

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – I (3)

DATE: May 9, 2023

SUBJECT

Request to Seek Accreditation – NSU (CoAES)

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 1:10](#) – Relationship of Curriculum and Instruction to Statutory Objectives

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Board of Regents Policy 1:10 specifies that “Each campus must seek and receive Board approval before applying for initial accreditation or an expanded scope of accreditation for academic programs.” In accordance with Board policy, South Dakota State University requests approval to seek accreditation from the following accrediting agencies:

Accrediting Agency: Commission on Accreditation for Exercise Sciences (CoAES)

Program: Human Performance (BS)

Advantages: The ACSM is a well-respected governing body in the field of exercise science. Students, post-graduation, looking to work in fitness/health/sports facilities, coach/train athletes, or go on to graduate program would benefit from a CoAES accredited program. The accreditation standards are rigorous, establishing curriculum stability for our students in scientific foundation and practical application. A CoAES accredited program would prepare the student with the knowledge and experience needed to pass any fitness certification or acceptance into exercise science related graduate program (e.g., Clinical Exercise Physiology).

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, awards institutional accreditation for higher education institutions in South Dakota. A variety of unique organizations award specialized/program accreditation within distinct programs or departments at Regental institutions. A general reference document on institutional and specialized/program accreditation is available on the BOR website at the link below.

- [Special Analysis: Accreditation in Higher Education](#)

(Continued)

DRAFT MOTION 20230509_5-I(3):

I move to approve NSU’s request to seek accreditation from Commission on Accreditation for Exercise Sciences (CoAES) for their BS in Human Performance.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

NSU anticipates a one-time application fee of \$200 for initial accreditation, along with \$1,000 for a self-study and \$3,000 for an initial site visit. There will be an annual fee of \$600. NSU will utilize existing operating budget within the Sports Sciences department along with NSU Foundation funds to cover costs associated with accreditation.

Board staff recommends approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – NSU Request to Seek Accreditation Form: Commission on Accreditation for Exercise Sciences (CoAES)



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Request to Seek Accreditation

Use this form to request permission to seek accreditation of an approved program. Board of Regents (BOR) action is required to seek program accreditation.

UNIVERSITY:	NSU
PROGRAM:	Human Performance
CIP CODE:	310501
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Sports Sciences
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	College of Professional Studies

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Michael Wenous

President (or Designee) of the University

4/5/2023

Date

1. Level of program seeking accreditation (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- Certificate

 Associate

 Bachelor's
 Doctoral

 Master's

2. Accrediting Agency:

Commission on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences (CoAES)

<https://www.caahep.org/committees-on-accreditation/exercise-science>

Part of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). CoAES is recognized by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM).

3. What are the advantages of accreditation?

The ACSM is a well-respected governing body in the field of exercise science. Students, post-graduation, looking to work in fitness/health/sports facilities, coach/train athletes, or go on to graduate program would benefit from a CoAES accredited program. The accreditation standards are rigorous, establishing curriculum stability for our students in scientific foundation and practical application. A CoAES accredited program would prepare the student with the knowledge and experience needed to pass any fitness certification or acceptance into exercise science related graduate program (e.g., Clinical Exercise Physiology).

CoAES is recognized and sponsored by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), American Council on Exercise (ACE), American Kinesiotherapy Association (AKA), American Red Cross (ARC), National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM), and National Council on Strength & Fitness (NCSF), initiate solicitation of feedback from communities of interest regarding proposed revisions of CoAES Standards and Guidelines for undergraduate Exercise Science programs.

4. What are the anticipated costs involved in accreditation, including:

A. Costs involved in undergoing self-study and preparing the application for accreditation:

- \$200 - Application Fee
- \$1000 - Self-Study
- \$3000 – initial site visit

Out-of-pocket costs related to dues or site visits:

Site Visit is covered under the Self-study fee.

- \$600 Annual Fee

B. Base budget implications including incremental costs and minimum base resources required (dollars and FTE):

Base Budget - \$4200

Annual Budget - \$600

5. What is the source of the revenue needed?

The Sports Sciences Department will utilize the existing operating budget as well as raised NSU Foundation funds.

6. What is the estimated date for submission of the accreditation application?

AY 22-23 - Seek NSU and SDBOR approval

Summer 23 - Submit CoAES Application

AY 23-24 - Prepare and submit the CoAES Self-Study

Fall 24 - Site Visit at Northern State University