



## Overview

Advance your career in water resources planning, management, and policy with this graduate certificate addressing an array of water issues in the western United States and around the world. Expand your knowledge with case studies, geospatial applications, and exercises. The program of study emphasizes an understanding of the hydrologic cycle and the physical processes that drive it, how humans adapt water resources to their needs, techniques for sustainable management, the evolution of laws and policies governing water use, and basic spatial and temporal analysis of water data.

After completion of this water resources graduate certificate, apply your knowledge to a career in the public or private sector. Career opportunities may be found in forests, parks, wildlife refuges, public lands, special-purpose water districts, academia, water resources engineering and consulting firms, nonprofit organizations, and municipal, tribal, county, state, or federal agencies.

## Curriculum

This graduate certificate requires three courses total and they may be taken in any order. Students coming into this program must have an undergraduate degree in a related field (i.e., hydrology, geography, geology, ecology, biology, etc.). Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites.

- **WR 511** – Water Resource Development (3 cr.)  
OR  
**CIVE 544** – Water Resources Planning and Management (3 cr.)
- **WR 512** – Water Law for Non-Lawyers (3 cr.)
- **WR 514** – GIS and Data Analysis in Water Resources (3 cr.)

## Delivery

Online

## Credits

9 credits

## Tuition

\$685–\$964 per credit

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

## Time frame

1 year

## Completion requirements

Successful completion of 9 credits from the appropriate courses

## More info

[online.colostate.edu/certificates/water-resources](https://online.colostate.edu/certificates/water-resources)

## Contact

Ben Fletcher  
Student Success Coach  
[ben.fletcher@colostate.edu](mailto:ben.fletcher@colostate.edu)  
(970) 825-1295

## Application Deadlines

Fall semester: **July 1**      Spring semester: **December 1**

### 1 Review Admission Requirements

While it is not required, it is recommended that you contact us in advance of submitting application materials. Prepare the materials below and upload when you apply online.

**Two letters of recommendation** (professional and/or academic)

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.

#### Statement of purpose

- Your purpose for pursuing graduate education and how it will contribute to your long-term goals and career plans
- Why you have selected Colorado State University as the place to pursue your graduate studies
- A description of teaching, research/creative, or other academic work you have engaged in relevant to the qualifications.

### 2 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. Your application will not be reviewed until it is complete and all required materials have been received.

- Choose “Water Resources (Certificate) – Distance” when choosing the Program of Study. (Note: You must first select “Certificate” at the top.)

### 3 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](mailto: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

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