



Community and Economic Development Programs



PennState
World Campus

A world of possibilities.
Online.

Table of Contents

Online Community and
Economic Development Programs ...3

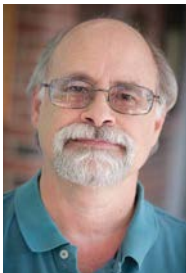
Graduate Certificate in Community
and Economic Development.....4

Master of Professional Studies
in Community and
Economic Development.....5

Frequently Asked Questions.....6

Begin Your Application Today7

Contact Us8



“The Penn State World Campus community and economic development (CEDEV) graduate program can help professionals working in CEDEV and related fields sharpen their skills and advance their knowledge to lead communities through present and future challenges.

Whether you are an elected official, a community organizer, or someone who is seeking a new, community-focused career, you can benefit from this program.”

—John Shingler, Ph.D.

Community and Economic Development Graduate Program Coordinator



Online Community and Economic Development Programs

The quality of life in communities around the world depends on well-trained, educated leaders who understand the theory and practice of community and economic development (CEDEV). Professionals in CEDEV work to build strong and sustainable communities through their understanding of a broad range of issues, including community processes and structure, leadership, land use, population change, municipal finance, and economic development.

Penn State's online CEDEV programs can help you to develop the knowledge and skills needed to work with members of a community to identify and address needs and opportunities, allowing you to better navigate the complexities of communities and community

organizations. You can learn to balance theory and practice to solve real-life community challenges by developing critical thinking about issues including:

- › effective decision-making in communities
- › evaluating causes and consequences of economic and population change
- › job creation, retention, and expansion
- › community entrepreneurship
- › citizen engagement and participation
- › land use and sustainable development
- › community structure and processes that affect development and well-being

For more information, visit:
worldcampus.psu.edu/cedev



“I chose the community and economic development graduate program at Penn State because of the variety of subject matter it offers. The CEDEV program has an excellent mix of planning, community development, and economic development classes. It is challenging and professional, but attainable.”

—Sandra M., MPS in CEDEV Graduate



Graduate Certificate in Community and Economic Development

The 15-credit graduate certificate in CEDEV introduces concepts and practical strategies that are useful whether you are new to the profession or have experience working with community- or development-related institutions. The program can also meet your needs if you are considering a career in community and economic development and want to find out if this profession is right for you.

Required Curriculum

CEDEV 430—Principles of Local Economic Development

CEDEV 452—Community Structure, Processes, and Capacity

CEDEV 500—Community and Economic Development: Theory and Practice

CEDEV 509—Population, Land Use, and Municipal Finance

CEDEV 575—Methods and Techniques for Community and Economic Development

Our curriculum is designed to help you reach your academic and professional goals by achieving important milestones. The graduate certificate in CEDEV is an excellent stand-alone credential, and you can also apply the 15 credits you earn in the certificate to the Master of Professional Studies in CEDEV if you are accepted into the program. You must apply separately to the certificate and master’s degree programs.

Master of Professional Studies in Community and Economic Development

The 30-credit Master of Professional Studies (MPS) in CEDEV can help you acquire the knowledge and skills you need to navigate the complexities of communities and community organizations and inspire positive changes on a local, regional, and national level.

The interdisciplinary curriculum is designed to give you the skills to:

- › recognize community needs and opportunities
- › work with residents and leaders to assess communities and implement change
- › understand and increase effectiveness of community structures, processes, and organizations to achieve community or organizational goals
- › identify and implement economic development opportunities

Students say their MPS in CEDEV course work has immediate application to their careers, elected offices, or volunteer activities, helping

them make their communities stronger, more sustainable, and better places to live and work.

In addition to taking the five core courses required for the CEDEV graduate certificate, you will further enhance your education by taking the following courses to satisfy MPS requirements:

CEDEV 505—

Leadership Development

CEDEV 580—Community and Economic Development Research Application and Practice

CEDEV 596—Individual Studies

STAT 500 or STAT 800—

Applied Statistics or Applied Research Methods

Electives—You will choose an additional 3–6 credits of elective courses in consultation with your MPS program faculty adviser.

For the most up-to-date course information, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/cedev-apply



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Penn State the best choice for me?

Collaboration

Penn State has more than 25 years of experience providing global access to a real university education, so you can be assured that the course content provides far more than a textbook on a screen. The program connects you with outstanding faculty who can help you integrate knowledge about community development from many perspectives.

Flexibility and convenience

Penn State knows that adults need flexible and convenient learning options in order to continue meeting their professional and personal commitments. You can take courses when and where you please, earning your degree at your own pace.

Reputation

Putting a Penn State degree on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to employers that you are a well-educated professional.

What types of student support are available?

As a Penn State World Campus student, you will be supported by a team of knowledgeable and caring staff who understand the unique challenges of balancing work and personal responsibilities while

learning online. You can access the traditional student support services, such as career services, technical support, the University Libraries system, clubs and organizations, a dedicated student affairs team, and tutoring for some courses.

Can I obtain financial aid?

Penn State realizes that one of the greatest challenges encountered when returning to school is the cost. Our advisers have been trained to help you make the most of the financial aid options and opportunities available to you. Visit worldcampus.psu.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid for details.

Is this the real Penn State?

Yes. Since Penn State World Campus was launched in 1998, it has grown into one of the most highly regarded online campuses—extending Penn State’s reputation as a leader in higher education to those who aren’t able to attend classes on campus and to those who can’t commit to traditional, full-time enrollment. When you earn a degree through Penn State World Campus, you’re earning an official Penn State degree. There won’t be any designation on your diploma that your courses were completed at a distance.

Begin Your Application Today

To start the application process, visit worldcampus.psu.edu/cedev-apply and click on “Apply Now.” Remember that admissions counselors are available to talk with you about your educational goals, financial aid options, and application deadlines.

To apply for the Graduate Certificate or Master of Professional Studies in Community and Economic Development, you must hold either (1) a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or (2) a tertiary (postsecondary) degree that is deemed comparable to a four-year bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution. This degree must be from an officially recognized degree-granting institution in the country in which it operates.

Graduate Certificate

- › online application form and fee
- › current résumé
- › short statement of interest
- › TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable
- › transcripts from each postsecondary institution attended

MPS program

- › online application form and fee
- › statement of purpose/goal statement
- › three references
- › résumé or vitae
- › TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable
- › transcripts from each postsecondary institution attended

To apply or for more information about these application materials, visit worldcampus.psu.edu/cedev-apply

Did You Know?

- › Graduates of this program include a community development block grant administrator, a researcher in public utilities, a mortgage analyst for a major bank, a senior planner, a volunteer manager in a nonprofit organization, an economic development specialist, and a Peace Corps volunteer.
- › An optional Summer Institute gives you an opportunity to meet faculty, participating students and alumni of the program, and other community development professionals face-to-face.

Contact Us

Admissions Questions

pennstateonline@psu.edu

814-863-5386

worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions



PennState
World Campus

The Pennsylvania State University
128 Outreach Building
University Park, PA 16802



@psuworldcampus



@PSUWorldCampus



Penn State World Campus



@pennstateworldcampus

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. Produced by Outreach and Online Education Marketing U.Ed. OUT 20-WC-0811/mvb/sss Copyright © 2020 The Pennsylvania State University