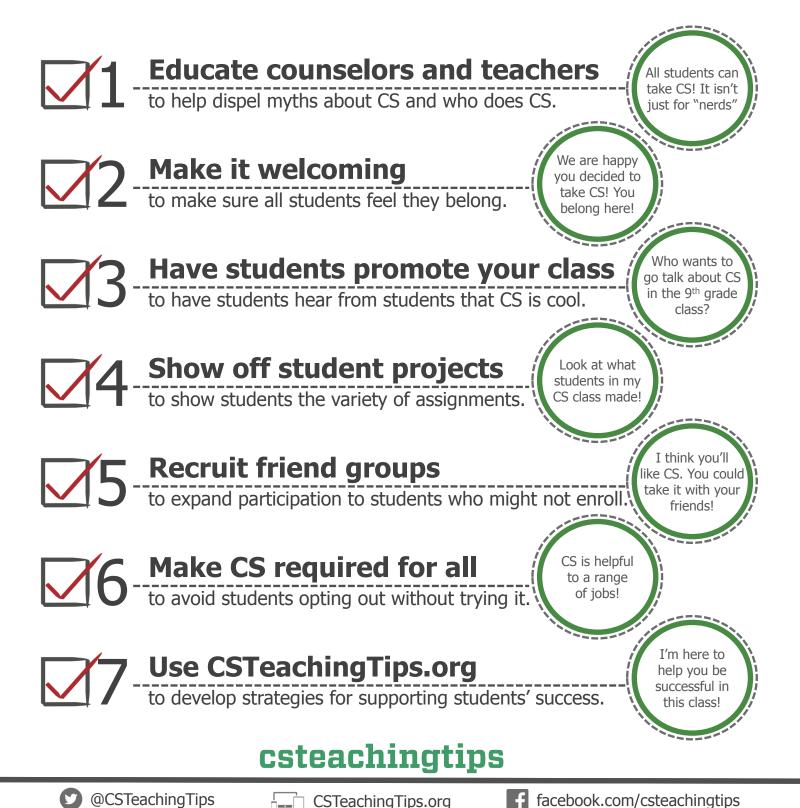# Tips for HS student
Recruitment

CSTeachingTips.org/Tips-for-Recruitment-in-HS

1 Educate counselors and teachers
to help dispel myths about CS and who does CS.

All students can take CS! It isn't just for "nerds"

2 Make it welcoming
to make sure all students feel they belong.

We are happy you decided to take CS! You belong here!

3 Have students promote your class
to have students hear from students that CS is cool.

Who wants to go talk about CS in the 9th grade class?

4 Show off student projects
to show students the variety of assignments.

Look at what students in my CS class made!

5 Recruit friend groups
to expand participation to students who might not enroll.

I think you'll like CS. You could take it with your friends!

6 Make CS required for all
to avoid students opting out without trying it.

CS is helpful to a range of jobs!

7 Use CSTeachingTips.org
to develop strategies for supporting students' success.

I'm here to help you be successful in this class!

csteachingtips

1 Educate counselors and teachers

Other adults at the school often have a lot of influence over students. Make sure that the counselors know that you want all students in your CS classes. Show them examples of your students' assignments to show them that CS can be engaging. Help counselors and other teachers recognize that there are stereotypes that discourage students from pursuing CS. Dispel these stereotypes so that other adults encourage all students to try CS. Use this "Critical Listening Guide" (www.ncwit.org/criticallistening) to identify and address counter-productive diversity narratives like "Women need to learn to be more confident" and "Women are such great collaborators."

2 Make it welcoming

Ensure that the climate in the classroom is welcoming of all students. This can include providing students opportunities to discuss ideas with their peers, making sure that students know how and where they can get help, and not equating experience with "smart."

3 Have students promote your class

Have students go to other classes to educate students about what they could learn in the CS class. Other students can be the most compelling spokespeople. Make sure that your students know to avoid reinforcing stereotypes about CS.

4 Show off student projects

Help students visualize what they would do and learn by showing off your current students' work. Look for opportunities to highlight their work across the school. For example, consider showing off work at back to school nights, science fairs, or even set up a table at sporting events.

5 Recruit friend groups

To avoid students being "the only" in a CS class or not having any friends in the class, recruit whole friend groups to take the class. Use this as a strategy to get students to enroll in your class who might otherwise opt out. Try to identify students who might influence their friends to try the class.

6 Make CS required for all

To avoid self-selection, have all students at the school try CS. This can help provide all students a background in CS so that they can see if it is something they like and might want to pursue. Students who don't fit the stereotype of a typical computer scientist often opt out of trying CS even though they might really like it! Try to focus your efforts at your school toward programs that serve all students.

7 Use CSTeachingTips.org

Seek out resources to improve your students' learning experience. We know this is a shameless plug, but check out resources from CSTeachingTips.org to learn about common misconceptions, strategies for engaging your students, and reminders of strategies to make your classroom inclusive.