



MSU
DENVER

The Health Institute
at MSU Denver

Revolutionizing Health Education In Colorado



msudenver.edu/health-institute

Photo courtesy Children's Hospital Colorado | Lauren Anderson, Photographer



MSUSM The Health Institute DENVER at MSU Denver

Prepared to serve Colorado.

Over the next four to five years, the United States anticipates a critical shortage of over 3 million health care workers. Colorado is among the worst-situated to meet this gap, with an anticipated need of over 10,000 nurses by 2026*. Fewer than 10% of Colorado health care professionals are people of color. All of this results in inferior health outcomes for underserved communities.

The Health Institute at MSU Denver is the solution.

The greatest indicator of
your lifespan in the state of
Colorado is your ZIP code.

**MSU Denver is
equipped to
change that.**

The Health Institute at MSU Denver partners with industry to:

- **Grow the health care workforce through innovation**, simulation-instruction capacity and increased programming.
- **Prepare and advance health care workers** through interdisciplinary training, education and industry partnerships.
- **Diversify** the health care workforce in Colorado.
- Set the standard for a **whole-person approach** to wellness education.
- Deliver **health and wellness services**.
- Develop the **health care talent pipeline** from high school through career.

Whole-Person Approach to Health Care



Colorado's health care system is plagued with inefficiencies. These include poor communication among disciplines and a lack of understanding of multiple roles required to provide quality care for individual patients, their families and the larger communities. These system failures directly contribute to poor health care outcomes, rapidly rising costs and patients avoiding care. Covid-19 exacerbated health care system inefficiencies. **Our future health care systems need workers who can operate across disciplines, approaching patients in a holistic manner.**

The Health Institute at MSU Denver addresses this problem head-on.

The Health Institute embraces an **integrated approach** to health care that prioritizes collaboration and communication across academic departments. Students will benefit from interdisciplinary curriculum, research and instruction and will be trained in the same way they will deliver care upon graduation. With **interprofessional curricula and leading-edge simulation technology**, students will work, think, act and solve problems together to improve the overall quality of care that patients receive.

Offering Excellent, Affordable Health Education

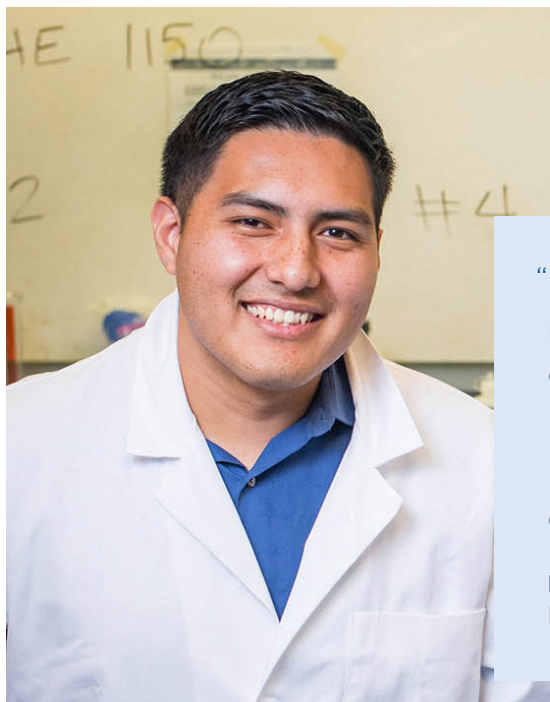
**Over 5,600 (32%)
MSU Denver
students are
majoring in
programs housed
within the Health
Institute.**

MSU Denver invests in innovation. **We remain one of the most affordable higher-education institutions in Colorado. Our accessibility mission creates opportunity and pathways to success for all students.** Our rigorous coursework transforms students into critical thinkers and researchers primed to succeed.

With more than 600 community partners, MSU Denver provides unmatched opportunities to take coursework beyond the classroom into applied internships, co-ops and other prospects. **MSU Denver provides the best educational value in Colorado.**

Current Health Institute Programs:

- Biology
- Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Clinical Behavioral Health (Emphasis in Addictions Counseling)
- Health Care Management
- Human Performance and Sport
- Human Services and Counseling
- Integrative Health Care
- Lifestyle Medicine
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Psychological Sciences
- Social Work
- Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences



Military Times ranked MSU Denver as the top Colorado college for veterans and 28th in the U.S.

“I just accepted a position with DaVita as a patient-care technician. The connection and confidence I got from the Health Care Interest Program (HIP) is directly responsible for that. My end goal is to become a nurse practitioner or a physician assistant, and this is a huge step.”

Eddie Romero-Moreida

Kinesiology and Exercise Science ('19)

Diversifying Colorado's Health Care Workforce for Health Equity



"As a first-generation Latina student from Denver, I knew MSU Denver was the ideal choice for me and my family. I knew the education and the support I'd receive would prepare me to enter the health care industry and immediately make an impact."

Arianna Valdez
Integrative Health Care ('22)

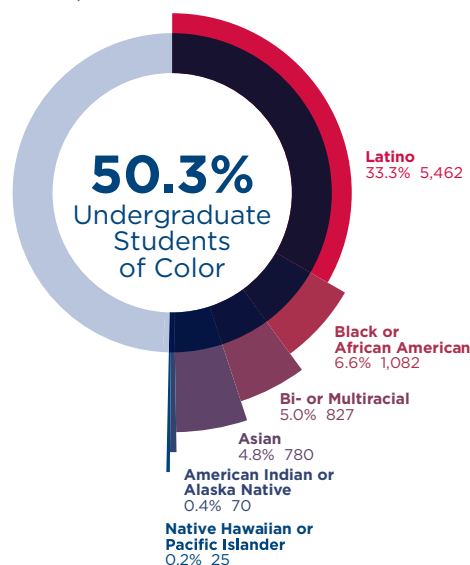
Colorado has an increasingly diverse population, with 30% of Coloradans identifying as people of color. Fewer than 10% of our health care providers identify as people of color. Diversity in the health workforce leads to better patient outcomes, lower health care costs and healthier citizens.

MSU Denver is the No. 1 provider of diverse talent in Denver. We are uniquely positioned to meet the needs of our state's health care industry.

MSU Denver offers programming in the highest-need areas and has a strong record of **partnering with industry** to develop specific programming to support students of color seeking to enter the health care industry.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Fall 2021
Undergraduate Students of Color at MSU Denver
50.3% 8,246



With its supported health-scholar cohort programs, the Health Institute at MSU Denver is the leader in supporting underrepresented students pursuing careers in health fields. Retention rates for student cohorts range from 86% to 100% (compared with baseline retention range of 63 to 67%):

- The Health Institute at MSU Denver has partnered with Bank of America to increase diverse representation in health professions and grow health equity and outcomes among traditionally underserved populations.
- MSU Denver's DACA/ Undocumented Student Health Careers Opportunity Program is a partnership with the Colorado Health Foundation that supports DACA and undocumented students going into health-related fields.

MSU Denver is the leader in supporting diverse students pursuing health careers.

Preparing Employers to Attract and Retain Diverse Talent

“MSU Denver was the only school willing to help me accomplish my goal of becoming a physician despite my legal status. The staff, faculty and mentors have supported my aspirations more than anyone else in my life. I truly owe my success to MSU Denver. Other institutions talk about diversity and inclusion, but MSU Denver shows it through action.”

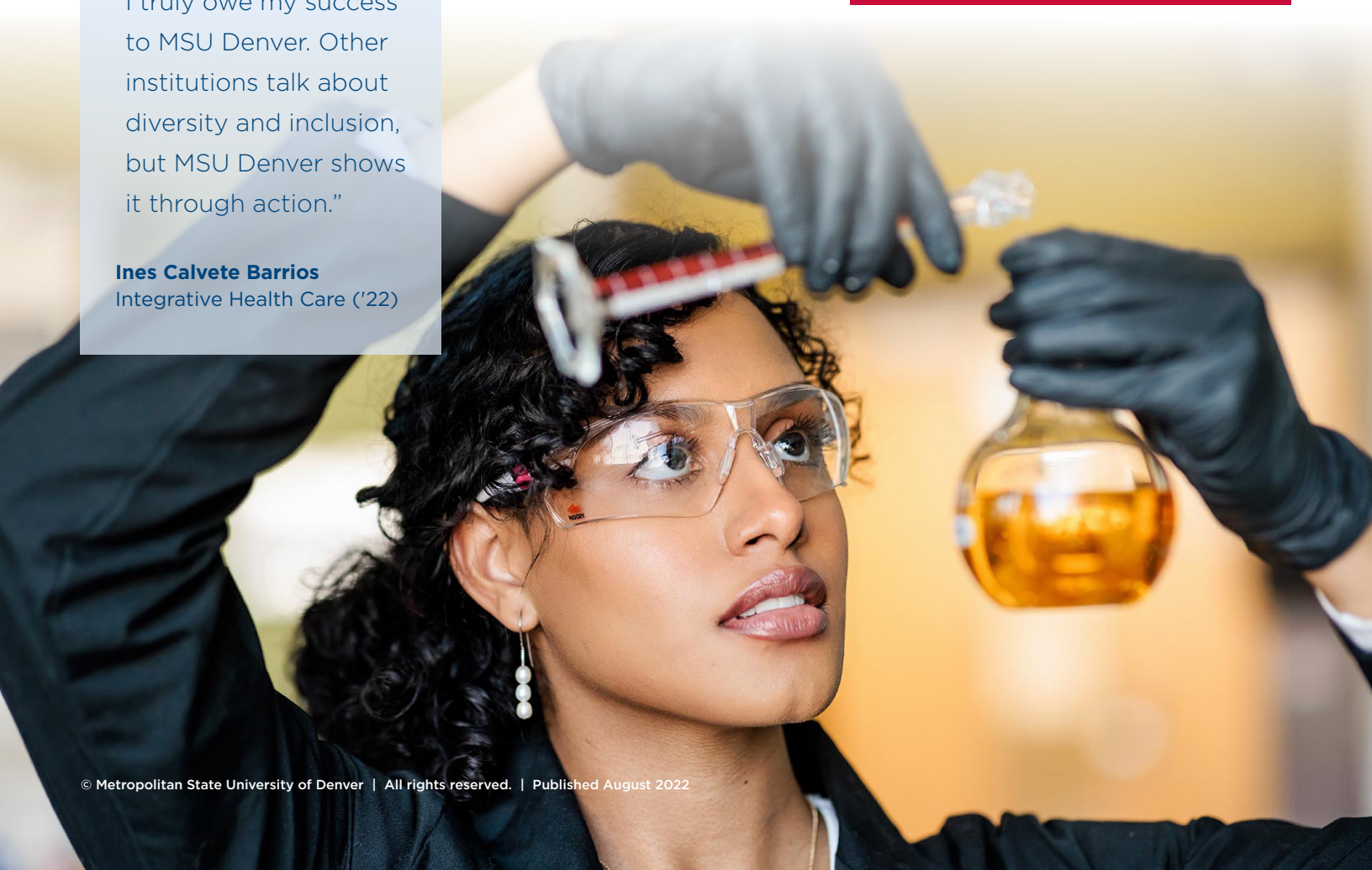
Ines Calvete Barrios
Integrative Health Care ('22)

A diverse workforce is not just important to the success of organizations; it is critical for job seekers. Intentional and robust recruitment and retention strategies attract prospective employees — especially those who value diversity, equity and inclusion.

The Health Institute helps prepare employers to attract and retain diverse staff, increasing the capability to provide culturally and linguistically relevant care and building the pipeline of community representation in leadership positions.

Number of industry
partnerships across campus

1,000+



Educating Coloradans for Colorado



The health care industry needs workers who understand their community and who share the life experiences of their patients.

MSU Denver is the No. 1 educator of Coloradans. Graduates not only understand the community — we are the community. With over 102,000 alumni, nearly 80% of whom stay in Colorado, **MSU Denver produces the workforce Coloradans rely on.** **MSU Denver embraces talent-pipeline development unlike any other institution.**

Our unique process starts with facilitating the exploration process with Colorado high school students interested in the health care industry. From there, the Health Institute offers 12 bachelor-level academic majors and four graduate programs to train the next generation of highly skilled researchers and professionals. It concludes by working hand-in-hand with health care providers to support continuing licensure and credentialing to meet the growing demands of industry.

“MSU Denver opened up the door of understanding that I want to be of service to people and help them in a way that other people may not be able to, specifically with underserved populations.”

Kyle Johnson
Integrative Health Care ('20)



“MSU Denver enriches Colorado’s society and economy. We meet students where they are and provide a learning experience that caters to their unique needs.”

Janine Davidson, Ph.D.
President, MSU Denver

Nearly 80% of MSU Denver alumni stay in Colorado, contributing to its workforce and economy.

Building a New Health Institute at MSU Denver

To achieve its bold and transformative vision, MSU Denver must build and create better facilities and research technologies. Today, due to space limitations, MSU Denver's Nursing program turns away half of all qualified applicants for pre-licensure programs. Our high-demand Master of Social Work program leaves behind 45% of its qualified applicants. A new 70,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility will allow us to **increase the number of students we accept and graduate each year by 32%.**

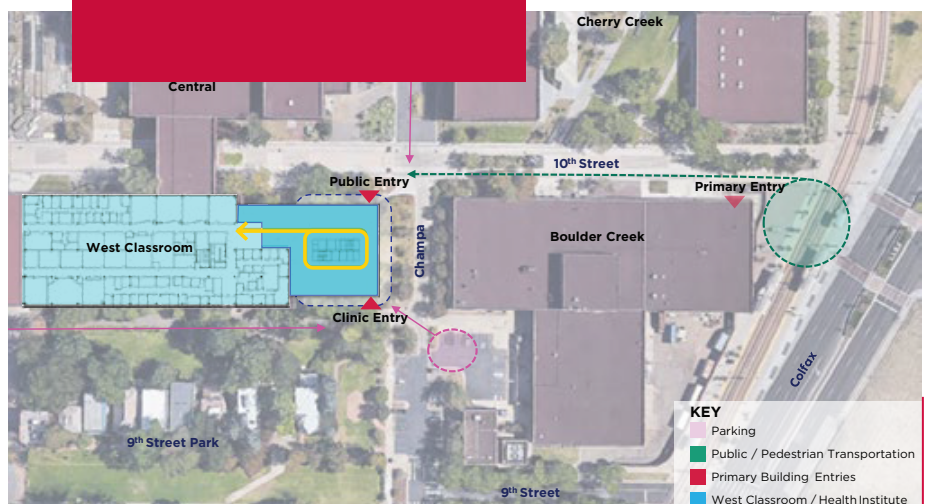
The facility will also provide **simulation technology** that decreases dependency on scarce clinical placements, allowing students to graduate faster. Finally, the design will facilitate our vision for **interdisciplinary learning and research, offer community-serving clinics, increase collaboration** with Community College of Denver's health programs and enhance industry connections through events and seminars.

New facilities will include:

- A Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic
- A Human Services and Counseling Clinic
- An Interprofessional Skills Lab
- A Social Work Class/Lab
- An Exercise Science Lab
- A Fitness Assessment Lab
- A Demonstration Kitchen for Nutrition Classrooms
- Shared Work Spaces and Collaboration Spaces



Having modern space for education, research and training is paramount in meeting Colorado's demand.



Investment Impact



The Health Institute at MSU Denver will educate and equip a diverse, multilingual and prepared health care workforce for Colorado. The Health Institute will:

- **Develop a pipeline of students interested in health care positions** that meet the immense needs of communities in the Denver metro area and throughout Colorado.
- **Support students through their academic experiences**, making the pursuit of a health career possible financially and logistically, as well as emotionally.
- **Prepare employers to attract and retain diverse staff**, increasing capability to provide culturally and linguistically relevant care and building the bench depth of community representation in leadership positions.



**The Health Institute
at MSU Denver**

Funding and Naming Opportunities

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“Megan and I are supporting the Health Institute because we understand that health affects every family, and MSU Denver is the best partner in solving our state’s most pressing problems.”

Mariner Kemper

President and CEO, UMB Financial Corp.