



2025-2026



Executive  
Certificate in  
**AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING**



*A joint program offered by:*

**University of Denver**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN LAND USE INSTITUTE

&

BURNS SCHOOL OF REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

# About the Program

The DU Executive Certificate in Affordable Housing is a joint program offered by the Burns School of Real Estate & Construction Management at the University of Denver's Daniels College of Business and the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute at the University of Denver's Sturm College of Law.

Featuring in-depth training from a variety of interdisciplinary experts, the program provides participants with a focused & fast-tracked pathway to learn the complexities of affordable housing development and the practical skills necessary to work in this specialized sector.

Lack of affordable housing supply has culminated in a housing crisis in the West. As communities scramble to tackle this problem, the demand for highly skilled professionals in the affordable housing sector is growing.

This certificate program is designed to help meet that demand, by providing professionals with both the foundational & technical knowledge needed to build more quality affordable housing and more equitable communities.

## Program Schedule

The program can be completed in 8 months and features 8 course modules. Coursework will be primarily online, but participants will be required to attend two, in-person/weekend-long intensive modules at the beginning and end of the program.

### This program is designed for

- **Professionals currently working in the housing sector** (real estate professionals, developers, planners, policy makers, housing advocates, attorneys, civic leaders, property managers, architects, lenders, etc) **who are looking to upskill.**
- **Professionals looking to reskill** to transition into work in the affordable housing sector.

**Orientation Workshop: An Overview of Affordable Housing**  
SEP 2025 | *in-person at DU campus on Sep. 19-21*

**Housing Policy: Federal, State, & Local Approaches**  
*online*

**Legal & Regulatory Context: Planning, Zoning & Entitlement**  
*online*

**Social Dimensions of Affordable Housing**  
*online*

**Affordable Housing & Project Finance**  
*online*

**Construction Management, Design, & Innovations**  
*online*

**Development & Management of Affordable Housing**  
*online*

**Capstone Project: The Practicum**  
JUN 2026 | *in-person on DU campus (2.5 days/1 weekend)*

Online course modules will last between 3-5 weeks.

Participants can expect a total time commitment of 3-4 hours/week:

(2 hours of live, online classes, plus 1 -2 hours of independent study).

Online classes on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 PM

# Program Faculty

For a complete list of faculty and instructors, please visit the program website at:

[www.du.edu/affordablehousing](http://www.du.edu/affordablehousing)

**Daniel S. Brisson, PhD**  
Professor  
Graduate School of Social Work  
University of Denver

**Vivek Sah, PhD**  
Director  
Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management  
Daniels College of Business  
University of Denver

**Eric A. Holt, PhD**  
Professor of the Practice  
Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management  
Daniels College of Business  
University of Denver

**Susan Daggett, JD**  
Director  
Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute  
Professor of the Practice  
Sturm College of Law  
The University of Denver

**Jeff Englestad, PhD**  
Professor of the Practice  
Burns School of Real Estate and Construction Management  
Daniels College of Business  
University of Denver

## Program Enrollment

### FEES & APPLICATION

Total program cost: \$10,000

*Need based scholarships will be awarded.*

**For more information/to apply, visit:**

[www.du.edu/affordablehousing](http://www.du.edu/affordablehousing)

### ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Participants who complete the program will be granted an Executive Certificate in Affordable Housing.

Completion of the program will require:

- In-person participation at both the September & June weekend-long intensive modules (at DU's campus in Denver), and
- Substantial participation (75% attendance) at each of the remaining online models.

*If necessary, students will be allowed an additional year to make up any incomplete/missed modules.*

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Program Registration Opens: **January 13, 2025**

Deadline to Apply: **May 30, 2025** (Early Bird Discount: Apply by March 30)

Acceptance Notifications Sent By: **June 20, 2025**

Program Start Date: **September 19-21, 2025**

## Key topics covered

Housing market fundamentals & the current housing crisis

Types of affordable housing

The role of planning & zoning in affordable housing development

Permitting & entitlement processes

The social, economic, & environmental impact of affordable housing

Barriers & challenges to project development

Project funding sources, tools & emerging trends

Project finance structures

Pro Forma development

Construction management & design best practices

New construction & design technologies

Affordable housing project development - strategies & schedules

Intro. to affordable housing management & operations

# WHY DU?

1

## Learn from Leading Experts in Interdisciplinary Fields

With expertise in real estate, construction management, law, social work, and public policy, DU is well-positioned to offer a first-in-class Executive Certificate in Affordable Housing.

2

## Small Class Sizes to Maximize Engagement & Instruction

Limited cohorts of 30 students allow for maximum learning.

3

## Flexible Online Learning, Plus Face-to-Face Networking

A primarily online program provides flexibility for busy professionals, while in-person experiences allow for networking with key industry stakeholders.

Thank You to our

## Program **Sponsors**

The DU Executive Certificate in Affordable Housing Program has been made possible through generous contributions from the Colorado Housing & Finance Authority and the Simpson Family.



The  
Simpson  
Family

**Questions?** Contact us:



[affordablehousing@du.edu](mailto:affordablehousing@du.edu)

**Want to Learn More?** Visit:



[www.du.edu/affordablehousing](http://www.du.edu/affordablehousing)