Overview

CSU’s social work master’s degree features a nationally recognized advanced generalist curriculum. Students are prepared for roles as social work practitioners in complex, diverse, and dynamic settings and learn to promote human rights and individual, community, and global well-being.

This distance-delivered degree program allows you to learn from experienced and knowledgeable CSU faculty through a combination of in-person and online social work classes. We offer a traditional, three-year MSW program as well as a two-year Advanced Standing program. For both programs, in-person instruction is held twice per semester in the spring, summer, and fall in Colorado Springs, CO (current cohort) or in Denver (starting spring 2017).

Our MSW program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, which enables students to pursue professional licensure upon program completion. Additionally, our program is approved by the Colorado Department of Education for school social work licensure, for those students who elect to complete the additional course requirement (SOWK 560) or seek our graduate certificate in PreK-12 School Social Work.

Curriculum

**Year 1**
- **SOWK 500** Principles and Philosophy of Social Work
- **SOWK 511** Generalist Practice - Small Client Systems
- **SOWK 512** Small Client Systems Skills Lab
- **SOWK 515** Theoretical Foundations for Social Work
- **SOWK 520** Social Welfare Policy Analysis
- **SOWK 588** Foundation Field Placement
- **SOWK 611** Generalist Practice - Large Client Systems

**Year 2**
- **SOWK 571** Small Client Systems: Theory and Practice*
- **SOWK 588** Foundation Field Placement
- **SOWK 600** Methods of Research I
- **SOWK 601** Methods of Research II
- **SOWK 688** Advanced Field Placement

**Year 3**
- **SOWK 688** Concentration Field Placement
- **SOWK 602A** Macro-Level Social Work Practice Research
- **SOWK 602B** Macro-Level Social Work Practice Research
- **SOWK 631** Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities
- **SOWK 633** Advanced Practice: Social Welfare Policy
- **SOWK 634** Advanced Practice with Families and Groups

* Advanced Standing students only

** Elective can be any SOWK course offered through CSU Online. Other electives outside the School of Social Work are possible but should be discussed and approved by School of Social Work advisor.

Contact

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

Delivery

Denver
(current cohort, starting Spring 2017)

Colorado Springs
(starting Spring 2019)

Locations

Denver
475 17th St.
Suite 300
Denver, CO 80202

Colorado Springs
Tim Gill Center for Public Media
315 East Costilla Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Credits

62 credits for full program and 45 credits for Advanced Standing

Tuition

$619 per credit
- Includes [Student Services](https://online.colostate.edu/student-services)
- [Fees](https://online.colostate.edu/fees) assessed separately
- [Financial aid](https://online.colostate.edu/aid) is available; eligibility determined on an individual basis

Time Frame

Full program can be completed in 3 years and Advanced Standing MSW can be completed in 2 years

Completion Requirements

62 credits over nine semesters

More Info

[online.colostate.edu/degrees/social-work](https://online.colostate.edu/degrees/social-work)
How to Apply
Social Work – Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)

Application Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denver Cohort</th>
<th>Earned a B.S.W.?</th>
<th>MSW credits required</th>
<th>MSW Field Education hours required</th>
<th>Start date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional (3 yr)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>945 hours</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>June 1, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Standing (2 yr)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>675 hours</td>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Colorado Springs Cohort</th>
<th>Earned a B.S.W.?</th>
<th>MSW credits required</th>
<th>MSW Field Education hours required</th>
<th>Start date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional (3 yr)</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Spring 2018</td>
<td>Colorado Springs</td>
<td>June 1, 2017</td>
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<td>Advanced Standing (2 yr)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>675 hours</td>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>Colorado Springs</td>
<td>June 1, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1 Review Admission Requirements

☐ At least 400 hours of verifiable human service work and/or volunteer experience

☐ A bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited institution. Admission to the Advanced Standing cohort requires students to have earned a bachelor’s degree in social work within the last 7 years from an accredited B.S.W. program

☐ 18 credits in social and behavioral sciences including
  • statistics
  • human biology
  • human life cycle development covering the life span
  • 9 credits in any combination of the following courses: sociology, psychology, economics, political science, anthropology, or history; these courses must be completed and transcripts received by the first day of classes

☐ 3.0 GPA (4.0 scale) – occasional exceptions may be made if applicant demonstrates ability to successfully complete graduate-level work

Note that meeting the minimum department 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

Download the complete Master of Social Work distance program application packet. Prepare the materials below and upload when you apply online.

☐ Three letters of reference
  Appropriate sources for references include employers, field instructors, supervisors and university faculty.

(970) 492-4898  online.colostate.edu/contact
One reference must be a person who has most recently supervised the applicant in a human service delivery experience (paid, volunteer or educational). Three professional recommendations are required. 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
This must include a computation of hours worked in each social service setting.

☐ Statement of purpose
In general, you will be asked to discuss your life experiences and your professional goals and relate those to social services and the social work profession. Detailed guidelines of specific topics to include in this statement are available in MSW Distance program application.

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 recommendations or transcripts to move your application forward.

- Select “Social Work MSW - 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.
- 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.