

REQUIRE COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE OFFERING

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House Bill 5649 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Carol Glanville
Committee: Education
Revised 5-14-24

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5649 would amend the Revised School Code to require a **public high school** to offer at least one **computer science** course starting with the 2027-2028 school year.

Public high school would mean a public school that offers at least one of grades 9 to 12.

Computer science would mean the study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their principles, hardware and software designs, implementation, and impact on society, that focuses on teaching students how to create new technologies and not solely on the use of technology.

The computer science course would have to meet all of the following:

- Be of high quality, as prescribed under the state's computer science standards.¹
- Meet or exceed standards established by the State Board of Education.
- Be listed as an option on the school's catalog of courses, as confirmed by the district, intermediate school district (ISD), or public school academy (PSA).

Except for a public high school that operates entirely virtually, the public high school would have to make a good-faith effort to offer the course in an in-person setting. However, if an in-person setting is not feasible for purposes of this requirement, the school could offer the course through a virtual or distance-based option.

In addition, not later than the first business day in August 2025, and annually thereafter, each public high school would have to submit to the Center for Educational Performance Information (CEPI) a report for the immediately preceding school year that includes the following information:

- The names of computer science courses offered by the high school, including at least the course description, course code, and, to the extent the information is available, which state computer science standards are covered in the course.
- The number and percentage of students who enrolled in each computer science course, disaggregated into the following categories:²
 - Gender.
 - Race and ethnicity.

¹ <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/academic-standards/michigan-k-12-computer-science-standards>

² If a listed category contained small cell sizes, CEPI would have to apply statistical cutoffs and suppress figures that would potentially violate student privacy under federal law when reporting publicly

- English-language learner status.
- Special education status, including students who would be considered special education students under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act³ or section 504 of Title V of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.⁴
- Eligibility for free or reduced-price meals under the federal Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.⁵
- Grade level.

If any of the above information was already required to be reported to CEPI, it would not have to also be included in the report described above.

By October 31, 2025, and annually thereafter, CEPI would have to publicly post on its MI School Data website the data, disaggregated by public high school and aggregated at the state level, received in the reports described above. CEPI also would have to publish a list of computer science course codes and names, including at least the course names and descriptions for those courses that align with the state’s computer science standards.

Proposed MCL 380.1166c

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would create costs for the state and could increase costs for certain local school districts, ISDs, and PSAs.

The Center for Educational Performance and Information notes that, of the 1,265 high schools that reported students in the MSDS Teacher Student Data Link Collection in the 2022-23 school year, 864 high schools (68%) had students who took at least one computer science-related course and 401 high schools (32%) did not report any students taking computer science-related courses. According to CEPI, these counts should be considered a rough approximation, since they are produced using a methodology that considers school course classification codes and key words in course names. House Bill 5649 would require the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and CEPI to develop a more formal definition for computer science courses.

CEPI estimates that it would incur an ongoing annual cost of \$90,000 to fulfill the data requirements in the bill, including collecting and publishing disaggregated data.

The state would also incur increased costs under section 152a of the School Aid Act, which provides per-pupil payments to school districts, ISDs, and PSAs to pay for necessary costs related to state-mandated collection and reporting of data. CEPI estimates a one-time implementation cost of \$1.5 million School Aid Fund (SAF) and an ongoing annual cost of \$610,000 SAF under section 152a.

³ <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/20/chapter-33>

⁴ <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/29/794>

⁵ <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/chapter-13>

School districts, ISDs, and PSAs that do not currently offer a qualifying computer science course in each high school would incur costs to meet that requirement under the bill. These costs would vary depending on local factors.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.