

# MFA - Creative Writing

## APPLICATION INFORMATION



ENGLISH  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



**Thank you** for your interest in the English Department's M.F.A. Creative Writing Program at Colorado State University! Below you will find information regarding the program's application process, and hopefully the answers to any questions you might have.

**MFA program's application deadline is January 15th. The MFA program does not admit for the Spring semester. The "Areas of Study" for the program are Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, and Poetry.**

### Applications

To apply for the MFA Graduate Program, click on this link to access the [Graduate School Application Portal](#). The deadline for all required application documents is January 15th for the following academic year. If you intend to apply for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) as well, you must complete and upload the **separate** application to your profile by **January 15th**.

The Program application documents needed to complete your application are:

- **Your Resume or CV**
- **Your Statement of Purpose:** Double-spaced, two pages; introduce yourself and state your goals while in this graduate program. Upload this form online.
- **Personal History Statement:** Tell admission committees how your lived experience informs your skillset as it relates to the graduate program for which you are applying.
- **Your writing sample:** Details below. Upload this form online.
- **English Proficiency Test Score:** click [HERE](#) for accepted tests and scores.
- **Optional:** The optional GTA application.
- **Two letters of recommendation.** Online, provide the e-address of each recommender who has agreed to write a letter. Your recommenders will be e-mailed instructions to upload their letters.
- **Transcripts:** These must be from each university or college you attended that represent the course work you completed for your bachelor's degree and any advanced degrees since then. Unofficial transcripts are accepted for application review. To send official transcripts, ask each institution to send hard copies directly to this address:

Colorado State University  
Office of Admissions  
1062 Campus Delivery  
Ft. Collins, CO 80523-1062

\*We do not require the GRE.

- **International applicants: English Proficiency Test Scores are required:** click [HERE](#) for accepted tests and scores.

### M.F.A. in Creative Writing Application Tips:

Select as your program choice: Creative Writing (M.F.A.). A prompt asks for area of study (text box); please select from either Creative Nonfiction, Fiction, or Poetry; **please enter only one of these options**.

**Your program writing sample:**

#### If you are applying to Poetry:

- \* Use 12-pt. font, either Times New Roman or Arial
- \* 12-20 pages of poems
- \* Add a footer to include your name and number the pages

#### If you are applying to Fiction:

- \* Submit literary fiction: One or two short stories, or one or two chapters of a novel, not to exceed 25 pages. Put the title and your name on the first page, above the start of your story or novel
  - Use double line spacing
  - 12-pt. font, either Times New Roman or Arial
  - Add header or footer to include your name and number the pages
  - Start each short story or novel chapter on a new page

#### If you are applying to Creative Nonfiction:

- \* Submit literary nonfiction: two essays (personal, lyric, etc.); or two chapters from a memoir in-progress or narrative nonfiction project in-progress; up to 25 pages
- \* Use 12-pt. font (Times Roman or Arial), double-spaced, pages numbered, name and title on the first page of each
- \* Start each essay or chapter on a new page

### GTA Application Instructions:

Prepare all three parts of your GTA application as one document, to appear in this order:

1. **The Background Experience form**—this is a fillable form to complete and save to your computer until ready to upload entire GTA application.
2. **Your Statement of Teaching Interest**—opportunity to express your interest in composition pedagogy and practice, to discuss your teaching-related training and/or experience.
3. **Your Statement on Learning & Writing**—a short 500-700 word essay focusing on your response to one of the given topics on the application.

Our GTAs teach three sections of CO150 College Composition each year, primarily to freshmen and sophomores. Being awarded a GTAship would provide paid tuition (1<sup>st</sup> year, in-state and non-resident tuition; 2<sup>nd</sup> year, in-state tuition cost only) as well as a monthly stipend for the fall and spring semesters in an academic year.

Click here for the GTA application and information.

[Graduate Teaching Assistantship Application](#)

### Out of State? Do you qualify for In-State tuition?

The MFA Program in Creative Writing at CSU is a WICHE Western Regional Graduate Program. Residents of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, The CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming are eligible for in-state tuition. [WICHE Program](#)

### Tuition

Full-time graduate student status requires nine credit hours per semester. Please go to <https://financialaid.colostate.edu/base-tuition/> and click on GRADUATE for the tuition and fees that are current through June 30. The table at this site shows both Colorado resident and non-resident tuition and fees by credit hour.

### Financial Aid and Other Funding

Go to the Office of Financial Aid website. [Financial Aid Opportunities](#), will provide answers to your financial aid questions and can direct you to additional resources. Please see links below for more funding opportunities.

Other funding opportunities can be found at these links:

[Liberal Arts Scholarships](#)

[Apply for Residency](#)

If any further questions arise, please contact Emily Dailey, Graduate Programs Assistant, at [Emily.Dailey@colostate.edu](mailto:Emily.Dailey@colostate.edu).