



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF
LEARNING SERVICES

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Subject: Message #15: Computer Science Smart Core / Core Curriculum Requirements

Date: June 9, 2015

To: adecurriculum@lists.state.ar.us

From: Arkansas Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction Unit

Dear Arkansas Curriculum Leaders,

In response to many questions we have received concerning the new Smart Core and Core graduation requirements for computer science, we would like to bring to your attention recent changes made to the Smart Core Informed Consent Form and Smart Core Waiver Form. For the Smart Core and Core Curriculum pathways, computer science is a new option for students.

There are four courses that satisfy the computer science requirement of Act 187. The courses are Computer Science and Mathematics, Essentials of Computer Programming, AP Computer Science, and IB Computer Science. Students may replace a required 4th math and/or 3rd science credit under Smart Core or Core with a computer science credit(s) and meet graduation requirements.

The Computer Science Quick Reference Chart, found on last page of the ADE Computer Science FAQ (<http://goo.gl/ZTjunH>), explains in detail how credit is awarded for each of the courses."

If the 4th math requirement and the 3rd science requirement have already been met through other coursework, any of the computer science courses listed above will become a career focus credit. Counselors/advisors are strongly encouraged to help students when selecting math and science course work in high school to consider requirements for admission into colleges of choice and for STEM careers.

Environmental Science, Human Anatomy and Physiology, and other ADE approved science courses still meet the 3rd science graduation credit for students choosing the Core Curriculum pathway.

Related Links:

**SMART CORE INFORMED CONSENT FORM
(GRADUATING CLASS OF 2016 AND AFTER)**

<http://goo.gl/x8yyQ3>

**SMART CORE WAIVER FORM
(GRADUATING CLASS OF 2016 AND AFTER)**

<http://goo.gl/QGdZL2>

For more information, please contact Stacy Smith, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, by telephone at 501-682-7442 or by e-mail at stacy.smith@arkansas.gov.

Please share this information with others that might be interested. Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas.

