

## Exercise Science Program Admission and Retention Guidelines

### Program Application Procedures

Acceptance to Liberty University and declaring a major as Exercise Science does not guarantee acceptance into the Exercise Science program. In order to take 400 level EXSC courses, students must gain entry into the program via the following process:

**Provisional Status:** Students interested in becoming part of the Exercise Science Program at Liberty University should complete the following courses: BIOL 213 & 214, BIOL 215 & 216; and EXSC 101. After completing these courses the student should enroll in EXSC 310. Students may apply to the EXSC program while currently enrolled in EXSC 310.

### Requirements for Full Acceptance

The student must meet the following criteria:

- Have completed BIOL 213, 214, 215, 216; EXSC 101, and EXSC 310 with a grade of 'C' or better. (Students may apply while currently enrolled in EXSC 310; Grades will be reviewed at the end of the semester, with final acceptance contingent upon the successful completion).
- Candidate must be in good academic standing with the University and have a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher.
- Must show proof of current Undergraduate Student Membership to the American College of Sports Medicine (either copy of membership card or copy of email receipt from ACSM). Website: [acsm.org](http://acsm.org) (once on this webpage: Select Membership tab, join tab, then student membership tab, select no prior involvement with ACSM, pay \$10).
- Must show proof of current CPR **and** First Aid certification (photo of card(s))
  - The certification must be maintained throughout the student's enrollment in the program.
  - Must include adult, child, and infant
  - Must have a 'hands-on' component
  - Must be from one of the following organizations
    - American Red Cross
    - American Heart Association
    - National Safety Council
- Completion of Online Application as discussed below

**Process and 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 April 15<sup>th</sup> for fall acceptance Nov 15<sup>th</sup> for spring acceptance.** The application and all supporting materials must be submitted online following these procedures:

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1. Download, print, and fill out the Student Confidentiality Agreement Form found on the EXSC website: <http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=82>
2. Using a scanner or camera, scan or photograph the following documents, saving each to their own uploadable file:
  - a) the completed confidentiality agreement form
  - b) copy of both sides of your CPR certification card
  - c) copy of both sides of your First Aid card
  - d) copy of ACSM student membership email receipt from ACSM
3. Next, go to the **Liberty University Exercise Science Program Application link** to submit your documents: <https://apex.liberty.edu/apex/banprd/f?p=888>

### **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 another 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 2.50. Students falling below a 2.50 GPA will be placed on probation for one semester. If, after one semester probation, the GPA remains below a 2.50 or falls below a 2.50 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*.

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- **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.