CS4RI Ambassador Application Summary

- **Purpose:** CS4RI Ambassadors use their expertise, knowledge, and connections to advance CS4RI's goal of providing computer science education for all Rhode Island students by helping CS4RI develop computer science teacher endorsement and guidelines for college pre-service teacher programs.
- **Commitment:** 5 - 10 hours per week April 3, 2019 through June 30, 2019
- **Stipend:** $2,000
- **Application Deadline:** Monday, March 18, 2019 9:00am. Applications must be submitted through online submission form at [www.cs4ri.org/ambassador](http://www.cs4ri.org/ambassador)
- **Contact:** Holly Walsh ([Holly.Walsh@ride.ri.gov](mailto:Holly.Walsh@ride.ri.gov))

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Background on CS4RI

CS4RI (Computer Science for Rhode Island) is a state initiative to bring high quality computer science (CS) learning experiences to all students. It represents a partnership between Rhode Island state government, the Rhode Island Department of Education, K-12 schools, higher education, private industry, and non-profits across Rhode Island. Launched in 2016 by the Office of Governor Gina Raimondo with the aim of having computer science (CS) taught in every public school, CS4RI worked with stakeholders across the state to reach that goal in December 2017.

Today, CS4RI focuses on building educator capacity by providing access to quality computer science professional development opportunities; developing rigorous and sustainable K-12 pathways, supporting districts with implementation strategies and resources; and accelerating demand and momentum for CS education. CS4RI continues to prioritize and identify broadening participation as a major target.

CS4RI is comprised of a CS4RI Core Team that includes CS4RI Lead Vic Fay-Wolfe and RIDE Specialist Holly Walsh. CS4RI partners with CS content providers to offer schools – at no cost to districts - a menu of CS options to meet the needs of their students including Code.org, Project Lead the Way, Bootstrap, Brown University, the University of Rhode Island, and Microsoft TEALS. CS4RI also has strong connections with industry partners who provide additional funds, volunteer mentors, and CS expertise.

CS4RI continues to strive to make CS part of every Rhode Island student’s educational experience.

Learn more about CS4RI at http://www.cs4ri.org

Background on the CS4RI Ambassador Program

What do Ambassadors do?

The CS4RI Ambassador program is part of the PrepareRI Ambassador program where a select group of education leaders use their expertise, knowledge, and connections to advance CS4RI's goal of building career pathways for all Rhode Island youth.

The Ambassadors have diverse backgrounds, and may be currently working as a superintendent, district administrator, principal, school administrator, teacher, college professor or administrator, community leader, or any other position related to computer science education.
Ambassadors continue to work full-time in their previous roles, but commit 5-10 hours per week to their Ambassadorship. Ambassadors receive a $2,000 stipend to compensate them for their additional work with CS4RI.

Ambassadors advance CS4RI's goals in two key ways:
- Ambassadors leverage their expertise to provide feedback and insights to CS4RI's core team and their fellow ambassadors.
- Ambassadors are spokespeople for CS4RI. They help spread the goals of CS4RI through their professional networks, and validate the importance of CS4RI through their endorsement and participation.

See the Responsibilities section below for more details on the expectations for Ambassadors.

Applicant Qualities
The ideal CS4RI Ambassador is:
- **Knowledgeable:** They possess deep expertise in a specific component of the CS4RI initiative and are well aware of the implementation challenges involved. They can use this knowledge to provide the CS4RI team with insights to guide its work.
- **Respected and connected:** The Ambassadors are able to represent and connect with stakeholders who represent the full diversity of Rhode Island’s education landscape, in terms of geography, school type, race, income, language status, etc.
- **Passionate:** Ambassadors believe in the importance of CS4RI's work for Rhode Island youth, and are authentic advocates for CS4RI. Results-oriented: Ambassadors are focused on doing whatever will best serve Rhode Island's young people.
- **Self-directed:** Ambassadors are able to successfully carry out their work with minimal oversight.

2019 CS4RI Ambassador Focus
The 2019 CS4RI Ambassadors will work with the CS4RI Team to produce:
- A draft proposal to RIDE for a computer science teacher endorsement.
- Draft guidelines for developing academic computer science pre-service teaching courses at institutions of higher education.

Expectations of Ambassadors
Being a CS4RI Ambassador is a part-time commitment expected to be additional to the Ambassador’s full-time job. Being a CS4RI Ambassador has the following expectations:

1. Commit an average of **5 - 10 hours per week** to the Ambassador program.
2. The 2019 CS4RI Ambassadors will work with the CS4RI Team to produce by June 30, 2019:
   - A draft proposal to RIDE for computer science teacher endorsement; or
   - Draft guidelines for developing academic computer science pre-service teaching courses at institutions of higher education.

3. Participate in CS4RI meetings relevant to their projects. The Ambassadors will become crucial members of the CS4RI team, which is working on a computer science teacher endorsement and pre-service computer science teaching programs, and are therefore expected to attend key meetings relevant to these projects.

4. Produce documents in concert with the CS4RI Core Team. These documents may include background research and sample curricular materials for courses in a pre-service computer science teaching program.

As a recognition of their work, each CS4RI Ambassador will receive a $2,000 stipend for the period of April 2019 through June 2019. This stipend will be issued in a single payment at the end of the Ambassadorship. If an Ambassador is not meeting these expectations, they will be notified by the CS4RI Core Team. If the Ambassador does not address the concerns, the Ambassador may be dismissed from the program or receive a reduced stipend.

Application Process
Application Components
The CS4RI Ambassador application has four components:
   1. Personal Information
   2. Essay
   3. Resume
   4. Supervisor contact information

Application and Ambassadorship Timeline

- **Friday, March 1, 2019**: Application open
- **Monday, March 18, 2019 9am**: Application deadline
- **Monday, March 25, 2019**: CS4RI notifies Applicants
- **April 1, 2019**: Ambassadorship begins
- **June 30, 2019**: Ambassadorship ends (3 month of work)
The application must be submitted through the online form at: www.cs4ri.org/ambassador.
The following pages show requirements for the CS4RI Ambassador Application for 2019. Do NOT submit this document. Applications must be submitted through the online form.

Please use this preview to prepare your answers in a separate document, and paste them into the online submission form once complete.

1. **Personal Information**
   Provide the following personal contact information in the Application Form
   - Name:
   - Email:
   - Phone Number:
   - Current title/role:
   - Current organization:
   - School type:
     - Elementary school
     - Middle school
     - High school
     - Higher Education
     - Other

2. **Reference**
   Provide the following contact information in the Application Form.
   - Supervisor’s name:
   - Supervisor’s title:
   - Supervisor’s organization:
   - Supervisor’s email:
   - Supervisor’s phone number:
   - Supervisor’s relationship to you:

3. **Essay**
   In an essay of no more than 500 words, please explain how your background, experience, or prior achievements would make you an effective CS4RI ambassador for 2019 focus area of developing computer science teacher endorsement and/or guidelines for pre-service teacher education programs.

[Attach file]
Technical notes:

- The essay should be uploaded as a PDF with the filename: "Ambassador App SY19 Lastname - Essay"
- Make sure your name clearly appears at the top of the document

4. Resume

Please attach a resume of no more than two pages. The resume should emphasize the components of your experience that relate to the expected CS4RI responsibilities. For each role in your resume, indicate the impact you had. We are more interested in what you achieved in each role (quantified, if possible) rather than the general responsibilities associated with each role.

[Attach file]

Technical notes:

- The resume should be uploaded as a PDF with the filename: "Ambassador App SY19 Lastname - Resume"

5. Commitment

By typing your name into and submitting the Application Form, you agree to the following:

I have read the Expectations above. If I join the CS4RI Ambassador program, I commit to meeting those expectations.

[Type name in submission form]