General FAQs

1. Who should attend this professional learning opportunity (PLO)?
This professional learning opportunity is designed for administrators, TOSAs, teachers, or anyone passionate about bringing Computer Science (CS) into their schools. Whether you're a district leader aiming to support your schools or someone who's just starting to explore CS in your classroom, this PLO is for you. It's a great fit for LEA teams, including county, district, and site-level representatives, who want to collaborate and grow together in making Computer Science a vibrant part of the curriculum.

2. What are the goals and outcomes of this PLO?
The goals of this professional learning opportunity are to equip educators with the knowledge and strategies necessary for aligning their teaching practices with Computer Science standards. By the end of this PLO, participants will have a clear understanding of how to implement standards-based CS instruction to support consistent skill development across grade levels. Additionally, attendees will gain practical insights, engage in collaborative discussions, and develop actionable alignment plans to bring back to their schools and districts, ultimately strengthening the foundation of CS education for all students.

3. What are the registration fees?
There are no registration fees for either the virtual or in-person experiences; both are free to attend. However, please note that there is limited availability for both options.

4. How do we register?
To register a team for the in-person experience, please access the link below:
http://monterey.k12oms.org/1519-257930
To register for the virtual experience, please access the link below:
https://events.ringcentral.com/events/cal-mscs-community-of-practice-computer-science-standards-alignment-78c26597-9fde-42c1-9c1f-9475a92f5377

5. What's the schedule?
The detailed schedule will be shared with you after your registration is confirmed. Please keep an eye on your email inbox for this information.

6. What is the expected time commitment?
For the in-person experience, the event runs from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM. For the virtual experience, the time commitment is from 12:00 PM to 3:30 PM. Please plan to be fully engaged for the entire duration of your selected format.

7. What types of support will we receive after attending?
For both **in-person and virtual attendees**, post-event support includes follow-up professional learning sessions through Open Design Labs, Trending Tuesdays, and networking opportunities to continue discussion with their CAL-MSCS Local Implementation Teams.

8. Where can I find more information about CAL-MSCS?
CALMSCS.org

In-Person FAQs

1. Where is the event located, how do I get there?
The in-person event will be held at the Wyndham Garden Fresno Airport in Fresno, CA, conveniently located next to Fresno Yosemite International Airport.

2. Where can we stay?
We're currently securing a room block at the Wyndham Garden Fresno Yosemite Airport Hotel, where the event will also be held. This hotel offers convenient amenities to enhance your stay. The special rate will be available soon, so please check back for updates and plan to book early once the rate is confirmed.

3. What should I bring?
Please bring a laptop for the in-person experience, as it will be essential for participating in certain activities. While lunch and light refreshments will be provided, you may also want to bring your own snacks or beverages. Comfortable clothing is recommended.

4. Who can be a part of my team?
Team members can include any combination of county, district, and site-level educators, allowing you to choose representatives that best fit your specific needs. Below are a few examples of potential team composition:

- County Representative, District Representative, Site Representative
- District Representative, District Representative, Site Representative
- County Representative, District Representative, District Representative
- Site Representative, Site Representative, Site Representative

5. What if I do not have district or county partners working with our team?
We always recommend extended collaboration! However, if you do not have a district or county representative working with your school, you can still form a team using site-level representatives or other MSCS educators within your LEA. The team composition is flexible, and the goal is to create a group that best supports your local context and needs. You can include educators from different roles within your school or other relevant professionals who are engaged in computer science education.

6. How will the $5,000 professional learning stipend be distributed?
Professional Learning Stipends are awarded for team participation and building capacity at the local level. An MOU will be sent to the team lead's organization after registration is complete. Once the MOU is fully executed and attendance is confirmed, the team lead's organization will invoice Monterey COE for the $5,000 stipend. Funding related to this stipend can be used to support travel costs, substitute teachers to support professional learning, and resources to accelerate the team's action plan.

7. Will meals or refreshments be provided?
Yes, a light continental breakfast and lunch will be provided during the event, and refreshments throughout the day. However, you're welcome to bring your own snacks or beverages if you'd like something additional.

Virtual FAQs

1. **How does the virtual experience compare to the in-person experience?**

Both the virtual and in-person experiences are designed to offer meaningful, high-quality professional learning. The core content, including observations, interactive discussions, and reflective practice, is consistent across both formats. No matter which format you choose, you'll have the opportunity to learn, collaborate, and connect with other MSCS educators.

2. **Can I participate in the virtual experience individually, or do I need to be part of a team?**

You have the option to participate in the virtual experience either individually, or as part of a team. Both individual and team registrations are welcome.

3. **How do I access the RingCentral platform for the virtual experience?**

After your registration is confirmed, you will receive an email with a link and detailed instructions on how to access the RingCentral platform.

4. **Will I have access to the same resources and materials in the virtual experience as I would in person?**

Yes, all of the resources and materials provided to in-person attendees will be provided to virtual attendees.

5. **Is there any exclusive content or activities only available to in-person attendees?**

Yes, there are some exclusive activities and content specifically designed for in-person attendees. However, this will be recorded and made available to all participants afterward, ensuring that everyone has access to the full range of content, regardless of how they attend.

For further questions/assistance, please contact cal-mscs@montereycoe.org