

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

The Master of Social Work (MSW) degree is a nationally recognized Advanced Generalist program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Our program equips students for versatile career paths from micro to macro settings, such as clinical practice through nonprofit leadership and policy advocacy. In alignment with social work values, our program is anti-oppressive and anti-racist, continually striving to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in every aspect of social work education and practice.

Learning Objectives

Through experiential learning, in the pursuit of social, economic, and environmental justice, the goals of the Advanced Generalist MSW program are to prepare graduates who:

1. Serve as skilled practitioners who engage in ethical, autonomous, and multi-disciplinary practice across system levels utilizing a Person-in-Environment perspective.
2. Serve as leaders who advance social, economic, and environmental justice, promote human rights, and engage in social action to eliminate oppressive conditions for all people.
3. Serve as leaders that value and appreciate human relationships and diversity in its multiple forms and who model and advocate for inclusive practices and cultural humility.
4. Practice life-long learning, engage in scientific inquiry, and utilize critical thinking to inform practice at all system levels.
5. Critically apply relevant theories and social work values to engage, assess, intervene and evaluate practice within changing contexts at all systems levels.

Program Options

The School of Social Work offers different program options for completing the MSW degree:

1. **Full Program** – For students who have an undergraduate degree in a different discipline, our two-year full-time program starts every fall and is offered in person. Students in this program complete three elective courses, enabling them to complete one of five graduate certificate programs offered by the School of Social Work or to engage in interdisciplinary coursework. This program is 64 credits. View the MSW program schedule (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/full-time-msw-program/>).
2. **Advanced Standing** – For students who have earned a BSW from an accredited program within the past seven years, this accelerated path starts every summer and is offered in person. Students complete this program over three semesters for a total of 39 credits, which includes three elective credits (one course). View the Advanced Standing MSW Program schedule (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/advanced-standing-msw-program/>).
3. **Part-time Online/Hybrid Learning Options** – The School of Social Work also offers a part-time online program completed in three years or in two years for students with Advanced Standing. Online students meet for one in-person learning weekend per semester at the cohort location. Current cohorts include Fort Collins (off-campus), Boulder/Longmont, and Denver. Please visit the Distance MSW Program website (<https://www.online.colostate.edu/degrees/social-work/>).

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4. **MSW/MPH Dual Degree** – In partnership with the Colorado School of Public Health, the School of Social Work offers a dual degree Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health program. For information, visit the MSW/MPH website (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/master-of-social-work-master-of-public-health-program/>).
5. **MACP/MSW Joint Degree** – In partnership with CSU's Department of Psychology, the School of Social Work offers a joint degree: Master's in Addiction Counseling in Psychology and Social Work (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/university-wide-programs/interdisciplinary-studies/addiction-counseling-psychology-social-work-acsw-masw/>).

Students who successfully complete the MSW program are prepared to pursue licensure in accordance with the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) in Colorado and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). Licensure requirements may vary in different states and US territories.

Learn more about the Master of Social Work on the School of Social Work website (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/>).

[Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin.](#)