The hospitality industry is Colorado’s second largest employer and one of the state’s fastest-growing industries.

To meet the needs of Colorado’s burgeoning sector as well as prepare people for global leadership roles, MSU Denver’s School of Hospitality, Events and Tourism (HEaT) offers some of country’s most dynamic and innovative programs.

From a Brewery Operations major informed by MSU Denver expertise in Engineering, Chemistry, and Water Studies to dozens of industry and community partnerships that provide students with internships and jobs, HEaT programs emphasize experiential learning. Whether it’s crafting beer for production at the historic Tivoli Brewing Company on campus, working in the University’s SpringHill Suites® Denver Downtown hotel or studying travel in the tourism mecca that is the Mile High City, students graduate from MSU Denver’s School of HEaT ready for Colorado’s workforce and beyond.

School of Hospitality, Events and Tourism Industry Partnerships
Partnership with regional and national businesses and organizations, MSU Denver’s School of HEaT serves as a locus of industry innovation and workforce development.

In addition to MSU Denver’s campus hotel, which operates under the SpringHill Suites® Marriott brand, and is run by Denver-based hotel-management firm Sage Hospitality, the Rita and Navin Dimond Fellows Program, offers paid internships to select students at Stonebridge Companies-run properties for one semester. Fellows gain in-depth industry experience, the chance to compete for a $5,000 award and a premier professional network.

MSU Denver students and the greater hospitality community also benefit from the training, expertise, creativity and job opportunities provided by numerous HEaT partners such as:

- Master Brewers Association of America
- Odell Brewing Company
- Ska Brewing Company
- Tivoli Brewing and Distributing Company
- Colorado Convention Center/Centerplate
- Kinsley Meetings
- Visit Denver
- Broadmoor Hotel
- Four Seasons Hotels
- Ritz Carlton Hotel
- American Culinary Federation
- Colorado Chef’s Association
- Colorado Restaurant Foundation
- Denver Broncos
- We Don’t Waste
- Colorado Tourism Office
- Corporate Travel Management
- Denver History Tours
Facilities:
MSU Denver is conveniently located just steps away from the Pepsi Center and near Denver’s central business and entertainment district. The LEED® Gold-certified facility contains the following assets:
• A fully functioning, 150-room hotel
• The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation Conference Center
• Degree Metropolitan Food + Drink, a full-service restaurant
• Sensory analysis lab for wine, beer and spirits classes with illuminated tables, southwestern orientation for filtered sunlight and indirect color-corrected lighting
• Beer Industry Program Quality Analysis and Quality Control (QA/QC) and Brewing Production Labs
• Microbiological Fermentation Lab, Packaging Lab and Draft Training Center (under construction)

Notable Awards:
• 2012 Downtown Denver Partnership Award
• 2013 LoDo District New Business Award
• 2014 U.S. Green Building Council Most Successful Community Engagement
• 2016 AASCU Award for Excellence and Innovation in Regional and Economic Development
• 2016 American Culinary Federation Colorado Chefs Association Excellence in Education

Facts
MSU Denver offers the most cost-effective hospitality bachelor’s degree program in Colorado and any community within 400 miles of Denver.

The Rita and Navin Dimond Hotel Management Program is named for the founders and owners of Stonebridge Companies, one of the nation’s leading development and hospitality management companies. It is the only named academic program at MSU Denver.

MSU Denver’s School of HEaT was a founding partner of the nonprofit Food for Thought, a partnership between the Arvada Sunrise Rotary Foundation and MSU Denver that gives weekly “Power Sacks” of food — enough to feed a family of four — to more than 4,000 low-income children every week. The program not only provides food for weekends when children aren’t covered by school nutrition programs, it also gives MSU Denver students service-learning experience.

Buck Buck Moose, a Vienna lager brewed by Tivoli Brewing Company, was crafted by MSU Denver students especially for the Ritz-Carlton Bachelor Gulch in Beaver Creek, Colorado. It is poured exclusively at the resort and at the Tivoli Brewing Company Taphouse on campus.

The Hospitality Events and Tourism Program

Majors
• Brewery Operations B.S.
• Craft Brewing and Pub Operations B.S.
• Event and Meeting Management B.S.
• Hotel Management B.S.
• Restaurant Management B.S.
  • Food Operations Concentration
  • Beverage Operations Concentration

Travel and Tourism Management B.S.
  • Leisure Tourism Concentration
  • Corporate Travel Concentration

Minors
• Beverage Management
• Brewery Operations
• Event and Meeting Management

Certificates
• Hotel Management
• Corporate Travel
• Leisure Tourism
• Restaurant Management
• Urban Agriculture