

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). The MSW Program prepares graduates for theoretically grounded advanced generalist social work practice, advocacy, research, and leadership. The MSW program strives to center anti-oppressive and collaborative practice. Our program equips students for versatile career paths such as clinical practice with individuals, partners, families, and/or groups; school-based work; leadership; and policy advocacy.

Learning Objectives

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

1. Are equipped for generalist and advanced generalist practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
2. Serve as skilled practitioners who engage in ethical, autonomous, and multi-disciplinary practice across system levels utilizing a Person-in-Environment perspective.
3. Serve as leaders who advance social, racial, economic, and environmental justice, promote human rights, and engage in social action and policy change to eliminate oppressive conditions for all people.
4. Advance social work values and ethics through practice in organizational and community settings.
5. Value and appreciate human relationships and diversity in multiple forms; and model and advocate for equitable and inclusive practices and cultural humility.
6. Practice life-long learning, engage in scientific inquiry, and utilize critical thinking to inform practice at all system levels, as well as using practice to inform research.
7. Critically apply relevant theories and social work values to engage, assess, intervene and evaluate practice within changing contexts at all systems levels.
8. Demonstrate advanced generalist skills through competency in practice-based learning settings.

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 nine elective credits (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. Refer to the full MSW program schedule (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/full-time-msw-program/>). (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/begin-your-msw-journey/on-campus-msw-programs/>)
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). Refer to the Advanced Standing program schedule (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/begin-your-msw-journey/on-campus-msw-programs/>).

3. **Part-time Online/Hybrid Learning Options** – The School of Social Work also offers a part-time online program that is completed in three years for the full program or in two years for students with Advanced Standing. Hybrid programs meet for one in-person learning weekend per semester at the cohort location. Current cohorts include Fort Collins (off-campus), Boulder, and Denver. Refer to the Hybrid MSW Program website (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/begin-your-msw-journey/hybrid-msw-programs/>) for more information.
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. Refer to 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/>) for more information.
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. R (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/master-of-social-work-master-of-public-health-program/>) refer to the MACP/MSW website (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/ssw/programs-and-degrees/master-of-social-work/master-of-addiction-counseling-in-psychology-and-social-work/>) for more information.

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.

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