THE HIDDEN UNDERREPRESENTED GROUP:
Bringing AP Computer Science Principles to Students with Learning Differences

Study Goals

- **Expand participation in the AP CS Principles course** among students with learning differences.
- **Generate knowledge in the CS education community** about what is needed to include students with learning differences in CS.
- **Develop specific guidance for CS curriculum developers and teachers** about what is needed to make AP CSP accessible for students who learn differently.

Overview of Study

Working with lessons from AP CSP curricula *Beauty and Joy of Computing* for New York City and Code.org’s CS Principles, the team will:

**IDENTIFY THE CHALLENGES** students with learning differences face as they engage with AP CSP instruction and content;

**DEVELOP POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS** to address those challenges through lesson adaptations (adjustments to sections of lessons to benefit all classroom learners) and recommended accommodations (adjustments to support individual learner needs);

**TEST ADAPTATIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS** and gather student and teacher feedback; and

**BROADLY DISSEMINATE FINDINGS** so that AP CSP curriculum developers and teachers can support the needs of students with learning differences.

Further Details

**BETWEEN 5-20%** of school age students in the US have a learning difference (Cortiella & Horowitz 2014).

**STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES** refers to students who have been identified as having a learning disability (e.g. specific learning disorder with impairment in reading like dyslexia, written expression, math, auditory processing, visual processing, executive functioning, and/or Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder).

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