



WE DEFINE THE
Future

Learn More. Earn More.

People with master's degrees make an average of \$2.6 million over a lifetime, compared to those with bachelor's degrees who make an average of \$2.2 million. That's a difference of \$400,000.

- You can't be a marine biologist, social worker, psychologist, school administrator, or a local government manager without a graduate degree. Many fields require – or strongly encourage – master's degrees. Fields such as education pay more to employees with graduate degrees.
- While much of your undergraduate experience is about learning, your graduate education will be about doing, researching, teaching, creating, and innovating.
- You can change the world. CSUSB graduate students and alumni are making their communities even better places to live. You'll find CSUSB graduate alumni among distinguished authors, local and state politicians, business leaders, performers, and community activists.

Bachelor's Degree

- Also called a baccalaureate
- Means you have a broad base of knowledge and skills in a specific area
- Requires four to five years of study. Includes general education classes (such as math and English composition), a major (a focused area of study) and electives

Examples of bachelor's degrees:

- Bachelor of arts degrees (B.A.) - awarded in the humanities and arts
- Bachelor of science degrees (B.S.) - awarded in sciences
- Bachelor of fine arts (B.F.A.) – awarded in fine arts such as drama or music
- Your area of study or degree program is noted on your transcript (the official record of your grades), such as a "bachelor of arts (English)."

Master's Degree

- Means you have gained more depth of knowledge in your field of study
- Requires approximately two years of study beyond the bachelor's degree
- Some programs require you to research, write and submit a thesis or research paper to graduate

Examples of master's degrees:

- Master of science degree (M.S.)
- Master of arts degree (M.A.)
- Master of public health (M.P.H.)
- Master of business administration (M.B.A.)
- Master of public administration (M.P.A.)
- Master of fine arts (M.F.A.) – the highest degree awarded in fine arts

7 Things To Do Now

Graduate school is all about exploring what you love. Whether it's psychology, literature, computer science or archaeology in graduate school, you will become an expert in your subject area. The best way to prepare is to discover what fascinates you. Explore. Do. Learn. Expand your world.

1. Tour the CSUSB campus. Visit the library. Hang out in the SMSU. Picture yourself in college.
2. Get a summer internship in an area of interest. Work as a camp counselor. Volunteer at a food bank. Help out in a research lab.
3. Interview someone in a field that interests you. Talk with a social worker. Chat with a coffee shop owner.
4. Use the internet. Visit the Smithsonian Institution website. Take an online language course.
5. Take the most challenging courses you can – Advanced Placement, honors – and keep your grades up.
6. Participate in the arts. Visit a museum. Attend a performance at CSUSB or in your community. Watch a documentary. Go to a poetry slam.
7. Read. Read the news, classic novels, contemporary nonfiction, plays, poetry, science fiction. Learn about the world around you.

High School Diploma

Accounting Clerk
Child Care Worker
Nurse Aide
Office Clerk
Computer Repair Technician
Waitperson/Cook

Bachelor's Degree

Accountant
Preschool Teacher
Human Service Worker
Nurse
Officer Manager
Computer Systems Administrator
Chef

Master's Degree

Financial Analyst
K-12 /Community College Teacher
Social Worker
School Counselor
Nurse Manager or Supervisor
Company Owner
Epidemiologist
Computer Systems Analyst
Restaurant Owner
Archaeologist
Local Government Manager
Talent Management Specialist
School Principal

- CSUSB offers more than 50 graduate and certificate programs across five colleges.
- Graduate students make up over 10% of all CSUSB students.
- To ensure that our students earn more than a degree, the CSUSB Office of Graduate Studies offers a range of opportunities so they can develop the leadership, communication and personal skills needed for a rewarding life and academic, research or professional career. At our Cal State Apply and Personal Statement Information Sessions, undergraduates and returning students set goals and craft their applications.
- CSUSB graduate students work as teaching assistants, research assistants, and as support staff on campus.
- CSUSB offers support for graduate students through the Graduate Resource Center and the Graduate Writing Center.

CSUSB Office of Graduate Studies

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Graduate Studies



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