



COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

OUR HISTORY

The College of Health and Human Sciences has roots at CSU dating back to 1894, when Home Economics was founded at Colorado Agricultural College. What is now known as the College of Health and Human Sciences was formed in 1986 when the College of Professional Studies and the College of Human Resource Sciences, formerly known as Home Economics, joined to create the College of Applied Human Sciences. In 2013, the name changed to the College of Health and Human Sciences.

YEAR FOUNDED

1894

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

5,188

Fall Census 2024

SPONSORED PROJECT EXPENDITURES

\$22,278,785

Fiscal Year 2025

DEPARTMENTS AND SCHOOLS

- Construction Management
- Design and Merchandising
- Food Science and Human Nutrition
- Health and Exercise Science
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Occupational Therapy
- School of Education
- School of Social Work

WHAT WE'RE KNOWN FOR

Advancing human health and well-being across the lifespan through multi-disciplinary research and creativity.

Preventing disease and optimizing human performance through exercise, nutrition, and positive mental health.

Advocating for sustainable apparel and product development, building practices, infrastructure, design, and communities.

Promoting quality education and inclusive participation for people of all ages.

Optimizing design and construction for healthy living.

KEY INITIATIVES

Addressing critical workforce needs, CHHS is developing educational pathways, including:

- A nursing program in collaboration with CSU Pueblo.
- A physical therapy doctorate program.
- Enhanced public health and mental and behavioral health curricula.
- New elementary and secondary teacher education programs.

Leading interdisciplinary innovation through a proposed School of Human-Centered Design, as well as human-centered leadership in research, education, and engagement in CSU's One Health Initiative.



COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

#3

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM

U.S. News and World Report

TOP 15%

PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

U.S. News and World Report, Best Graduate Schools

AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Interdisciplinary community outreach

- Youth Sport Camps, Adult Fitness, and Fit Cancer engage people of all ages in healthy movement.
- Campus Connections, an award-winning therapeutic youth mentoring program, has been licensed and replicated on five other university campuses.
- The Prevention Research Center and the Social Work Research Center are trusted partners with institutions, organizations, and government entities across Colorado to support evidence-based, community-focused strategies to prevent and treat substance use disorders and promote child and family well-being.

Innovative design spaces

- The Nancy Richardson Design Center offers spaces and programs open to all students to learn and apply design thinking and modern technologies to solve problems.
- The Gifford Building is home to the premier higher education Textile Science Lab in the country.
- The Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising is CSU's historic apparel and textiles collection, which fosters the telling of global stories of people and their textiles, dress, and interior furnishings.

RECENT HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH

Mental and behavioral health: Exploring the intersection of adolescent depression and stress as risk factors for developing type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, researchers are testing community-based programs across Colorado with mental health and family education interventions. Researchers are generating strategies that reduce drug use, boost mental health, and increase engagement in everyday activities.

Microbiomes: Investigating phytochemicals and their impact on ecosystems, ranging from the human gut to soils used for crop production, fermentation and food scientists are discovering powerful interactions between organic chemistry and human behavior, informing fermented food and beverage product development, nutrition, and chronic and infectious disease treatment.

Community-based engagement: Interdisciplinary conservation and sustainability research projects in collaboration with community members benefit from CSU's expertise in STEM education. Ranchers and tribal communities are collaborating on rangeland stewardship solutions; citizen scientists are supporting backyard pollinator conservation aided by artificial intelligence; and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are building in-demand agricultural career skills.

Healthy aging: Researchers are exploring behaviors that identify risk factors for disease and support good health. Impacts include identifying behavioral markers of early cognitive decline; testing cardiovascular function for at-risk populations such as first responders; and creating Lifelong Communities guidelines for housing developers.