

ACSM Certification Exam Requirements

EXSS students must take and pass the ACSM-EP certification exam in EXSS 462 to fulfill the course requirements. The minimum score necessary to complete the course requirement is 520. (A score of 550 is necessary to obtain certification from ACSM).

Students who do not achieve the minimum score on the first attempt must retake the exam after paying the associated fee. Students who do not achieve the minimum score on the second attempt can retake the exam or appeal the course requirement.

Appeal process:

Students must take the exam at least two times before an appeal will be considered. To appeal the ACSM passing score requirement, students must write a justification as to why they should be exempted from the requirement. This justification is then submitted to the chair of the HHP department, or designee. Students must include official ACSM score reports from their first two attempts.

Most successful appeals will include one or all of these rationales:

1. Extenuating circumstance that impacted the exam result (i.e. admitted to hospital, family crisis, death in the family, etc.). Official documentation of the event will be required (i.e. doctor note, funeral notice, etc).
2. Demonstrated increase in score on second attempt.
3. Demonstration of additional preparation to improve score (i.e. receipts for study guides, etc.)

The chair, or designee, will decide whether to accept or deny the appeal. The decision may include, but not limited to:

1. Retaking the exam.
2. Oral examination on the test sections failed.
3. Retake classes related to the sections of the test failed.
4. Write a paper on the test sections failed.
5. Waive the minimum score.