



CODING THE COAL REGION

THE PILOT PROGRAM

FAQ's

What is Coding the Coal Region?

Coding the Coal Region is a 12-month pilot program designed to increase opportunities for students and residents of Luzerne County to access computer programming curriculum.

Who is the host of Coding the Coal Region?

Coding the Coal Region was created and launched by Wilkes-Barre Connect, the entrepreneurial and economic development arm of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission.

What does it cost to participate in Coding the Coal Region?

There is no cost to participate in the Coding the Coal Region program. All courses are offered to students for FREE.

Does the program have geographic boundaries?

Yes, to be eligible to participate, you must reside in Luzerne County.

What grade levels are included in the Coding the Coal Region project?

The online computer programming courses in Coding the Coal Region are available to students in grades 6-12.

What if I do not have internet access?

That's okay! Wilkes-Barre Connect will work with you to find a location that can provide internet access during your course days.

What if I do not have access to a device?

That's okay! Wilkes-Barre Connect will work with you to find a location that can provide a device during your course days.

Where is the curriculum from?

Codelicious provides full-year computer science curriculum for K-12 and will be the course provider for Coding the Coal Region. Codelicious provides courses that are designed to be educator-led, education-standards aligned, and include full-year, project-based curriculum to engage every learning style.

Are the courses in-person or virtual?

The courses will be offered online, virtually and instructor-led, to reduce travel and maximize opportunities for students to participate.

Who is teaching the courses?

The courses will be led by a group of volunteers dedicated to improving our community, including current teachers, retired teachers, young professionals, and industry leaders from Northeast PA.

What courses are available?

For the Fall 2020 semester, Coding the Coal Region will offer to introductory courses: [Programming 101 – Introduction to Computational Thinking with Scratch](#) and [Programming 105 – Introduction to Web Development with JavaScript](#).

When are the courses held?

The Fall 2020 semester courses will begin during the week of August 24th and end during the week of December 14th. Each week features 2 hours of content, for a total of 30 hours per course. There are two “holiday weeks” during the semester that will not feature classes: the week of September 7th (Labor Day) and the week of November 23rd (Thanksgiving). You can view the Fall 2020 Course Overview [HERE](#).

What software do I need to participate in the course?

There are no software requirements to participate in the course. All content is accessed online.

How long is each course?

Each course contains 30 hours of content, broken down into two-hour blocks per week.

What if I miss a lesson?

Students who miss a lesson will be allowed to participate in another class being held during the week. Wilkes-Barre Connect will work to find a date/time that works best for you and your schedule.

What do I get for completing the course?

Students that complete a course will be eligible to proceed with advanced courses in each pathway and will earn a certified digital badge that can be posted across social media and leveraged on personal records and applications.

Why should I take a course?

Coding the Coal Region will provide students with a foundational knowledge to be successful in college, career, and life.

What pathways are offered?

Coding the Coal Region will offer the following pathways: Graphic Design, Game & App Development, and Web Development.

Who can I contact to discuss the Coding the Coal Region Project?

The Project Manager for Coding the Coal Region is Shanie Mohamed, Economic Development Specialist for Wilkes-Barre Connect. Shanie can be reached via email at shanie.mohamed@wilkes-barre.org.