



## Colorado Student Leaders Institute

*An affiliate of the National Conference of Governor's Schools*

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Friend,

Codified by SB290 in the 2015 Session, Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI) is the newest member of the 25-state/57 program Governor's School network. The National Conference of Governor's Schools is an institution steeped in a rich history, with over 55 years of work, and revered throughout the nation as a highly successful model for post-secondary preparedness.

Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI) is a state-legislated, summer residential program on the University of Colorado Denver campus. For one month each summer, Colorado's best and brightest students, chosen from a competitive pool of applicants, live and study on the campus, earning three hours of college credit. Students choose one of two majors: International Social Studies or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math), and explore diverse topics through a lecture series by university professors and 3 hands-on projects--Colorado Social Problem Lab, Entrepreneurship Business Lab, and National History Day.

COSLI applicants must demonstrate that they meet the academic rigors required by the program. And, at least 50% of our students must be eligible for free and reduced lunch and/or be first generation college students.

COSLI prepares students for college by fostering leadership, independence, innovativeness, initiative, critical thinking, and creativity. COSLI students are required to develop positions on hard topics by listening to all parts of an argument.

In most states, governor's school programs are funded entirely by the state. Because of Colorado's unique budgeting paradigm, COLSI represents a strong partnership among public, private, and corporate champions. In addition to the inherent benefits students gain, it is noteworthy that up to 80% of students participating in a governor's school program elect to remain in-state for college and career, with up to 90% completing a four year degree in four years, instead of the now six year nationwide average.

Increased retention of our state's best and brightest is a critical component of a strong Colorado economy. Help us retain these important Coloradans. You are an important member of our team.

Celeste Archer

Founding Executive Director