



**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:	DSU
PROGRAM:	BS Exercise Science
CIP CODE:	310505
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Human Performance
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	College of Education and Human Performance

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.

Signed by:
Jose Marie Griffiths
A7475098D8114D1

04/01/2026
Click here to enter a date.

President of the University

Date

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

- Certificate Associate Bachelor's
 Doctoral Master's

2. Accrediting Agency:

The Council on Accreditation of Strength and Conditioning Education (CASCE) is recognized by the National Strength & Conditioning Association (NSCA). Beginning in 2030, graduating from a CASCE-accredited program will be required for students to sit for the Certified Strength & Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) examination, a credential necessary to coach strength and conditioning in the NCAA and other recognized institutions.

3. What are the advantages of accreditation?

This certification is highly recognized in the field of strength and conditioning, including athletic programs in higher education as well as the private sector. Additionally, this accreditation is expected to enhance program recruitment, retention, recognition, and ensure our program properly prepares graduates for the workplace.

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

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

- \$1000 - Application Fee
- \$5000 – Initial site visit

According to the CASCE website, financial assistance grants are available to help programs offset the expenses associated with accreditation, including self-study and the site visit. Dakota State University plans to apply for these grant funds, which can significantly reduce the overall cost of completing both the required self-study and the on-site evaluation. [CASCE Accreditation Grant website](https://tinyurl.com/mvkbhxm). <https://tinyurl.com/mvkbhxm>

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

- \$1000 - Application Fee (not eligible for grant funding)
- \$1000 - Annual Fee (likely waived through 2029)
- \$5000 – Initial Site Visit (likely waived through 2029)

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

The base budget is set at \$7,000 if grant funding is not secured and \$1,000 if it is, with an annual budget of \$1,000. It is expected that the extra accreditation work will be absorbed by the current Department Chair resulting in no additional FTE need. Lastly, there will be a one-time certification fee of \$500 for the Department Chair to become CSCS certified. Two members of the Human Performance department are required to maintain their CSCS certification. Renewal fees are approximately \$100 each person, every three years.

5. What is the source of the revenue needed?

The Human Performance Department at Dakota State University will use discipline fees for EXS courses to generate the revenue needed to maintain the annual fees associated with CASCE accreditation.

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

- AY 2025-26 - Seek DSU and SDBOR approval to seek accreditation
- October 2026 - Submit CASCE Application
- AY 2026-27 - Prepare and submit the CASCE Self-Study
- Spring 2028 – CASCE Site Visit to Dakota State University