

Exercise Science Program Admission and Retention Guidelines

Program Application Procedures

Acceptance to Liberty University does not guarantee acceptance into the Exercise Science Program (ESP). Entrance into the ESP can be competitive and students must gain entry into the program via the following process:

Provisional Status: Students interested in becoming part of the Exercise Science Program may initially declare Exercise Science as their major, but declaring Exercise Science as your major does not imply acceptance into the Exercise Science program. Students interested in becoming part of the Exercise Science Program at Liberty University should initially enroll in BIOL 213 & 214 and the second semester enroll in BIOL 215 & 216; EXSC 101 can be completed in either the fall or spring semester, along with any other available education requirements as per the course sequencing sheet. After completing BIOL 213, 214, 215 & 216, the student must enroll in EXSC 310.

Full Acceptance: Full acceptance into the Exercise Science program will be based upon the successful completion of all requirements during the provisional acceptance phase and selection by the Exercise Science admissions committee. Application for acceptance can be made twice per year: by Oct 15th for spring acceptance and by March 15th for fall acceptance. The application and all supporting materials must be turned into the Exercise Science Program Director by the previously stated dates.

Process and Requirements for Full Acceptance

During the students Provisional Status phase, application for full acceptance to the program can be initiated. Grades will be reviewed at the end of the semester, with final acceptance contingent upon the successful completion of those courses. The student must meet the following criteria and provide the following information/documentation:

- Have completed BIOL 213, 214, 215, 216; EXSC 101, and EXSC 310 with a grade of 'C' or better.
- Candidate must be in good academic standing with the University.
- Must show proof of current student membership to the American College of Sports Medicine.
- Must show proof of current CPR certification.
- Cumulative GPA of 2.25 or better.
- Completion of Application Form.
- Completion of the Exercise Science Student Confidentiality Agreement.
- Completion of the Student Health Data Form.
- Complete transcripts.
- Written paper on "Why I want to be in the Exercise Science Program."
- Interview with a member of the Exercise Science Selection Committee.

NOTE: Meeting all of the above criteria does not guarantee full acceptance into the Exercise Science Program, as only fifty (50) students will be admitted per semester (fall and spring).

Transfer Students

Students transferring to Liberty University who are interested in entering the Exercise Science Program must follow the same process and procedures for entering the Exercise Science Program as outlined in the above section, 'Program Application Procedures.' Additionally, students must take all 400 level courses residentially. Courses at the 400 level cannot be transferred into the Exercise Science Program, unless transferring from a CAAHEP accredited Exercise Science Program.

Program Retention Standards

Once admitted to the program, the student must demonstrate and maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined below:

- **Overall GPA:** Students will maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25. Students falling below a 2.25 GPA will be placed on probation for one semester. If, after one semester probation, the GPA remains below a 2.25, or falls below a 2.25 in any subsequent semester, the student will be dismissed from the program.
- **GPA in Major:** Students must achieve a "C" or better in all designated major courses (right side of the degree completion plan). A student, with permission of the Program Director, may repeat ONE major course in which the student failed to achieve the minimum grade of "C". A second failure to receive a grade of "C" or better in any major course will result in dismissal from the program.
- **Course sequencing:** Students must complete each major course in the order prescribed unless approved by the Program Director.
- **Codes of Conduct:** Satisfactory behavior must be demonstrated, per the University's code of conduct as outlined in the *Liberty Way*.
- **Guidelines for appeal:** Students may appeal decisions concerning their status in the Exercise Science Program. In order to do so, the student must submit a written appeal to the Program Director within one week of the notification in question. The documentation must include a detailed justification for the appeal. Upon receipt of the appeal, the exercise science faculty will meet to review the matter. The student will be advised in writing as to the outcome of that discussion within two weeks.