

Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to computer science education; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Education, School Districts

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Education	\$ 20,000,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$ 20,000,000	5	3.28
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 20,000,000	\$-	\$ -	\$-	\$ 20,000,000	5	3.28

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Education	\$ 20,000,000	\$-	\$-	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	3	2.50
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 20,000,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$ 20,000,000	3	2.50

Measure Description

The measure requires all public schools to offer computer science education at all grade levels beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop and maintain teacher supports, hire staff, and support access to computer science education. The State Board of Education shall include computer science in its regular review of Common Curriculum Goals, performance indicators, and diploma requirements. The measure appropriates \$20 million General Fund to ODE in the 2025-27 biennium to develop and maintain programming to support current teachers in expanding their capacity to teach computer science and to support and expand equitable access to culturally responsive and sustainable computer science education for all students.

Fiscal Analysis

ODE will utilize \$19.1 million of the \$20 million General Fund appropriation for professional services contracts with the 13 STEM Hubs and seven public universities. ODE anticipates up to 20 contracts with an average contracted amount of \$950,000 per contract. Contract execution would be prioritized to meet the requirement that school districts offer computer science courses by the 2026-2027 school year. ODE will use the remaining \$925,113 to hire five new positions (3.28 FTE) and cover administrative costs. These positions include:

- One permanent, full-time Education Specialist 2 to develop K-12 computer science standards and instructional materials.
- One permanent, full-time Program Analyst 3 to coordinate standards development, administrative rule changes, and contract administration for professional learning.
- One permanent, full-time Administrative Specialist 2 to handle site and panel coordination, travel reimbursement, and expense claim forms.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

- One limited duration, full-time Research Analyst 4 to create and analyze data system around computer science courses and course coding.
- One limited duration, part-time Project Manager 3 to oversee the initial development of this program, including deliverables.

This fiscal impact assumes ODE will receive an additional \$20 million General Fund appropriation in the 2027-29 biennium. Assuming additional funds are appropriated, ODE will utilize \$19.3 million for professional services contracts with STEM Hubs and universities and use the remaining \$697,899 to support the three permanent positions (2.50 FTE).

The measure may have a fiscal impact on some school districts. While most schools have technology integrated throughout the K-12 environment, the courses are typically offered in middle and high school, with perhaps some integration in elementary school. The measure directs ODE to develop the academic content standards and instruction for computer science classes. Without knowing what the curriculum will entail, it is unclear how many districts (if any) would not already satisfy the majority of the academic content standards promulgated by ODE. Any necessary professional development for staff will be provided through the professional services contracts with STEM Hubs and universities; however, additional staffing may be needed to teach the computer science curriculum in school districts where computer science is not currently being offered. To meet the requirements of the measure, impacted school districts may have to redirect current operational or STEM funding to offer the computer science courses. If passed, the financial impacts of this measure should be reviewed by the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education during the 2026 session.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.