

# K-12 ALLIANCE

ncwit.org

The NCWIT K-12 Alliance is dedicated to creating access to authentic, inclusive computing education for every girl, everywhere. Made up of more than 650 national organizations, professional educator associations, academic institutions, and businesses, the K-12 Alliance leverages the reach and diversity of its members to increase the meaningful and influential participation of girls in computing. Backed by social science research, NCWIT's K-12 Alliance also creates outreach programs and resources that recruit, retain, and advance more girls into computing nationwide. By working together, the distinguished K-12 Alliance members make a larger and more immediate impact than if they acted alone. (See the NCWIT K-12 Change Model: [ncwit.org/change](http://ncwit.org/change))

The K-12 Alliance is home to several NCWIT flagship programs and research-based resources that directly support girls in IT and coalesce stakeholders and adult influencers like counselors, formal and informal educators, families, and communities:

## **Counselors for Computing (C4C)**

C4C provides information and resources that help school counselors join the front line of the computing conversation. C4C brings people and programs together with professional development, knowledge, and resources to give all students access to transformative computing careers. ([www.ncwit.org/c4c](http://www.ncwit.org/c4c))

## **NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (AiC)**

AiC uses exclusive awards, scholarships, internships, and professional opportunities to amplify voices, build identity, reward persistence, and recognize fortitude as women increase their technical, entrepreneurial, and leadership skills. AiC has 82 affiliates and reaches all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, all U.S. military bases overseas, and Canada. ([www.aspirations.org](http://www.aspirations.org))

## **TECHNOLOchicas**

This campaign is designed to raise awareness among young Latinas and their families about opportunities and careers in technology. TECHNOLOchicas uses the powerful stories of Latinas from diverse backgrounds, who are in technology fields, and recognize the power of innovation to change the world. These stories allow girls to see and relate to real-life role models. ([www.technolochicas.org](http://www.technolochicas.org))



## MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

K-12 Alliance members can participate in K-12 Huddles, NCWIT K-12 resource committees or project teams, as well as the NCWIT Summit. Past committee members have provided feedback on key NCWIT research and resources, including: talking points for adults to spark young people's interest in computing careers, advocacy materials concerning the critical need for computing education in K-12 schools, reports that address the key barriers to increasing girls' participation in computing, and promising practices for addressing them.

## RESULTS

- 89 percent of K-12 Alliance Members "strongly" or "somewhat" agree that something they learned through NCWIT helped them take action.
- 82 percent of K-12 Alliance Members agreed that NCWIT membership helped them build allies or advocates for diversifying computing in their organizations.
- More than 80 percent of Counselors for Computing (C4C) participants surveyed report having gained "a lot" or "a great deal" of understanding of computing topics since attending a C4C event, such as curriculum, career options, focus on underrepresented populations, and resources for all students.
- Aspirations in Computing (AiC) serves over 25,000 women nationwide; 90 percent of past AiC award winners report a college major or minor in a science, technology engineering, or mathematics (STEM) field.

**“ The networking with other like-minded individuals at the Summit is essential to our efforts in our state to deal with underrepresented minorities, both women and ethnic minorities.”**

– NCWIT K-12 Member Representative

**“ I realize now that a specific effort targeting girls must be made to get more girls into classes.”**

– C4C Participant

## WHY YOU SHOULD PARTICIPATE

- Access and share practices with a national network of peer K-12 organizations.
- Connect with NCWIT Academic, Affinity, and Workforce Alliances to promote programs, acquire volunteers, and more.
- Participate in the annual NCWIT Summit.
- Contribute to the national dialogue about the future of U.S. computing education.
- Gain visibility through NCWIT communications channels.

## ABOUT NCWIT

The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) is a non-profit community of more than 1,500 universities, companies, non-profits, and government organizations nationwide working to increase the meaningful and influential participation of girls and women in computing. NCWIT equips change leaders with resources for taking action in recruiting, retaining, and advancing women from K-12 and higher education through industry and entrepreneurial careers. Find out more at [www.ncwit.org](http://www.ncwit.org).

**“ I've received knowledge about new resources, which I can use in workshops and sessions that I run in my state and elsewhere.”**

– NCWIT K-12 Alliance Representative



NATIONAL CENTER FOR WOMEN & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (NCWIT)  
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