

The Blended Learning Institute Middle School Computer Science Track

Requirements for Participating Schools

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

- 1) Have at least one teacher complete all three phases of the program and teach at least two of the four Code.org *Computer Science in Science* modules, 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 teaching the Code.org *Computer Science in Science* modules.
- 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

Open only to Science Teachers in NYC public middle school teachers. All middle 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: May – June 2015

- Online Preparation (up to 3 hour online course)

Phase 2: August 10-12 and 13-14, 2015

- 3-day *Computer Science in Science* workshop
- 2-day blended learning workshop

Phase 3: September 2015 – June 2016

- Ongoing job-embedded online support
- Two Saturday workshops (10/3/15 and 2/6/16)

- 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 at least two of the four modules in Code.org's *Computer Science in 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 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 *Computer Science in 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 *Computer Science in 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 *Computer Science in Science* in the fall of 2014.

For questions, please email the BLI team at bli@schools.nyc.gov.