

## **Overview**

The University of Florida, the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) are collaborating on the Universal Design for Computer Science Education (UDL4CS-2) project to enhance the inclusion of students with disabilities in K-8 computer science (CS) education. Building on a previous small Research-Practice Partnership (RPP), UDL4CS-2 aims to strengthen the partnership, investigate teacher needs and barriers, build a shared knowledge base on professional development (PD) for inclusive CS education, and assess the level of inclusion across partner sites. The project will use improvement science and design-based implementation research (DBIR) to develop a formal Networked Improvement Community (NIC) focused on inclusive practices such as Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and accessibility. Through a mixed methods approach, it will examine how teachers in general and special education settings enact inclusive practices and how these practices impact the participation of students with disabilities in CS education. The broader impact of UDL4CS-2 is to increase participation of students with disabilities, who are underrepresented in CS, by addressing barriers related to gender, race, and socioeconomic status. Findings will be disseminated through the CSTA network to inform practices in other districts, and the project will explore scaling strategies for diverse educational contexts, ensuring that high-quality CS education becomes more accessible to students in districts with fewer resources.