



SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Substantive Program Modification Form

Use this form to request substantive changes in existing programs (majors, minors, certificates, or specializations).

UNIVERSITY:	Northern State University
CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:	Master of Science
CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:	Sports Sciences
CURRENT SPECIALIZATION (If applicable):	Strength and Conditioning
CIP CODE:	310501
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Sports Sciences
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	NSS
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:	College of Education
BANNER COLLEGE CODE:	5E

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.

Erin Foubert

Vice President of Academic Affairs or
 President of the University

3/4/2026
 Date

1. This modification addresses a change in (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline
<input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work
<input type="checkbox"/> Program name
<input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code
<input type="checkbox"/> Modification requiring Board of Regents approval <i>Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below) |
|--|---|

2. Effective date of change: Fall 2026

3. Program Degree Level (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- Certificate Specialization Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

- On the effective date for all students
 On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name: _____

Reminder: Name changes may require updating related articulation agreements, site approvals, etc.

6. Is the program associated with a current articulation agreement? (Yes or **No**)

a. If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner institution as a result of this program modification? Why or why not?

7. Primary Aspects of the Modification (add lines or adjust cell size as needed):

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum

(highlight changes)

Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
EDER	761	Graduate Research and Design	3	EDER	761	Graduate Research and Design	3
PE	781	Sport Analytics	3	PE	781	Sport Analytics	3
PE	773	Sports Leadership	3	PE	773	Sports Leadership	3
PE	582	Theory of Strength & Conditioning	3	PE	582	Theory of Strength & Conditioning	3
PE	752	Analysis and Mechanical Principles of Sport Skills	3	PE	752	Analysis and Mechanical Principles of Sport Skills	3
PE	753	Applied Sport Physiology	3	PE	753	Applied Sport Physiology	3
		STRENGTH & CONDITIONING Specialization	12			STRENGTH & CONDITIONING Specialization	9
HLTH	522	Nutrition	3	HLTH	522	Nutrition	3
PE	510	Program Design for Strength & Conditioning	3	PE	510	Program Design for Strength & Conditioning	3
PE	740	Organization and Administration of Athletics	3	PE	740	Organization and Administration of Athletics	3
PE	754	Applied Sport Psychology of Effective Coaching	3	PE	754	Applied Sport Psychology of Effective Coaching	3
		CAPSTONE	6			CAPSTONE	6
PE	794	PE 794 - Internship 1-8 credits*	6	PE	794	PE 794 - Internship 1-8 credits*	6
		*6 credits of internship at two different placements required for Strength & Conditioning specialization due to CASCE accreditation				*6 credits of internship at two different placements required for Strength & Conditioning specialization due to CASCE accreditation	
Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization (Strength & Conditioning Specialization)			36	Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization (Strength & Conditioning Specialization)			33
Total number of hours required for degree			36	Total number of hours required for degree			33

8. Explanation of the Change:

Upon review of our graduate program curriculum in preparation for NSCA CASCE accreditation, we have determined that the facilities design and layout concepts covered in PE 740 require instruction from faculty holding current CSCS (Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist) certification to ensure alignment with NSCA professional standards and best practices. Given current faculty credentials, we have restructured our curriculum to ensure all NSCA content standards are being delivered by appropriately qualified instructors. Additionally, we are formalizing the two-internship structure required by CASCE accreditation standards.

For substantial modifications requiring Board approval, complete the items below.

References to external sources should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

- 9. Date of approval from the Executive Director or designee.**
- 10. Identify the program modification requested.**
- 11. Provide justification for the desired modification.**
- 12. Would the requested modification require a change to the catalog description and/or the program learning outcomes? If so, describe.**
- 13. Indicate the number of students currently enrolled in the program.**

There are currently 10 students enrolled in the Sports Sciences MS program.

- 14. Describe the real impact to students.**

This modification allows the program to be compliant with NSCA CASCE standards and would allow our program to continue with the accreditation process. The explicit two-internship structure provides a clearer pathway to graduation and better prepares students for CSCS certification eligibility upon program completion.

- 15. Describe the real impact to the university.**

This modification allows the program to be complainant with NSCA CASCSE standards and would allow our program to continue with the accreditation process. Gaining CASCE accreditation would enhance the university and program competitiveness and attract prospective students.

- 16. Describe any cost associated with the program modification.**

There are no costs associated with the program modification.

- 17. Describe any risks and unintended consequences associated with the program modification.**

There are no foreseeable risks or unintended consequences associated with this program modification.

- 18. Would this modification be effective for current and future students, or only students who enroll following the change?**

This modification would be effective for current and future students.