

# STATE OF SUSTAINABILITY

## CSU 1<sup>st</sup> Platinum Rated STARS Institution

Colorado State University has received the first Platinum rating and the highest score ever submitted in STARS, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System. STARS is provided by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) and is considered the most comprehensive and well-respected sustainability assessment for colleges and universities.

- To date, more than 700 institutions on six continents have participated
- Princeton Review, Sierra Club, and other sustainability organizations utilize STARS data for their assessments and ranking systems
- STARS measures four broad categories (academics/research, engagement, operations, and planning/administration)
- The STARS definition of sustainability is inclusive, encompassing environmental, economic, and diversity/social justice topics
- CSU has participated in STARS since the pilot and submitted the highest score at time of submission for each of our three reports



### Some Easy Ways to Go Green with CSU:

- Enroll in a sustainability course with Online Plus or CSU Extension
- Take part in CSU Earth Week April 21-25
- Attend a SoGES lecture, seminar, or film
- Sign up for a RamTrax tour to explore sustainability at CSU
- Volunteer in our community
- Conserve resources, recycle/compost, and use alternative transportation

### College Highlights:

#### College of Agricultural Sciences

- 7 out of 9 undergraduate programs have sustainability as a learning outcome
- In-Vessel Composting (partnership with Housing & Dining Services and Facilities Management)
- Agricultural Experiment Stations

#### College of Business

- Global Social Sustainable Enterprise MBA
- Summit Student Investment Fund
- College-wide sustainability learning outcome

#### College of Engineering

- Environmental Engineering program
- CSU Powerhouse and Energy Institute
- College-wide sustainability learning outcome

#### College of Health and Human Sciences

- Institute for the Built Environment
- CSU Sustainability Literacy Survey
- Aspen Grille (food/human nutrition)

#### College of Liberal Arts

- Environmental Philosophy MA
- Sustainability-related courses in seven departments
- Major in Environmental Sociology

#### College of Natural Sciences

- Three sustainability-related majors
- Sustainable Chemistry Courses
- Research projects in Psychology, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics

#### College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

- One Health student group
- Environmental Health major
- Veterinary Teaching Hospital

#### Warner College of Natural Resources

- Ecosystem Science & Sustainability and Conservation Biology programs
- Natural Resources and Sustainability Residential Learning Community in Summit Hall
- Mountain Campus Field Courses

#### School of Global Environmental Sustainability (SoGES) Highlights

- Support for Sustainability Research (Global Challenges Research Teams, Resident Fellows, Sustainability Leadership Fellows)
- Sustainability learning outcomes, minor in sustainability, and endorsed courses
- Student Sustainability Center

## CSU Division Highlights:

### Advancement

- CSUCares
- Scholarships

### Athletics

- CSU grounds as a living laboratory for turf study
- LEED Anderson Academic and Training Center
- Student athlete community service

### Colorado State Forest Service

- Continuing education/non-credit sustainability courses
- Biomass plant partner

### CSU Foundation

- Sustainable investment funds
- Socially Responsible Investment Policy
- Collaboration on Summit Fund

### Diversity

- Campus Climate Survey
- Diversity programs, services, and training
- Ripple Effect

### Enrollment & Access

- Participant in Federal TRIO Programs
- The Access Center and Alliance Partnership
- CSU's Commitment to Colorado

### Extension

- Sustainability-related continuing education courses
- Native Plant Master Certificate
- Colorado Energy Master Certificate

### External Relations

- Green.colostate.edu
- Public engagement and outreach related to sustainability

### Information Technology/Libraries

- ENERGY STAR IT purchases
- Open access to research

### International Programs

- Education Abroad immersion and service learning
- International Initiatives (Peace Corps, International Development Studies Minor, global partnerships)
- Campus Diversity via International Student Services

### President's Sustainability Committee

- STARS and Climate Action Plan coordination
- Sustainability Literacy Assessment
- Sustainability Education Improvement Grants (in partnership with SoGES)

### Online Plus

- Online non-credit sustainability courses
- Integrated Sustainability Management Certificate
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Environmental courses

### Operations

- LEED Buildings and Energy Fund
- Alternative Transportation
- Waste reduction (recycling, surplus, composting)
- Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy

### Research

- Compiles aggregate data for STARS reporting
- 90 percent of academic departments engage in sustainability research

### Student Affairs

- Living Labs (compost program, Aspen Grille at LSC, grey water system at Aspen Hall, and bike repair/education at Pavilion)
- Mountain Campus research and education
- Community Service and Service Learning (CSUnity, Fall Clean Up, Alt Breaks, Eco Leaders, ASCSU Environmental Affairs)
- Diversity offices and Adult Learner & Veteran Services

### Additional Contributors:

- Center for New Energy Economy
- Center for Public Deliberation
- City of Fort Collins
- Classified Personnel Council, Administrative Professional Council, and Faculty Council
- Colorado Water Institute
- CSU Water Center
- Drive Electric Northern Colorado
- Institutional Research
- Live Green Team
- Multicultural Staff and Faculty Network
- Semi-Arid Grasslands Research Center