

FAQ's for the Online Master of Science Program in Physical Education

Interested in pursuing an MS focused on teaching physical education? Looking for a way to remain employed and work on completing your degree? Want a quality program that you can obtain a degree that you can be proud of? If so, look no further! Florida State University's Physical Education Graduate Program is offering an online Master of Science Degree designed specifically for practicing teachers.

Do I need to be a certified teacher to apply for this program?

Yes, you must be certified. Non-physical education certified teachers in other subject areas are eligible to apply.

Do I need to take the GRE if my GPA is over 3.0?

All candidates must take the GRE and submit score. The University requires a GRE score to be on file for all students, regardless of the Departmental admissions requirements.

Will I be required to teach physical education lessons?

Yes, in many of the courses there will be assignments that require you to have access to teaching situations. If you are not currently teaching or you are in an area other than physical education, you will need to establish an arrangement with a local school where you can teach a K-12 physical education class each week in order to complete class assignments.

Can you be successful with the online courses if you have a dial up connection to the internet?

No, students must have a broadband connection

Is there any special software needed for the course work?

You will be expected to have the suite of Microsoft Office programs on your computer (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel), Windows Media or Quick Time, and Adobe Acrobat Reader.

How will I take the online classes?

You will be able to take these classes using a home or school based computer that is linked to the web. Florida State University uses an instructional program called "Blackboard" for its online courses.

What is Blackboard?

Blackboard is a widely used, user-friendly interface between faculty and students. Participants in the program will use Blackboard and email to complete course assignments and to communicate with classmates and faculty.

Do I need a digital camcorder?

You will need access to a camcorder in order to record yourself teaching.

How do I order textbooks?

This will be handled by each instructor and will be announced on the first day of the class.

Do I have to come to FSU campus at anytime?

No, you will not be required to come to the Florida State University campus.

What is the average amount of time that a student will need to spend to be successful with most courses?

On average, you will need to spend at least three - six hours per course per week to be successful in the online courses.

How many hours does the Masters Degree program require for completion?

This is a 33 credit graduate program leading to the award of a Master of Science in Physical Education.

How many courses are offered each term?

Two required courses are offered each fall, spring, and summer semesters.

Do I have to take both courses offered each term?

No, you may take only one course.

When can I register?

Registration for an upcoming semester begins far in advance of that semester. You should consult the calendar on the FSU homepage – www.fsu.edu and follow links under Students.

Is financial aid available for students enrolled in online degree programs?

Yes -- distance students have access to many of the same types of financial aid as residential students. Information can be found at: <http://www.finaid.fsu.edu>

What are qualifications for an assistantship?

The duties for both assistantships and fellowships can only be fulfilled on campus and cannot be completed from a distance.

Who is the contact person for the program?

Program contact:
Harriet Kasper, Administrative Assistant
E-mail: kasper@coe.fsu.edu
Phone: 850-644-2122

Faculty Contact:
Dr. Thomas Ratliffe
ratliff@coe.fsu.edu
850-644-7588

I'm interested in the program! What do I do next?

- 1.) Applicants must apply to Florida State University. Applicants will need to apply for the Physical Education Program. Begin by going to <https://admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp>
- 2.) Three letters of recommendation addressing capabilities for graduate study;
- 3.) A letter of intent which describes your experience as it relates to K-12 teaching, short and long term goals, career aspirations, and why you chose to apply to Florida State University.
- 4.) Official transcript(s) from all previously attended colleges and/or universities.
- 5.) GRE Scores- All candidates must take the GRE and submit score.
- 6.) A resume.

Admission requirements for the Master's degree are:

- a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college/university with certification in physical education or another certification area,
- an upper division cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- a minimum score of 1000 on the combined Verbal and Quantitative portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or a minimum score of 800 (at least 400 verbal and 400 quantitative),
- Even though a candidate may be admitted based on a GPA of 3.5, the university **REQUIRES** all students to have a GRE score on file – All candidates must take the GRE and submit score.

A minimum of 550 TOEFL or graduate of an English speaking institution is required.

Where do I send my correspondence?

U.S. Mail:
Physical Education Graduate Program
Florida State University
College of Education
Room G133 Stone Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-4459
Attn: Harriet Kasper

Phone: 850-644-2122