

General Information

Before starting on this form, work with the Office of the Provost to determine if a single FIF will be acceptable for a new major and one or more sequences, or new sequences for an existing major, or if individual FIFs are required. If it is determined that one FIF for all is appropriate, provide a brief justification.

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Contact person

Kelly Laurson

Department(s)

Kinesiology and Recreation

College/School

APSCI - Applied Science and Technology

Type

Sequence

Title, type (major, sequence, minor, certificate) and associated degree type(s) if applicable. Use the exact title used on the curriculum proposal.

Exercise Science Major: Accelerated Allied Health Professions Sequence; Accelerated Health and Human Performance Sequence

Undergraduate or Graduate?

Undergraduate

Description of the new major (sequence), minor, certificate

The Exercise Science undergraduate program currently has a strong and stable enrollment – one of the largest undergraduate majors in CAST. However, enrollment at the master's level has not mirrored this success. The proposed accelerated Exercise Science program allows qualified students to earn an undergraduate degree in Exercise Science and a graduate degree in either Exercise Physiology or Biomechanics in a faster time frame. Exercise Science has two undergraduate sequences (Allied Health Professions or Health and Human Performance). Both the Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics master's degree programs are 33 total credit hours. This accelerated program would provide flexibility to students to complete either undergraduate exercise science sequence, paired with either master's degree program, with similar planning and cost. Undergraduate exercise science majors will complete select graduate-level coursework during their final undergraduate year, enabling a seamless transition into the master's program. This structured pathway maintains academic rigor while reducing time to degree and overall cost for students. This accelerated program would leverage the healthy undergraduate pipeline to increase master's degree enrollment by retaining high-performing students who might otherwise leave the institution for graduate study elsewhere or delay pursuit of a master's degree.

Additionally, this accelerated pathway aligns with student demand for efficient, cost-effective degree options and responds to workforce needs for advanced training in exercise physiology and biomechanics (including clinical exercise science and related health professions). By creating a clear, structured route to graduate study, the program would enhance student recruitment and retention, while strengthening the overall graduate profile of the department and institution.

Enrollment - 1st Year. If this form is being submitted for multiple programs provide one response if it pertains to all, or provide clearly labeled individual responses.

Provide the following for the 1st Year: Fall headcount; Annual full-time equivalent students (fiscal year); Annual number of graduates from the major (sequence), minor or certificate.

Fall headcount = 4; Annual Full-time-Equivalent Majors/Minors (Fiscal Year) = 4; Number of graduates from the sequence = 0

Associated notes (i.e. students will be in cohorts; all students will be part-time)

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Enrollment - 3rd Year If this form is being submitted for multiple programs provide one response if it pertains to all, or provide clearly labeled individual responses.

Provide the following for the 3rd Year: Fall headcount; Annual full-time equivalent students (fiscal year); Annual number of graduates from the major (sequence), minor or certificate.

Fall headcount = 8; Annual Full-time-Equivalent Majors/Minors (Fiscal Year) = 8; Number of graduates from the sequence = 3

Associated notes (i.e. students will be in cohorts; all students will be part-time)

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Enrollment - 5th Year If this form is being submitted for multiple programs provide one response if it pertains to all, or provide clearly labeled individual responses.

Provide the following for the 5th Year: Fall headcount; Annual full-time equivalent students (fiscal year); Annual number of graduates from the major (sequence), minor or certificate.

Fall headcount = 10; Annual Full-time-Equivalent Majors/Minors (Fiscal Year) = 10; Number of graduates from the sequence = 5

Associated notes (i.e. students will be in cohorts; all students will be part-time)

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Budget Rationale - document the department's capacity to implement and sustain the proposed major (sequence), minor, certificate

Is the unit's current operating budget (contractual, commodities, equipment, etc..) adequate to support the program when fully implemented? Provide explanation and source of any new funds being provided.

Yes. The courses in the proposed program are already being offered. This program would only serve to increase current class enrollment and new sections would not be created.

What impact will the new program have on faculty assignments in the department? Will current faculty be adequate to provide instruction for the new program?

There will be no impact to faculty assignments. The courses are already being offered and enrollment will not cause additional sections to be created.

Will additional faculty need to be hired, either for the proposed program or for courses faculty of the new program would otherwise have taught? If yes, please indicate whether new faculty members will be full-time or part-time faculty, tenure track or non-tenure track faculty.

No additional faculty are needed. There is no plan to hire new faculty beyond replacement.

Will current staff be adequate to implement and maintain the new program? If "yes", please explain. Will additional staff be hired? Will current advising staff be adequate to provide student support and advisement, including job placement and or admission to advanced studies? If additional hires will be made, please elaborate.

Current staff will be adequate. There is no plan to hire new staff/advisors beyond replacement.

Are the unit's current facilities adequate to support the program when fully implemented? Will there need to be facility renovation or new construction to house the program? (For a new degree program describe in detail the facilities and equipment available to maintain high quality in this program including buildings, classrooms, office space, laboratories, equipment and other instructional technologies for the program).

Yes the facilities are adequate. There is no plan to add on to facilities to support the program.

Are library resources adequate to support the program when fully implemented? Please elaborate.

Yes, current library resources are sufficient for the program.

Are there any additional costs not addressed above?

No

Are any sources of funding temporary (e.g., grant funding)? If so, how will the program be sustained once these funds are exhausted?

No

If this is a graduate program, discuss the intended use of graduate assistantships and where the funding for assistantships would come from.

KNR has some recurring graduate assistantship positions in our labs (exercise physiology, biomechanics), teaching (Active for Life, Anatomy Labs), and service (Exercise is Medicine on Campus). Research funding also provides for some graduate assistantship positions. However, the majority of those existing graduate assistantship positions will most likely be prioritized for traditional, two-year master's students. While we will not prohibit accelerated students from these positions, their increased courseload and shortened time at the graduate level will make them less desirable candidates. No new graduate assistantship positions will be created or dedicated to accelerated students.

Estimated Costs - 1st, 3rd, and 5th Year

Operating (including but not limited to contractual, commodities, equipment, etc.). Identify for 1st, 3rd and 5th year

\$0

Personnel - Faculty FTE. Identify for 1st, 3rd and 5th year.

\$0

Faculty \$. Identify for 1st, 3rd and 5th year.

\$0

Other personnel costs (all staff, excluding faculty) \$. Identify for 1st, 3rd and 5th year.

\$0

Facilities (including but not limited to rental, maintenance, etc.) \$. Identify for 1st, 3rd and 5th year.

\$0

Other costs (itemized). Identify for 1st, 3rd and 5th year.

\$0

Estimated Total 1st Year Other Costs in \$

\$0

Estimated Total 3rd Year Other Costs in \$

\$0

Estimated Total 5th Year Other Costs in \$

\$0

Add any additional documentation if needed.

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