Why Hospitality?

Career pathways are accelerating, and opportunity is booming more than ever for students entering the hospitality field, which accounted for 4% of U.S. GDP in 2019.

MSU Denver’s School of Hospitality is the largest hospitality program in the region and the only one in the U.S. boasting a LEED Gold hotel, commercial conference space, a state-of-the-art beverage-testing laboratory, a commercial restaurant and a commercial brewery all on campus.

Our unrivaled value proposition relies upon our industry-based faculty and a responsive curriculum linking classrooms and careers. Thanks to myriad industry partnerships and applied education, our students are primed to grow their industry careers on—and before—Day One.

Salary Snapshot

- **$73,300**  
  Lodging Manager in Colorado

- **$64,487**  
  Event Manager

- **$65,286**  
  Brewmaster

- **$69,601**  
  Sales Manager

Program and partnership highlights

**The Rita and Navin Dimond Hotel Management Program** is named for the founders and owners of Stonebridge Company properties, one of the nation’s leading development and hospitality management companies. The Dimond Fellowship Program provides paid internships at select Stonebridge Companies properties, access to an invaluable network of leaders and a $5,000 award to the Dimond Fellow of the Year.

**Day Leadership Academy**

Gina and Frank Day bring to MSU Denver the kind of inclusive leadership that has led to the success of the Concept Restaurants group and national chains such as Rock Bottom Brewery and Old Chicago Pizza and Taproom. In addition to establishing a one-of-a-kind Hospitality Leadership major, the Day Leadership Academy boasts a 360-degree peer-, alumni- and industry-mentorship structure; provides internships with field leaders; and offers a retreat-based professional-development program.

**Tivoli Brewing Company**

The School of Hospitality partners with the 150-year-old commercial brewery and taphouse to provide applied study in a brewing, packaging and distribution center with a 28,000-barrel-a-year capacity. This partnership affords students the chance to hone critical industry skills on high-quality large-scale and pilot systems. And thanks to a donation by Cask Global Canning Solutions to MSU Denver’s Beer Industry Program, students can see their craft—and pick up a six-pack of it—at regional stores throughout the Front Range.

**Colorado Meeting and Events Incentive Program**

MSU Denver’s School of Hospitality has partnered with the Colorado Tourism Office as the administrative home to the $10 million rebate-based program to attract and retain conferences, meetings, festivals and other events to power the comeback, in partnership with the Colorado Tourism Office.

**Hospitality Learning Center**

As part of a public/private partnership, MSU Denver and Sage Hospitality have built an on-campus, full-service, learning laboratory: the Hospitality Learning Center. Combining higher-education classrooms, teaching laboratories, a commercial hotel (Springhill Suites by Marriott) and a conference center, the HLC is the only such facility at a school in the world.
Our programs and sample jobs

HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP
General Manager, Entrepreneur, Revenue Manager, Talent Manager
- Food and Beverage concentration
  Food & Beverage Director, Restaurant Manager, Kitchen Manager
- Recreation and Tourism Management concentration
  Travel Consultant, Destination Concierge, Tour Operator/Owner, Park Superintendent, Facilities Manager, Program Coordinator
- Outdoor Recreation and Adventure Tourism certificate
- Sociology of Tourism certificate

BREWERY OPERATIONS
Head Brewer, Supply Chain and Sales Manager, Lab Director
- Beverage Management minor

EVENT AND MEETING
Convention Sales Leader, Catering Sales, Corporate Event Planner

HOTEL MANAGEMENT
General Manager, Revenue Analyst, Operations Manager, Sales

Marriott Foundation Career Studio
Funded by a grant from the Marriott Foundation, MSU Denver’s School of Hospitality has created an innovative space to welcome students, employers, faculty and staff to engage. With numerous connections to employers in the hospitality field, the Career Studio and café offer a space for students to access concierge career services or network with industry professionals over a cup of coffee.

Beverage Labs
MSU Denver’s $3.7 million Beer Industry Labs include the new QA/QC* Lab, which allows brewers, vintners and other beverage makers to have their products tested for alcohol content, nutritional content, water quality and other ingredients. Launched in partnership with the 140-year-old Chicago-based Siebel Institute of Technology, the labs are led by one of only seven triple-TTB** certified technicians in the country.

Colorado ProStart
The statewide hospitality education program serves more than 900 students from 35 Colorado high schools with a restaurant-management, culinary-arts and business-economics curriculum taught by industry professionals. Students receive dual high school and college academic credit at MSU Denver through the program, which is run by the Colorado Restaurant Association and the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation.

Other industry partners include:
- Master Brewers Association of Americas
- Concept Restaurants
- Odell Brewing Company
- Colorado Convention Center/Centerplate
- Visit Denver
- Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts
- Ritz Carlton Hotel
- Colorado Chefs Association
- Colorado Restaurant Foundation
- Denver Broncos
- Colorado Tourism Office
- Corporate Travel Management
- Inspirato
- Elite Distribution

““I truly believe we’re going to be one of the first places that come out of this stronger...than ever...my top priority is helping students develop into the leaders they’re meant to be.”

Scotti Gladney
SpringHill Suites by Marriott’s General Manager of the Year 2000 and School of Hospitality faculty member

“In my time spent as a Dimond Fellow, I learned to adapt quickly, build relationships with guests and look at the bigger picture of what it truly takes for a hotel to run. This experience allowed me to grow as a leader and find my place in the hospitality world.”

Claire McAteer
MSU Denver ’20
Dimond Fellow

*QA/QC is Quality Assurance/Quality Control
**TTB is Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau