Welcome to National
CSPdWeek
July 20–24, 2020

ECS | Exploring Computer Science

BOOTSTRAP Equity · Scale · Rigor

C4C counselors for computing
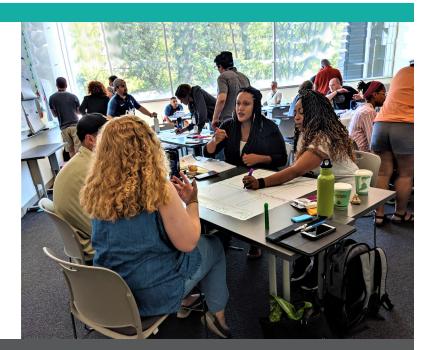
What is CSPdWeek?

National CSPdWeek (Computer Science Professional Development Week) is a 5-day residential PD event hosted at Colorado School of Mines that supports teachers and schools in offering inclusive and rigorous computer science learning opportunities. Educators from across the country come together for one week to learn from the leading research-based programs in the field. They stay in dorms, eat in the dining hall, hike in the mountains, and spend their evenings building community with other teachers. In addition to the National CSPdWeek in Colorado, many regions are offering their own satellite CSPdWeeks as well.

CSPdWeek scales hurdles.

- Economies of scale make it impossible for smaller districts to bring in any one of these programs for PD.

- It can be complex to handle the logistics for many different programs' separate PD events.

- Professional isolation can occur when schools or districts rarely have more than one CS teacher.

CSPdWeek takes diversity and need into account when determining who to accept. It brings together a number of programs, building community and serving schools and districts that would be unable to get CS professional development any other way. In the last three years, CSPdWeek has reached more than 700 educators.

"CSPdWeek was easily the best professional development that I've attended. There are 3 things that separate it from every other conference or workshop that I've attended: the place, the people, and the content. Best week of PD ever."

—Marc Buchanan, Montclair High School CS Teacher

CSPdWeek promotes equity.

We recognize that teachers and students who are underrepresented in CS often encounter barriers to accessing meaningful learning opportunities. As such, we encourage teachers from underrepresented groups or who serve large populations of students from underrepresented groups to apply, including but not limited to teachers of color; women; LGBTQ+ teachers; teachers with disabilities; and teachers serving low-income students, students in rural districts, and/or students who are members of the groups above. To address financial barriers, we also offer dorm room accommodations and breakfast, lunch and dinner, and some programs offer a stipend. Equity is a theme woven throughout the content of some programs, modeled off of research in this field.

CSPdWeek has funder friends.

By building long-term relationships, CSPdWeek has been fortunate to receive grant funding from a number of companies and organizations over time, including the National Science Foundation, Infosys, NCWIT, and GitHub Education.

How do I get started?

1. Apply online (applications will open this December!) and get a commitment letter signed by your principal.

2. Show up the week of July 20–24, 2020 at CO School of Mines!

3. Teach the course.