**Overview**

Your educational background and the pursuit of coursework beyond an undergraduate degree is important to school districts when they consider which teachers to retain, promote, and offer a pay increase. A master’s degree is also a useful way to enhance your professional expertise by building on your prior teaching experience. Earn your education master’s degree within a program created specifically for current and aspiring natural science teachers.

During this master’s in science education program, you will:

- Expand your natural science knowledge in the areas of biology, chemistry, physics, and environmental science for use in middle and high school classrooms
- Immerse yourself in coursework related to curriculum development, instructional theory, and pedagogy
- Advance your instructional skills with coursework that explores classroom management, presentation skills, communication, and discipline

Courses within the Master of Natural Sciences Education (M.N.S.E.) apply toward certification, licensure, and/or endorsements necessary to teach within every state in the United States. It is recommended that you review the certification requirements to teach secondary sciences within your state. Courses are also applicable to teach internationally in those countries that require certification.

**Curriculum**

All science-related coursework is tailored for teachers and focuses on how you can incorporate lessons into your own classroom.

**Coursework Option**

The Coursework Option requires you complete an additional natural science course and independent study in lieu of a research project.

- Education courses (9 credits)
- Natural science courses (18 credits)
- Independent study (3 credits)

**Research Option**

The Research Option requires you complete a research project in lieu of an additional natural science course and independent study.

- Education courses (9 credits)
- Natural science courses (15 credits)
- Research (6 credits)

**Contact**

(970) 492-4898
[online.colostate.edu/contact](http://online.colostate.edu/contact)

**Delivery**

Online

**Credits**

30–31 credits

**Tuition**

$588 per credit
- Includes [Student Services](http://online.colostate.edu/contact)
- Fees assessed separately
- [Financial aid](http://online.colostate.edu/contact) is available; eligibility determined on an individual basis

**Time Frame**

Can be completed in 2 years

**More Info**

[online.colostate.edu/degrees/natural-sciences-education](http://online.colostate.edu/degrees/natural-sciences-education)
How to Apply
Master of Natural Sciences Education (M.N.S.E.)

Application Deadline
Fall semester: July 1  Spring semester: November 1

1 Review Admission Requirements
The Master of Natural Sciences Education (M.N.S.E.) degree requires you to have the following, at a minimum:
☐ A bachelor’s degree in a science or science-related discipline from a regionally accredited institution
☐ A 3.0 GPA in undergraduate coursework (exceptions may be made for students who are applying through Track II Admission)
☐ Be a practicing instructor and/or licensed educator
☐ Applicants with strong science backgrounds and a desire to become educators are considered for admission on a provisional basis. (Note: The MNSE program does not provide a teaching license.)

Note that meeting the minimum standards does not ensure admission to the program. Admission to Colorado State University graduate programs is based on a number of factors, including prior academic and professional experience and the personal statement.

2 Prepare Application Materials
Prepare the materials below and upload when you apply online.

☐ Three letters of recommendation
Three professional recommendations are required. It is recommended that letters come from faculty, supervisors, or others who can accurately speak to your skills as a science teacher and student. You will provide information about your recommenders in the online application. CSU will contact them with instructions and a link to a secure form they will submit on your behalf.

☐ Resume or vita
Outline your professional employment, collegiate work, and any publications, exhibitions, service activities, prizes, and awards.

☐ Statement of Purpose
The statement of purpose is typically 1-2 pages and briefly describes your background, educational goals, research interests, and why you would be a good fit in the program. Please include if you would like to pursue the Coursework Option or Research Option in your statement. Please include your statement in the online application process.

3 Complete Online Application
Complete the online graduate application and pay the nonrefundable application processing fee (payable online). As soon as you have completed the required information, please submit your application. You do not need to wait for transcripts to move your application forward.

• Select “Natural Sciences Education MNSE – Distance” when choosing the program of study.

4 Request Transcripts
• Request one official transcript of all collegiate work completed from every institution attended, whether or not you received a degree from those institutions. Transcripts from Colorado State University are not required. Official transcripts can either be mailed in or sent as e-transcripts.
How to Apply (Continued)

• Send e-transcripts to: gradadmissions@colostate.edu

• Send paper copies to:
  Graduate Admissions
  Colorado State University – Office of Admissions
  1062 Campus Delivery
  Fort Collins, CO 80523-1062

Check Your Application Status

• View your application status at any time to ensure your application checklist is complete or to check on updates.

• Once your complete application, including supporting materials, is received, the department admission committee will review your application and notify you of their decision.

Information for International Students

Official transcript translation
Ensure official copies include a certified translation into English (only one set of transcripts is required).

Official test scores
Colorado State University requires that proficiency in English language be demonstrated either by the TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE academic tests prior to admission. Please submit one of the official scores from the list below. Scores must be taken within two years prior to admission and submitted directly from the Educational Testing Service (select institution code: 4075).

• The minimum TOEFL score for admission without condition is 550 (paper-based), or 80 (internet-based).
• The minimum IELTS score for admission without condition is 6.5.
• The minimum PTE Academic score for admission without condition is 58.

In general, all applicants from countries in which English is not the official language, and who do not have an undergraduate degree from a country in which the official language is English (Canada, U.K., Australia, USA, New Zealand, etc.), must submit one of the official test scores from the list above.

Questions? Contact a Student Success Coach for help with your application. Call (970) 492-4898.