2022 CCRB EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

CCRB Chair
Christie Ward-Ritacco, Ph.D., FACSM, ACSM-EP
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island

Member Appointed At-Large
Vanessa Marie Kercher, Ph.D., ACSM-EP
Indiana University School of Public Health
Indianapolis, IN

Ethics
Madeline Paternostro-Bayles, Ph.D., FACSM,
ACSM-CEP, ACSM-PD
Jefferson Hills, Pennsylvania

GEI
Lauren Korzan, M.A., ACSM-EP, ACSM-GEI
Aquila
Avondale Estates, Georgia

International
Shawn Drake, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP,
ACSM-PD, EIM-III
Arkansas State University
Jonesboro, Arkansas

CEP
Michael J. Lynch, M.S., ACSM-CEP, R.D.
UW Medicine Valley Medical Center
Edmonds, Washington

EP
Anthony “Tony” Maloney, ACSM-EP
Orangetheory Fitness
Indianapolis, Indiana

CPT
Tommy Thompson, ACSM-CPT, ACSM-GEI
Plus One Health Management Inc.
Springfield, Oregon

Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Subcommittee
Paul M. Gallo, Ed.D., FACSM, ACSM-CEP,
ACSM-EP, ACSM-GEI, EIM
Norwalk Community College
Norwalk, Connecticut

Public Member
Deborah Doherty
ADA Business Enterprises, Inc.
Chicago, Illinois

ACSM Staff
Francis Neric, M.S., MBA
Associate Vice President, Certification and Credentialing
ACSM Headquarters Indianapolis, Indiana

Monica Ward
Vice President of Government Relations
Washington, DC

Kela Webster
Director of Customer Experience
ACSM Headquarters Indianapolis, Indiana

Traci Rush, ACSM-EP
Assistant Director of Certification
ACSM Headquarters Indianapolis, Indiana

Katherine (Hughey) Schowengerdt, GEI, CPT
Director of Operations
Overland Park, Kansas

Shelby Mandla, CPT
Certification Project Manager I
ACSM Headquarters Indianapolis, Indiana

Customer Experience Team
Martisha Wright
Dawn White
Ja’Niece Freeman
Lindsay Lewis
Perseverance and progress were the cornerstones of 2022 for the ACSM Committee on Certification and Registry Boards (CCRB). While 2021 was a year defined by discovery of what ACSM certified professionals needed for preparation and growth in the workforce, 2022 saw substantial strides in meeting their needs through the creation of exam resources, education programming and enhanced employer engagement opportunities. The CCRB is committed to our goal of supporting ACSM certified professionals across their careers — from initial certification to career advancement — and will continue to work to be an indispensable resource for our stakeholders.

In 2022, CCRB members and ACSM staff focused on accomplishing a number of short-term goals, including:

1. Launch of enhanced opportunities for exam preparation, including exam preparation courses designed using evidenced-based best practices for adult learners and practice exams that reflect real-time exam conditions;
2. Increased opportunities for ACSM certified professionals to engage with values-aligned employers, specifically through events held at ACSM regional chapter events; and
3. Continued advocacy for ACSM certified professionals through focused efforts on workforce development and recognition of certified exercise professionals as vital members of health care work teams.

As we look to the future of ACSM certification, our goal is to strategically move forward to ensure that ACSM certified professionals have the resources they need to stay at the forefront of their fields. The year 2023 will include a strategic planning meeting among our executive committee and associated stakeholders to guide our decision-making processes as we move forward as a certification organization. Additionally, we will continue to engage with our certified professionals through surveys, conference proceedings and outreach to ensure that we have the “pulse” on what our stakeholders need for high-quality continuing education, skill development and refinement, and career growth. We are also committed to honoring outstanding members of our professional community with the ACSM Certified Professional of the Year award. Our second recipient was recognized at the 2022 ACSM International Health & Fitness Summit in Dallas, Texas, and we’re looking forward to continuing this important industry recognition for committed ACSM certified professionals.

ACSM CCRB is continuing to develop as an organization to ensure that we can support our certified professionals across their career and at every stage. We are indebted to the dedicated staff at ACSM for all that they do on behalf of the organization, its members and ACSM certified professionals. Most importantly, I must thank our talented group of volunteers who make up our certification subcommittees and our executive committee. The time you spend and the effort you make to ensure that ACSM certification represents industry best practices and that ACSM certified professionals represent the gold standard of professional excellence is unmatched. Thank you for all that you do on behalf of ACSM certification.

The CCRB welcomes the following 2023 appointments:

Executive Committee
- T. David Cannon, M.A., ACSM-CEP, Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist (ACSM-CEP) chair
- Stephanie Cooper, Ph.D., FACSM, ACSM-EP, Certified Exercise Physiologist (ACSM-EP) chair
- Jessica Sansone, Ph.D., ACSM-EP, Certified Personal Trainer (ACSM-CPT) chair
- Alexis Batrakoulis, Ph.D., ACSM-EP, International Subcommittee chair

We would like to thank the following members their expertise, service and invaluable time to the committee:
- Timothy Allerton, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP, LCEP
- Caitlin Freeman, MPH, ACSM-EP
- Jason “Jay” Melnyk, Ph.D., ACSM-EP
- Anthony “Tony” Maloney, ACSM-EP
- Tommy Thompson, ACSM-CPT, ACSM-GEI
- Michael J. Lynch, M.S., ACSM-CEP, R.D.
- Shawn Drake, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP

In health,

Christie Ward-Ritacco, Ph.D., FACSM, ACSM-EP; Chair
In 2022, ACSM continued to make significant strides towards (1) improving operational efficiency and user experience, (2) becoming a destination for educational excellence in workforce and professional development and (3) developing invaluable partnerships with like-minded employers that improve recruitment and lifelong learning opportunities.

Key highlights include:

• User experience
  - Of all unique pages on the ACSM website, certification pages were the second, third, fourth and fifth most viewed in 2022, topped by only the ACSM.org homepage.

• Transparency
  - CCRB EC published its inaugural 2021 annual report to provide greater insight into exam performance, direction of CCRB EC and its standing subcommittees, and ongoing advocacy efforts.

• Career preparation
  - ACSM’s Resources of the Group Exercise Instructor, 2nd Edition, was released July 2022.

• Stakeholder engagement
  - ACSM launched a brand-new Certification Career Guide that provides information on salaries, career pathways and insights from ACSM professionals and leaders. Between March and December, the career guide was downloaded over 12,000 times.
  - ACSM headquarters tested employer industry-insight panels and recruitment opportunities at Midwest and Southwest ACSM Chapter regional conferences.
  - ACSM staff and/or CCRB EC presented at seven ACSM regional chapter meetings: Greater New York, Southeast, Texas, New England, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, and Southwest.
Operations Report

ACSM certification, as led by the CCRB and ACSM certification staff, announced several operational changes and updates in 2022.

Staff Changes

Francis Neric was promoted to Assistant Vice President, Certification and Credentialing, and Katherine (Hughey) Schowengerdt was promoted to Director of Operations. Francis and Katherine's promotions reflect the work they have done to stabilize, diversify and grow certification revenue. Katherine will continue her work supporting certification as well as move a portion of her focus to project management for key large-scale organizational projects, including the association management system (AMS) search and selection. Project management and prioritization will play a pivotal role since ACSM executed a new strategic plan in 2023.

Shelby Mandla moved into a part-time role as Project Manager I reporting to Katherine (Hughey) Schowengerdt. Shelby will work on several different projects within the operations team as well as contribute to other project-management responsibilities directly related to ACSM’s operational objectives.

Association Management

After significant discovery into operational and business processes, ACSM staff determined that it needed to invest in its AMS to meet the needs of its diverse stakeholders. An AMS allows associations to manage the processes including, but not limited to, candidate applications, exam registration, certification maintenance, sales and business rules on a single platform. The AMS is central to how ACSM meets the needs of all those who interact with us, whether for membership, education, certification, sponsorship/donors, or those registering for and attending events, thus making it a key 2022/23 priority for the College.

Customer Experience

Net-Promoter Score

Overall Customer Experience – 90% Excellent / Recommend
ACSM – 89% Extremely Likely

Response Times

• All customer service phone calls and voicemails resolved within 24 hours of receipt (weekday)
• First reply for customer service email support from 24 hours to <4 hours (weekday)

Unaudited 2022 Financial Report

Below is the unaudited 2022 financial report for American College of Sports Medicine Certification and Credentialing department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Certification Exams and Exam Preparation</th>
<th>$2,875,486</th>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>Exam Administration and Development</td>
<td>$(1,241,326)</td>
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In accordance with National Commission for Accreditation standards, the ACSM CCRB publishes its pass rates for certification programs annually. On July 1, 2022, ACSM updated its exams — the ACSM Certified Personal Trainer® (ACSM-CPT), Certified Group Exercise Instructor® (ACSM-GEI), ACSM Certified Exercise Physiologist® (ACSM-EP) and Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist® (ACSM-CEP) certification exams — to reflect ACSM’s Guidelines for Exercise Testing and Prescription (2021), U.S. Physical Activity Guidelines, and related industry changes. The 2022 **first-time pass rates** and repeat **test taker pass rates** for ACSM certification exams are presented in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022</th>
<th>First-Time Test Takers</th>
<th>Repeat Test Takers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Graded</td>
<td>Total Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Personal Trainer</td>
<td>1,386</td>
<td>762</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Group Exercise Instructor</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Exercise Physiologist</td>
<td>1,924</td>
<td>1,273</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist</td>
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<th>2021</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Total Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>939</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Group Exercise Instructor</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Exercise Physiologist</td>
<td>2,026</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>174</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2020</th>
<th>First-Time Test Takers</th>
<th>Repeat Test Takers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Graded</td>
<td>Total Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Personal Trainer</td>
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<td>ACSM Certified Group Exercise Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Exercise Physiologist</td>
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<td>1,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACSM Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total number of active ACSM certified exercise professionals***

- ACSM-CPT: 13,541
- ACSM-GEI: 803
- ACSM-EP: 12,884
- ACSM-CEP: 4,209

*As of Dec. 30, 2022
During the past year, the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Committee has worked diligently to create two summary reports focusing on the recertification process and Continuing Education Credits (CEC) Approved Provider Program. The CPE conducted a thorough review of the current recertification process and made recommendations on future areas of focus, including the addition of a required CEC category to ensure all certified professionals are proficient in topics of ethics, liability and professional scope. A second report included a new policy developed by the CPE to provide guidance to CEC providers for approvable versus non-approvable content related to certification program competencies. The CPE also created a rubric for the assessment of approved provider applications that is being used as part of the Approved Provider Program. The Professional Education Committee (PEC) and CPE have agreed to transfer the entire Approved Provider Program from the PEC to the CPE during the 2023 calendar year. Recently, the CPE submitted a proposal to the ACSM Pronouncement committee for a contemporary issues manuscript that will discuss the current state and future changes associated with recertification and the Approved Provider Program.

The CCRB CPE Subcommittee welcomes the following subject matter experts for 2023:

Grace DeSimone, BA, ACSM-CPT, ACSM-GEI
Wyckoff Family YMCA
Certified Professional Member

Tim Werner, Ph.D. ACSM-CEP
Salisbury University
Certified Professional Member
No complaints were referred to the ethics committee in 2022. As ACSM revitalizes its membership-based ethics procedures and policies, Francis Neric, Associate Vice President, Certification and Credentialing, charged the committee to revise how the CCRB’s Ethics Committee operates within ACSM’s structure. In 2023, the committee will be developing job descriptions, operating policies and referral pathways to delineate which of several ACSM ethics committees is most appropriate to handle complaints received by the CCRB.

Ethics Committee

Madeline Paternostro-Bayles, Ph.D., FACSM, ACSM-CEP, ACSM-PD
Credentialing committee members regularly evaluate ACSM certification exams to ensure the exams meet current industry standards and professional practice. The committees expanded the use of real-world exhibits (e.g., images, video, case studies) to enhance candidate experience and occupational fidelity. With psychometric support, analysis identified opportunities to expand the breadth and depth of ACSM’s item bank to simultaneously improve exam security and ensure generally accepted practices are applied.

CCRB welcomes the following subject matter experts for 2023:

**ACSM-GEI Credentialing Committee**
Rebecca Collins, M.S., ACSM-EP  
Georgia Southern University  
Academician, fitness generalist
Laura Locker, M.S., ACSM-EP  
Progressive Insurance  
Practitioner, large fitness center/corporate fitness

**ACSM-CPT Credentialing Committee**
Aubrey Miller, ACSM-CPT  
Evolve Fitness-Wellness  
Fitness director/manager or fitness entrepreneur

**ACSM-EP Credentialing Committee**
Mark Jones, M.S., ACSM-EP  
Defense Health Agency: Army Wellness Center  
Practitioner, medical fitness specialist or corporate wellness
Bridget Melton, Ed.D., ACSM-EP  
Georgia Southern University  
Academician, exercise science generalist

**ACSM-CEP Credentialing Committee**
Laura Richardson, Ph.D., FACSM, ACSM-CEP  
University of Michigan  
Academician, clinical exercise testing and prescription
Sandra Knecht, M.S., ACSM-CEP  
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center  
Practitioner, clinical exercise director/manager
David Verrill, M.S., ACSM-CEP  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
Academician, Clinical exercise testing and prescription
CHAIR
Tommy Thompson, ACSM-CPT, ACSM-GEI
Plus One Health Management Inc.
Practitioner, fitness director/manager or fitness entrepreneur

Juan Aponte, M.S., ACSM-CPT
Salt Lake Community College
Academician, fitness generalist

Katie Hake, ACSM-CPT, R.D.
Orangetheory Fitness; Riley Hospital for Children
Practitioner, small fitness studio, boutique

Jessica Sansone, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP
Shenandoah University
Academician, exercise science generalist

Peter Ronai, M.S., ACSM-EP, ACSM-CEP
Sacred Heart University
Academician, motor behavior

Mark Baldis, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP
California State University at Fresno
Academician, behavior change; exercise psychology

Michelle Alencar, Ph.D., ACSM-CPT, ACSM-EP
California State University, Long Beach
Practitioner, inclusive exercise

Candace Campbell, M.S., ACSM-CPT
24 Hour Fitness, California State University, Long Beach
Practitioner, large fitness center

Arthur Hockwald, M.S., ACSM-CPT
Purdue University
Practitioner, large fitness center (college rec. center)
Group Exercise Instructor (GEI) Subcommittee

CHAIR
Lauren Korzan, M.A., ACSM-GEI, ACSM-EP
Aquila
Practitioner, group fitness director/manager

Aleen Dailey M.S., ACSM-CEP, ACSM-GEI
UNC Asheville, YMCA; Carolina Village
Practitioner, large fitness center (college rec. center)

Brandi Angelosanto, M.S., ACSM-GEI
Grand Valley State University, Artistic Grace
Academician, fitness generalist

Jennifer Rewkowski, ACSM-GEI
YMCA Metro Atlanta
Practitioner, community fitness center

Ashley Artese, Ph.D., ACSM-EP, ACE-CPT, ACE-GFI
Roanoke College
Academician, motor behavior

Nicole Mendola, M.S., ACSM-CEP, ACSM-EP, ACSM-GEI
Norwalk Community College
Practitioner, inclusive fitness

Summer Sides, M.S., ACSM-EP, ACE-GFI
Orangetheory Fitness
Practitioner, small fitness studio, boutique

Dana Von Badinski, M.S., ACSM-EP, ACSM/NCHPAD CIFT
YMCA, Life Time Athletic
Practitioner, large fitness center/corporate fitness
Exercise Physiologist Subcommittee

CHAIR
Anthony “Tony” Maloney, ACSM-EP
Orangetheory Fitness
Practitioner, small fitness studio, boutique

Stephanie (Hosaka) Cooper, Ph.D., ACSM-EP
University of San Francisco; Equinox; Orangetheory Fitness
Academician, exercise science generalist

Caitlin Freeman, MPH, ACSM-EP
Aquila
Practitioner, medical fitness specialist or corporate wellness

Jessica Tucker, M.S., ACSM-EP
Wake Technical Community College
Academician, fitness generalist

Christopher Taber, Ph.D., ACSM-EP
Sacred Heart University
Academician, motor behavior

Julia Buchanan, Ph.D., ACSM-EP, NBC-HWC
University of Cincinnati
Academician, behavior change; exercise psychology

Aaron Aslakson, M.A., ACSM-EP
Walker Methodist Fitness Centers
Practitioner, fitness director/manager

Michelle Adams, M.S., ACSM-EP
Orangetheory Fitness, IU Health
Practitioner, large fitness center

Susie Reiner, Ph.D., ACSM-EP
Club Fit Briarcliff; Limber
Practitioner, large fitness center (college rec. center)
CHAIR
Michael J. Lynch, M.S., ACSM-CEP, R.D.
UW Medicine Valley Medical Center
Practitioners, behavior change, exercise psychology

Kelly Ann Drew, M.S., ACSM-CEP
Community Bariatric Surgeons, Orangetheory Fitness
Practitioner, obesity/metabolic/endocrine exercise specialist

T. David Cannon, M.A., ACSM-CEP
iRhythm Technologies, Inc.
Practitioner, cardiac, pulmonary, rehab exercise specialist

Brittany Overstreet, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP
University of Delaware
Academician, motor behavior, orthopedic/musculoskeletal, neuro, biomechanics

Jeffrey Christie, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP
Stanford University
Academician, clinical exercise physiology/pathophysiology

Timothy Allerton, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP, LCEP
Pennington Biomedical Research Center
Academician, clinical exercise testing and prescription

Anne Brady, Ph.D., ACSM-CEP
UNC Greensboro
Practitioner, ortho/musculo, neuro, hematologic, sarcopenia or frailty exercise specialist

Joel Hardwick, M.S., ACSM-CEP
Piedmont Atlanta Fitness Center
Practitioner, neoplastic, cancer, immunologic, sarcopenia or frailty exercise specialist
ACSM expanded its assessment-based certificate (ABC) programs with the Chinese Association of Sports Medicine (CASM) from Personal Fitness Training, Exercise Physiology, and Clinical Exercise Physiology to include Exercise Prescription for Physicians. ACSM’s ABC programs had limited program growth in 2022 due to China’s zero-COVID policy.

1Non-degree granting programs that (1) provide instruction and training to aid participants in acquiring specific knowledge, skills and/or competencies associated with intended learning outcomes; (2) evaluate participants’ accomplishment of the intended learning outcomes; and (3) award a certificate only to those participants who meet the performance, proficiency or passing standard for the assessment(s).

ACSM is in active discussions to expand the ABC programs globally in 2023.
Advocacy

Monte Ward, ACSM Vice President of Government Relations

CCRB is engaged in advocacy efforts that improve the recognition of qualified exercise professionals in the workforce. ACSM combines subject matter expertise of ACSM members, practitioners, staff and/or consultants to be a leading voice of evidence-based practice in the exercise profession.

 Internally, ACSM continues its work with the CEP/EP task force on, among other projects, positioning CEPs as uniquely qualified to safely and effectively deliver exercise programs in health care and researching the prevalence of clinical exercise programs in the U.S. and their impact on health care. Externally, ACSM has leadership roles in the programmatic accreditation of exercise science (Committee on the Accreditation of Exercise Sciences), professional registration (U.S. Registry of Exercise Professionals) and international standards (International Confederation of Sport and Exercise Science Practice). Please see below to learn more about the activities ACSM and CCRB are engaged in.

Policy

ACSM’s evidence-based information informs public policy that encourages healthy lifestyles and the safe enjoyment of sports and other physical activity. ACSM members serve as expert resources for federal, state and community-level policy makers, ensuring that decisions are founded on the latest research. Behind the ACSM policy program is a growing cadre of members who blend professional expertise with a dedication to enact lasting change that will improve the health of all Americans. ACSM’s advocacy efforts are guided by the ACSM Board of Trustees, the Health and Science Policy Committee and all ACSM members.

To date, there are over 5,000 bills that deal with sports, health, physical activity, physical education and healthy lifestyles. ACSM works with the White House, federal agencies and Congress to ensure that the policies being considered meet the policy principles established by ACSM.

CEP/EP Task Force

Clinical exercise physiologists (CEPs) and exercise physiologists (EPs) work for the betterment of the health, fitness and quality of life of patients at high risk of or living with a chronic disease and those that are healthy or have medically controlled diseases.

Clinical exercise physiologists help to increase the likelihood of long-term physical, social and economic independence of patients through individualized patient education, behavior change and primary and secondary prevention strategies. Exercise physiologists take training to an advanced level by conducting and interpreting physical fitness assessments and developing exercise prescriptions for people who are healthy or have medically controlled diseases.

Currently, CEPs and EPs are not using their complete training in the health care setting as their scope of practice is limited by their lack of ability to be reimbursed for the services they provide. In addition, there is not a direct career path for these exercise professionals. There are over 16,000 potential jobs that could be filled by CEPs and EPs but are not since they cannot be reimbursed for the services such positions require.

Recognizing the importance of this issue, ACSM has created a task force to review and create a path forward that will allow CEPs and EPs to use their complete training. The task force is chaired by ACSM Immediate Past President Bill Kraus and includes members representing a wide range of expertise.

It is the task force’s goal that exercise professionals will be (1) recognized as qualified health care practitioners (QHPs), (2) be able to deliver exercise and healthy lifestyle counseling and supervision to patients (according to their scope of practice) and (3) be able to bill and be reimbursed for their services.

For more information and updates, visit: https://www.acsm.org/about/advocacy/certification-task-force
In a year that saw a slow recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences (CoAES) working on behalf of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) accredited 45 programs in the calendar year 2022, including 1 personal fitness trainer, 35 exercise science, six clinical exercise physiology, and three applied exercise physiology. Nine new exercise science programs included for the first time the strength & conditioning add-on. New programs that were accredited included 29 institutions.

The CoAES made the strategic decision to reactivate face-to-face site visits in 2023 for programs undergoing initial accreditation and for those programs who have not reached accreditation standards and outcomes thresholds. Programs that are seeking continuing accreditation and have had favorable annual reports will have the option of a virtual site visit.

The Committee on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences (CoAES) announced Gina Cortese Shipley as its new executive director. Gina will transition into her role as Dr. Walt Thompson retires. Gina is a senior consultant/subject matter expert who, for over 20 years, has been changing lives in the health and wellness field, serving as a speaker for many educational series, health conferences, and certification courses nationally and internationally. Prior to her current role, Gina served at The Cooper Institute, during which time she was a member of both the CoAES and the Coalition for the Registration of Exercise Professionals.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lebanon Valley College</td>
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<td>Exercise Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lebanon Valley College</td>
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<td>Clinical Exercise Physiology</td>
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<td>Marquette University</td>
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<td>University of Rhode Island</td>
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CCRB continues its support of and leadership on the Coalition for the Registration of Exercise Professionals® (CREP®) also referred to as the U.S. Registry of Exercise Professionals (USREPS). USREPS is a not-for-profit 501(c)(6) corporation composed of organizations that offer NCCA-accredited exercise certifications. Coalition members are committed to advancing the fitness profession and earning recognition as a health provider for practitioners who have passed a competency-based program using an exercise certification exam that has been accredited by the NCCA or ISO-17024. Primary to the mission of the coalition is to provide individuals of all ages and abilities with resources and leadership to assist in safely and effectively reaching their goals of achieving more active, healthy lifestyles through movement, physical activity or exercise for recreation or performance.

In 2022, three key highlights:

• The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) released occupational requirements for strength coaches;

• USREPS partnered with the U.S. Council for Athletes’ Health (USCAH) that meets the new NCAA professional development requirements for strength coaches;

• The Medical Fitness Association extended its MOU to continue to use USREPS to identify and verify of registered exercise professionals, with the education and credible credentials, as qualified exercise professionals;

• USREPS welcomed the National Council for Certified Personal Trainers (NCCPT) into its membership; and

• USREPS announced new executive officers.

USREPS, in collaboration with the National Athletic Trainers Association’s Intercolligate Council on Sports Medicine (ICSM) task force on student safety, created workgroups of subject matter experts to identify gaps in education and training, as well as influences that may increase student athlete risk. Four areas were identified as key elements to student athlete safety, including foundational education, training and credentialing of strength coaches; continued professional development in areas of student athlete safety; reporting structures of strength and conditioning programs; and scope of professional practice and safety responsibilities of strength coaches and athletic trainers.

“The current state of credentialing across the strength and conditioning profession makes it difficult to ensure that all strength and conditioning professionals have the requisite competency to safely and effectively conduct conditioning sessions. ... Moreover, the U.S. Registry of Exercise Professionals (see usreps.org/Pages/Default.aspx) contains those strength and conditioning professions with certifications from programs accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. NCCA accreditation is considered a marker of quality for certification programs in the health and/or medical domains.”


Recommendations: http://image.mail2.ncaa.com/lib/fe57f5707d6d067e7cfc/m/4/7a794ccb-6ca3-4b4d-8ba7-ade573680e29.pdf
Compliance with Interassociation Recommendations for Strength and Conditioning Professionals

United States Registry (USREPS) has partnered with the U. S. Council for Athlete Health (USCAH; https://uscah.com/) with the NATA Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine (NATA-ICSM) to provide the resources and education to ensure coaches and staff working with student-athletes are properly educated and credentialed to competently prevent catastrophic events, exertional distress, and soft tissue and metabolic injury during training and conditioning for sport.

Together, the groups are implementing best practices for institutions and practitioners in accordance with acceptable standards of care, including providing identification and verification of qualifications and requisite education and training in injury prevention, training environment management, and emergency readiness as supported by leading health and medical organizations.

https://usreps.org/compliance-with-interassociation-recommendations/

Medical Fitness Association (MFA) and USREPS work to advance its shared mission of third-party accredited certification programs of exercise professionals at medical fitness facilities, advance toward a National Exercise Referral Framework, and work collaboratively to advance industry advocacy and public policy to position exercise professionals as invaluable members of health care.

Through the development and maintenance of the MFA Facility Standards and Guidelines and MFA Facility Certification Program, the MFA establishes best practices aligned with the expectations for public health, medical, payer and government stakeholders. A cornerstone of the standards is the qualified staff responsible for the provision of programs, services and interventions. CREP, through its collaboration with third-party academic and credentialing program accreditors, serves as an advocate for the qualified exercise professional and provides the USREPS as an employer resource for the identification and verification of registered exercise professionals with the education and credible credentials necessary to meet the MFA Facility Standards.
ACSM’s Committee for Certification and Registry Boards (CCRB) and the Health Fitness Summit Program Committee launched the ACSM Certified Professional of the Year in 2021. The award recognizes an outstanding ACSM certified professional by acknowledging their dedication and exceptional contributions toward enhancing the health and wellness of individuals in their community. Applications open in early fall and close in the winter.

2023 Selection Committee
Christie Ward-Ritacco, CCRB Chair
Francis Neric, Associate Vice President, Certification and Credentialing
Katherine (Hughey) Schowengerdt, Director of Operations
Shelby Mandla, Certification Project Manager I
Stephanie Cooper, CCRB Representative
Vanessa Kercher, CCRB Member-at-large
Renee Rogers, ACSM Summit Planning Committee Chair
Alexis Batrakoulis, 2022 Certified Professional of Year winner

The primary task of the committee is to set the eligibility requirements and conduct a review of applications to determine the top three finalists. Each of the finalists completes additional application components that the committee then reviews before selecting a winner. The three finalists are recognized, and the winner is announced at the annual ACSM International Health & Fitness Summit.

Annually, the committee evaluates the award procedures and details to determine future alterations and growth of the award.

Winner of the 2022 Certified Professional of the Year Award

Alexis Batrakoulis, Ph.D., ACSM-EP, ACSM-CPT, EIM Credential

Alexis Batrakoulis, based in Larisa, Greece, founded the International Obesity Exercise Training Institute, teaching internationally approved continuing education courses on exercise and health for fitness professionals. He has a large international presence working as an adjunct lecturer, personal trainer and fitness educator presenting in more than 40 countries across five continents. He continues to spread the message that the health and fitness industry is currently facing a changing landscape due to obesity and physical inactivity.