Phase 1: March – June 2015

- Online Preparation (15-20 hour online course)

Phase 2: August 17-21 and 24-25, 2015

- 5-day *Exploring Computer Science* workshop
- 2-day blended learning workshop

Phase 3: September 2015 – June 2016

- Ongoing job-embedded online support (30 hour online course)
- Quarterly Saturday workshops

Phase 4: July 2016

- 3-day reflection workshop

- 2) Engage in the online courses, including reviewing content, posting in online discussion forums, and completing assignments.

- 3) Satisfactory completion of all program-related assignments.

- 4) Teach the *Exploring Computer Science* curriculum in the 2015-2016 school year.
- 5) Participate in a programmatic evaluation that might include student and teacher surveys, as well as school site visits.

## Selection Criteria

The below selection criteria will be used to guide our decisions during the application process. Evidence of these criteria indicates potential success with this program and the implementation of the *Exploring Computer Science* curriculum; however, schools are not required to show evidence of prior success across all criteria to be accepted.

**Leadership:** Instructional and administrative support is paramount to the success of implementing *Exploring Computer Science* at their school. School leadership should have a clear vision for how they will implement the curriculum and support the program's success. It is beneficial if schools make clear how they plan to support teachers involved in the program and promote the computer science course offering to their school community (administrators, guidance counselors, teachers, parents, and students).

**Vision:** Schools and teachers should have well-defined reasons for applying and demonstrate a commitment to computer science education for all students.

**Technology Infrastructure:** Readily available access to internet and devices helps ensure students will be able to access the resources they need to be successful with the *Exploring Computer Science* course.

**Experience with Technology Programs:** Past experience implementing successful technology-based academic programs or courses demonstrates the necessary experience to implement a computer science course. Past experience can include computer science or technology courses, as well as blended courses in core subject areas.

Please note, preference will be awarded to schools that plan to have more than one teacher participate and teach *Exploring Computer Science* in the fall of 2014.

For questions, please email the BLI team at [bli@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:bli@schools.nyc.gov).