

Computer Science

Master of Computer Science (M.C.S.)



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
ONLINE

Overview

Today's tech-dependent world is ripe with opportunities for those who have in-depth computer science knowledge. Rising software development needs across industries, a growing emphasis on cyber security, and an increase in cloud computing systems are just a few examples of trends driving demand for qualified experts with an advanced computer science education.

At CSU, faculty research and expertise include:

- Databases
- Software engineering
- Artificial intelligence
- Security and information assurance
- Networking
- Parallel computing
- Bioinformatics
- Machine learning

The CSU Computer Science Department supports high-quality research and encourages independent thinking and initiative.

Curriculum

Course Topics

Online courses follow a schedule that is parallel to courses offered on campus and feature our faculty's expertise as they work through real-world, relevant problems.

- Object-Oriented Design
- Artificial Intelligence
- Computer Networks and the Internet
- Parallel Programming
- Software Product and Process Evaluation
- Database Management Systems
- Machine Learning
- Foundations of Fine-Grain Parallelism
- Computer Architecture
- Software Specification and Design
- Fault-Tolerant Computing
- Computer Security
- Advanced Networking
- Parallel Processing
- Software Testing and Analysis

Delivery

Online

Credits

35 credits

Tuition

\$715 per credit

- Includes [Student Services](#)
- [Fees](#) assessed separately
- [Financial aid](#) is available; eligibility determined on an individual basis

Time frame

Can be completed in 2 years

Completion requirements

- A minimum of 35 semester credits [covering a breadth of computer science](#), no more than 8 of which may be at the 400-level.
- 24 of those credits must be earned at Colorado State University, 21 of which must be earned after formal admission.

More info

online.colostate.edu/degrees/computer-science

Contact

Danielle Keller
Student Success Coach
danielle.keller@colostate.edu
(970) 825-1658



Application Deadlines

Fall semester: **May 1**

Spring semester: **November 1**

1 Review Admission Requirements

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution is required. International applicants must have a bachelor's degree equivalent to a 4-year degree from a U.S. institution.
- Students entering the master's program are expected to be fluent in an object-oriented language (e.g., Java or C++). This preparation consists in possessing at least the following:
 - » An understanding of computer organization/architecture, data structures and algorithms, program/software design methodology, theoretical foundations, and operating systems design concepts.
 - » A working knowledge of calculus, linear algebra, introductory probability, applied statistics, and discrete structures.
 - » An overall GPA of at least 3.0 out of 4.0, and a GPA of at least 3.2 in computer science and mathematics course work.
- GRE test scores are required for international applicants only.
- A 3.0 GPA on all undergraduate coursework and a GPA of at least 3.2 in Computer Science and Mathematics coursework.

2 Prepare Application Materials

• Letters of Recommendation

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

Indicate your education, training, and work experience.

• Statement of Purpose

The statement should include plans and reasons for graduate study, and what you hope to gain from the graduate program.

• Transcripts

You can upload unofficial transcripts for preliminary review before requesting official transcripts.

• Test Results

GRE score are optional for domestic students. If you choose to submit GRE scores, they must be reported as percentages (not raw scores). If you do not submit GRE scores, enter zeros for all GRE components. All international applicants from countries where English is not the primary language must supply English proficiency score reports (TOEFL or IELTS). Screen-shots of test scores from testing company web sites are acceptable.

International MCS Applicants: If you do not have a transcript from a college or university located in the USA, you must submit GRE scores. A minimum of 75th percentile on the quantitative section is required for your application to be considered.

• TOEFL/IELTS (if applicable)

DO NOT send your application material also by email or regular mail. If you are recommended for admission, official copies of your transcripts and test score reports will be required as part of the formal application process.

3 Submit Online Application

Complete the [online graduate application](#).

- Select “Computer Science MCS - Distance” when choosing the program of study.

Once your application is submitted, you will upload documentation (unofficial documents will be accepted at this stage of the application process). Transcripts and test scores can only be uploaded after you submit your application.

Applicants can supply documents officially through originating agencies or upload scans of unofficial documents as they choose prior to the evaluation phase of the application process.

The CSU Graduate Admissions Office will notify you by email of its admissions decision. If the committee believes you should be admitted, you will be asked to complete the official admission process with official documents and pay the application fee. If you are not recommended for admission, you should not complete the rest of the application, nor should you pay the application fee.

4 Finalize Your Application

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

5 Submit Test Scores (Recommended)

GRE test scores are not required, but may be submitted if you feel these will strengthen your application. Submit official GRE General Test scores through the Educational Testing Service (select institution code: 4075, leave the department code blank). Scores are typically received by the University 4-6 weeks after your testing date.

- All three sections — verbal, quantitative, and analytical — must be submitted. Photocopies are not accepted.
- CSU graduates do not, generally, need to take the GRE. If you think it will strengthen your application, though, we recommend you do take it.

Check Your Application Status

View your [graduate 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 promptly notify you of their decision.

International Students

See [website](#) for test score and transcript requirements.