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Computer Science Teachers Association Joins White House’s Call for #CSForAll

New York, NY—Building on President Barack Obama’s remarks in his final State of the Union address calling for more computer science (CS) in the country’s schools, the White House today unveiled its #CSForAll initiative that includes commitments from the [Computer Science Teachers Association \(CSTA\)](#) and over 50 other organizations to grow opportunities for students to learn computer science during their K-12 educational experience. The effort will be complemented by significant budget proposals in the President’s federal spending plan, which will be released on February 9. The White House would like to spend more than \$4 billion to support the “all hands on deck” call.

Building on its work since its founding in 2004, CSTA will pilot a digital badging and portfolio program to capture and track what professional development a teacher obtains and map it to K-12 computer science content standards. The micro-credentialing effort will provide teachers a means to demonstrate competence in computer science—a tool particularly important in states where no certification or educational pathway to computer science teaching certification exists. Over the next five years, CSTA expects to offer the program to all of its 22,000 members as part of a broader set of teacher pipeline development initiatives. The effort will complement the commitments of other invaluable organizations.

“There’s no doubt that it is an exciting time to be in K-12 computer science education,” said CSTA Executive Director Dr. Mark Nelson. “As the oldest CS teacher membership organization, and a founding partner of other like-minded organizations such as [Code.org](#) and NCWIT, we are very excited to see this initiative come to fruition. We applaud the inclusiveness of this effort, which encompasses bipartisan support at all levels of government, involvement from for-profit and non-profit entities, and engagement among schools, teachers and parents. No one has the ability to raise awareness like the White House, and this Administration has been a stalwart champion of computer science education. We are thrilled to be part of this initiative that elevates support for the future of CS, CS teaching, and CS teachers to a national priority.”

The Administration has been a friend to computer science education for some time and President Obama wrote a line of code himself in 2014 as part of Computer Science Education Week with some students from Newark, NJ who visited him at the White House. This effort, combined with changes to federal and state education policies as well as the growing consensus that computer

science is a subject important to every worker in the 21st century paves the way for more computer science for all.

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About The Computer Science Teachers Association

The [Computer Science Teachers Association](#) (CSTA) is a membership organization that supports and promotes the teaching of computer science and other computing disciplines. CSTA provides opportunities for K–12 teachers and students to better understand the computing disciplines and to more successfully prepare themselves to teach and learn.