



TO: Office of the Governor
Clerk of the Legislature

RE: Legislative Report Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-3306 (Computer Science Education Expansion Program)

I. Overview

This report is submitted to the Nebraska Legislature pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-3306, which requires the Nebraska Department of Education (the “Department”) to submit a report to the Governor and Clerk of the Legislature relating to the statewide computer science and technology expansion program annually. The intent of the computer science and technology education expansion program is to recruit, train, and support teachers in computer science and technology education. The computer science and technology education fund was created to provide computer science and technology training, support, and incentive and stipend payments pursuant to section 79-3306. Requirements under the computer science education expansion program include:

- Training for teachers seeking supplemental computer science certification;
- Training designed to support the integration of computer science and technology education into the instructional programs of elementary, middle, and high schools;
- Support for schools and teachers in the development of computer science instructional plans that are consistent with the academic content standards for computer science and technology education adopted by the State Board of Education; and
- Incentive and stipend payments for teachers who meet training, certification, and teaching requirements as established by the State Board of Education.

This report outlines activities occurring between July 1, 2024, and October 31, 2025, related to:

- (a) the number of training opportunities held and the format of such trainings;
- (b) the number of teachers who received training;
- (c) the number of teachers that became certified or received an endorsement in computer science and technology education or that began teaching a class in computer science and technology education within three calendar months following completion of training provided pursuant to section 79-3306; and
- (d) the costs associated with such trainings for the fiscal year covered by the report.

II. Fund Summary

The Legislature transferred one million dollars each year for fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26 from the Education Future Fund to the Computer Science and Technology Education Fund to provide computer

science and technology education training, support, and incentive and stipend payments pursuant to section 79-3306.

III. Outcomes and Impact

The following represents outcomes of the computer science and technology education expansion program as of October 31, 2025:

- (a) The number of training opportunities held and the format of such training.

The Department, with contracted support from CodeHS, has provided forty (40) synchronous training opportunities during the reporting period. The trainings were held in-person and online. Eleven (11) of the training opportunities are continually available as asynchronous online course offerings.

- (b) The number of teachers who received training.

To date, 317 unique Nebraska teachers have received training in computer science and technology education as part of the computer science education expansion program, many completing training on multiple topics. Teacher participants from every Educational Service Unit (ESU) service region have participated in the training, representing 141 school districts across Nebraska, providing a broad geographic distribution of participants. Participating teachers provide instruction to 20,311 students across Nebraska.

- (c) To the extent such information is available, the number of teachers that became certified or received an endorsement in computer science and technology education or that began teaching a class in computer science and technology education within three calendar months following completion of training provided pursuant to 79-3306.

At this time, the Department is unable to provide a report of the number of teachers who became certified, received an endorsement, or began teaching a computer science and technology education course within three calendar months of completing the training.

The Department can report the number of educators who completed approved computer science and technology education training (317) and the number of certificates and endorsements issued in these areas since July 2024 (26); however, existing data systems do not capture a time-bound connection between training completion, credential issuance, and classroom assignment. The Department will continue to explore opportunities to improve data collection to support more precise reporting in the future.

- (d) The costs associated with such training for the fiscal year covered by the report (July 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025).

Relative to the training provided for teachers seeking supplemental computer science certification, training designed to support the integration of computer science and technology education into the instructional programs of elementary, middle, and high schools, and support for schools and teachers in the development of computer science instructional plans that are consistent with the academic content standards for computer science and technology education adopted by the State Board of Education, the following costs have been incurred:

- The contract with CodeHS is for a total not to exceed \$1,275,000.00. The term of the contract period is from March 14, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Up to \$1,065,000 will be paid for the provision

of teacher professional development experiences and up to \$210,000.00 shall be reimbursed for stipend payments made to qualified recipients.

- To date, \$184,325.00 has been paid for the teacher professional development experiences.

Relative to incentive and stipend payments for teachers who meet training, certification, and teaching requirements as established by the State Board of Education, the following costs have been incurred:

- To date, \$187,500 in stipend payments have been made for teachers who meet the training requirements as delivered by CodeHS.
- Consistent with the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act's High Needs Recruitment Grant (NRS 79-8112), eight Nebraska teachers received incentive payments of \$5,000 for earning endorsements which permit them to teach computer science and technology education during the reporting period, for a total of \$45,000.

A total of \$371,825.00 in payments to CodeHS have been made for both professional development training and teacher stipend payments. Including the \$45,000.00 in teacher incentive payments for certification and training requirements, a total of \$416,825.00 of the total allocation has been spent, with \$903,175.00 still obligated.

(e) Other outcomes and impact

Additional outcomes and impact of the training provided through the computer science and technology education expansion program include feedback from teacher participants.

Based on the training conducted by CodeHS, 895 surveys have been completed. Many teacher participants have completed training on multiple topics. Average scores between 1-5, where 1 = disagree and 5 = strongly agree, include:

| Question | Average Score |
|--|---------------|
| My content knowledge of computer science and technology has improved as a result of this training. | 4.44 |
| The training improved my ability to teach computer science and technology concepts effectively. | 4.47 |
| As a result of this training, I feel more confident teaching computer science and technology. | 4.44 |
| The training content was useful and aligned with my professional goals and instructional needs. | 4.50 |
| The provided training materials effectively supported my learning. | 4.53 |
| Overall, the workshop was suitable for my level of experience. | 4.42 |
| I would recommend CodeHS professional development to other teachers. | 4.63 |
| What would you rate the professional development overall? | 4.55 |

IV. Contact Information

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