

Major Planning Guide: Computer Science

What can I do with a degree in computer science?

Students interested in software programming, developing new software applications, or using computer technology to solve problems in other fields may choose to study computer science. Closely related programs include computer engineering, and applied degrees in IT, Web, or Programming. These applied degrees are offered through Seattle Central, while computer science and computer engineering are offered at four-year colleges and universities. Students majoring in computer science will find that there are many possible applications of their degree beyond the technology sector, including in healthcare, general business, education, and government.

Related Majors/Programs

Computer Engineering
IT - Networking
Programming
Web Development
Web Design
Database
Administration
Network Design &
Administration
Cybersecurity

Where can I earn a bachelor's degree in computer science in Washington?

Many universities offer computer science as an undergraduate major. You can use the College Navigator search engine found at <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator> to find computer science programs in Washington state or around the country.

How do I prepare to major in computer science?

Here are a few steps that we recommend you take to make sure that computer science is the right choice for you. There are many different types of careers in computer science, and it is important to do some research ahead of time to find the one that best fits your goals. An advisor can help you choose the transfer degree, and what courses you should take while you are here at Seattle Central.

Step One: Research

- Those who are undecided about a major/career can make an appointment with our Career Exploration Center in BE 1102E take a career assessment test. This assessment can reveal your interests, values, and skills which then match you up with potential careers and programs that prepare you for specific career paths.
- Students planning to study computer science will need to take several sequences of courses, for example, a three-quarter sequences of calculus and at least two progressive courses in computer programming. It is best to complete the full series at the same school.
- Our Transfer Center in BE 1102F can help find universities you are interested in attending and guide you through the application process. Admissions for computer science is competitive with an average 3.7 GPA on prerequisite courses.

Step Two: Pick a Degree

Students planning to major in computer science often earn the Associates of Science DTA (AS-DTA) or Associate of Science (AS-T) – Option #2 degree. Advisors can help students understand how to best approach the math and science requirements necessary to complete this degree. You may pick up a degree planning worksheet for the AS-DTA ([tan sheet](#)) or AS-T—Option #2 ([green sheet](#)) in BE 1102 lobby.

Step Three: Make a Long Range Academic Plan

Students planning to major in computer science at a university usually take courses in calculus, calculus-based physics, and programming, as well as general education requirements, to prepare to transfer.

English	Mathematics	Physics	Programming
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL& 101	<input type="checkbox"/> MATH& 151	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYS& 221	<input type="checkbox"/> CSC 142
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL& 102	<input type="checkbox"/> MATH& 152	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYS& 222	<input type="checkbox"/> CSC 143
	<input type="checkbox"/> MATH& 163	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYS& 223	
	<input type="checkbox"/> MATH& 146		

Please note: this is not a complete list of prerequisites. Because of the number and order of classes required, you should consult with an advisor at Seattle Central to make sure you take the appropriate courses to be prepared to enter the major.

*Check prerequisites, admission requirements, and GPA requirements at your intended transfer university early so you can be well-prepared to transfer.

What are my next steps?

- Once you have had the chance to explore the diverse career opportunities in computer science you might want to schedule an appointment to meet with an advisor to plan out your course of study. You can make an appointment by stopping by the Advising office in BE 1102D or calling us at 206-934-4068. *(If you are an international student, please stop by International Education Programs in BE 1113).*
- Attend Transfer Fairs and Career & Networking Fairs hosted by our office throughout the year.
- Explore the professional organizations in your area of interest for more information about education and career options.

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Seattle Central College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or age in its programs and activities.

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Seattle Central College is committed to providing qualified students with a disability an equal opportunity to access the benefits, rights, and privileges of services, programs and activities in an accessible setting appropriate to the student's needs. No student shall, on the basis of her or her disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any Seattle Central College program or activity.