CSforEL Teacher Leaders: Increasing Participation and Achievement Of English Learners in AP Computer Science Principles

Computer science is the fastest growing subject in the US, yet English learners are dramatically under-represented in these courses. CSforEL is a new 4-year research project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, to attract, retain and engage English learners (EL) in AP Computer Science Principles (CSP). We seek CSforEL teacher leaders who will help us identify and test strategies and develop lessons and materials that effectively support ELs in CSP during our project’s pilot year (2020-21). We will rely on their expertise to develop the professional development in future project years.

Who Qualifies to be a CSforEL Teacher Leader?

- Current high school CS teacher in the United States who teaches the AP CS Principles course, or an educator (e.g., an instructional coach) who has ready access to an AP CS Principles classroom to test and refine lessons and collect ongoing data
- Significant experience teaching CS to high proportions of English Learners (ELs) with some demonstrated success and the ability to articulate strategies for supporting ELs
- Willingness to meet all responsibilities

What Will CSforEL Teacher Leaders Do?

- Participate in initial virtual PD (week of July 27th) in order to build common understanding around project design, key concepts (e.g., language demands), rationale for instructional strategies and resources (e.g., collaborative structures), and lesson study cycle; learn from expertise of other teacher leaders; and identify key strategies for supporting ELs in CS.
- Meet with the PD project team virtually 1-2 times per month to discuss progress, reflect on learnings, identify and refine strategies, and continue learning together.
- Work with counselors and/or administrators to support a CS course access review at your school.
- Participate in four, 1.5-month virtual lesson study cycles with 1-3 other teacher leaders.
- Create, collate, and/or test instructional strategies, structures, lessons and other resources for the PD, including video vignettes to describe use of strategies and demonstrate effective teacher reflection after teaching a lesson.

We estimate that teacher leader responsibilities will require ~2 hours per week throughout SY 2020-21.

What Will CSforEL Teacher Leaders Receive?

- Ongoing professional learning and support to strengthen their instructional practice
- Participation in a small professional learning community
- $4,500 stipend

Apply today! If you have questions, please contact Erika C. Burt at erika.burt@csteachers.org.