



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: April 19, 2018  
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads  
Route To: Assistant Superintendents, Principals and Curriculum Supervisors  
From: Linda P. Eno, Acting Deputy Chief Academic Officer  
Division of Teaching and Learning

## NJDOE Provides Guidance on Computer Science Course Requirement

On January 16, 2018, legislation was enacted ([P.L. 2017 Chapter 303](#), N.J.S.A. 18A:7C:1-1) that requires each public school serving students in grades 9-12, other than a county vocational school district, to offer a course in computer science beginning in the 2018-2019 school year. The law states that the course shall include, but need not be limited to, instruction in computational thinking; computer programming; the appropriate use of the internet and the development of internet webpages; data security and the prevention of data breaches; ethical matters in computer science; and the global impact of advancements in computer science. The statute does not require the course to be associated with credit attainment, and the content that the law describes is consistent with existing state standards for technology ([New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Technology 8.1 and 8.2](#)).

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has created a [Computer Science FAQ](#) to provide additional information on the course requirement.

For questions, please contact the NJDOE's Office of Educational Technology at [computerscience@doe.nj.gov](mailto:computerscience@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
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