

## **Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) Program**

The Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) Program is one of several emphasis areas for students majoring in the Kinesiology Department. The PETE Program prepares teachers in the skills and content knowledge to effectively teach physical education to students in grades K-12, and to achieve all of the Rhode Island Beginning Teacher Standards (RIBTS) and National Association for Sport and Physical Education Standards (NASPE). Upon successful completion of the program and state required exams, graduates are qualified to become certified physical education teachers (K-12) in Rhode Island, as well as in many other states throughout the U.S.

The educational program for pre-service teachers includes: a general education component in the liberal arts and sciences; a sound background in human movement sciences; and a strong basis in the science of teaching (pedagogy). More specifically, the physical education teaching emphasis includes content and skill knowledge related to:

- ☑ effective teacher-student communication; knowledge of multiple learning and teaching styles to meet the needs of diverse learners and a global population
- ☑ an ability to evaluate students using authentic and varied assessment instrumentation
- ☑ recognition of the benefits of collaborative interactions with public school teachers in practicum experiences throughout the program of studies
- ☑ an understanding of the organizational systems of elementary, middle and secondary schools
- ☑ the ability to efficiently manage students and the learning environment to meet the diverse needs of students.

The Physical Education Teacher Education Program at URI is guided by a conceptual framework formed from three documents: School of Education Core Beliefs, the Rhode Island Beginning Teacher Standards, and the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) Beginning Teacher Standards. Students in PETE are strongly encouraged to become familiar with these documents to better understand what students and faculty do, and why they do it.

### **Steps to Application and Admission into the PETE Program**

Students interested in becoming physical education teachers must declare their major as Kinesiology and apply for admission into the PETE Program. The application and portfolio process should be initiated the first semester of the sophomore year, or after completion of 30 credit hours with a minimum QPA of 2.5. A departmental screening committee reviews each application looking for evidence of strong, consistent academic performance. Admission is gained by students who display professional behavior and strong academic performance. Each application is reviewed individually. Factors such as work experience, extra curricular activities, career goals, community service, and letters of recommendation are also considered. The PETE program accepts applications twice each year: October 1<sup>st</sup> for the following spring semester admission and February 1<sup>st</sup> for the following fall semester admission.

## **Application Checklist**

Minimum requirements for consideration for admission into the PETE program are as follows ([Click the PETE Application Requirements for detailed information](#)):

- ☑ Completion of 30 hours of course work
- ☑ Successful completion of the following prerequisite courses with a “C” or better:  
1) KIN 270 Introduction to Teaching Physical Education, 2) COM 100 Communication Fundamentals, 3) WRT 104 Writing to Inform and Explain or WRT 105 Forms of College Writing or WRT 106 Writing form Field, Print, and Electronic Sources, and BIO 121 Human Anatomy.
- ☑ Overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
- ☑ Submission of three letters of recommendation from individuals who have knowledge of your experience or interest in working in education or coaching children and/or adolescents. (Please use the forms included in the admission packet. If applicable, recommendations can be written on a separate sheet of paper.
- ☑ Academic Progress Report (2 copies) downloaded from the E-campus site (found on the [www.uri.edu](http://www.uri.edu) website).
- ☑ Submission of a personal essay expressing career goals, experience working with children, and expectations as a teacher.
- ☑ A copy of an unofficial transcript.
- ☑ Passing scores on the Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) or a score of 1100 on the SAT. The passing scores for each section of the PPST are as follows: Reading 172, Writing 171, and Math 171. Candidates must pass all three sections of the PPST to be able to apply to the PETE program. Study guides for the PPST are available in the Reserve section of the University Library ([Frequently Ask Questions](#)).
- ☑ Submission of one copy of the application to the Office of Teacher Education located in 701 Chafee Hall.
- ☑ Submission of two copies of the application in your portfolio (please see below for portfolio information) in the Department of Kinesiology Office before 4:00.

## **PETE Program Portfolio**

The PETE portfolio is the first in a series of four required folios that will be used to demonstrate your growth and development as a future physical education teacher and to showcase your work throughout your teacher preparation. You will complete a second folio prior to student teaching and a third and fourth upon completion of student teaching. There are five sections of the portfolio: 1) Application and Supporting Materials, 2) Interpersonal Communication, 3) Diversity and Professional Dispositions, 4) Academic Awareness and Content Knowledge, and, 5) Participation in Physical Activity and In the Profession. The portfolio is a professional representation of you and all of the academic and personal achievements and reflections that you’ve experienced. In fact, your portfolio may be the first time we “meet” you, so be professional, neat, organized, and thorough.

Click [the PETE Portfolio Requirements](#) for detailed information

## **PETE Program Candidate Student Interview**

Students who apply to the PETE program will be scheduled for an interview by members of the PETE faculty shortly after they review the application and portfolio, provided the application is complete, minimum admission standards have been met, and a completed portfolio has been submitted.

### **Helpful Information for PETE candidates:**

- ☑ Two informational meetings are held each semester to assist students with the application and portfolio process.
- ☑ PETE faculty are happy to meet with potential PETE program candidates to discuss the application and portfolio process as well as to review completed portfolios from candidates who want someone to give “one last look” before submission.
- ☑ Students may not enroll in PETE major courses without first being formally accepted into the PETE program.
- ☑ If the application does not have all of the above materials at the time of submission, the application will be deemed incomplete; consequently, the applicant will not be considered for admission and will be asked to reapply the following semester.

### **Steps to Application and Admission into Student Teaching**

Students must apply for student teaching on a separate application form in the semester during which they are completing their final PETE course work. Student teaching applications are accepted twice each year: October 1<sup>st</sup> for the following spring semester admission and February 1<sup>st</sup> for the following fall semester admission. The following are required for application to student teach in the PETE program:

- ☑ An overall QPA of 2.5
- ☑ A major QPA of 2.7
- ☑ Completion of all Kinesiology and PETE coursework (you do not need all the Health or Adapted PE coursework completed).
- ☑ Completion of the student teaching application ([Click \*\*PETE Application to Student Teach\*\* for detailed information](#)).
- ☑ A current TB test with negative results (the official results will be provided to the Student Teaching Coordinator before you will be allowed to begin student teaching).
- ☑ Students will need to take and pass the Praxis II: PLT test with a score of 167 or better as well as the Physical Education Content Exam with a score of 154 or better, in order to apply for student teaching. The student cannot move on to student teach unless he/she has taken and passed the PLT and the P.E. Content test. Therefore, it is advised that the student prepare for these tests and register for them within plenty of time prior to the application deadline to student teach. Students can either purchase a test preparation book at ets.org or borrow a copy that is on reserve at the URI (Kingston) Library.

## **Student Teaching Portfolio**

The Student Teaching portfolio is the second in a series of four required folios that will be used to demonstrate your growth and development as a future physical education teacher and to showcase your work throughout your teacher preparation. You will complete a third and fourth portfolio upon completion of student teaching. The portfolio format demonstrates how your academic and personal tasks and assignments meet each of the RI Beginning Teaching Standards as well as the NASPE Beginning Teaching Standards. Each section should begin with a reflective overview statement that demonstrates growth and achievement with respect to the URI's PETE program and your readiness to work with children (K-12 learners) and should also include a brief statement describing the purpose of the class assignment ([Click \*\*The Student Teaching Portfolio Requirements\*\* for detailed information](#)).

The PETE program faculty will review the application and folio, and if complete, the applicant will be assessed as a student teaching candidate. Should you not be admitted to student teach for failure to achieve any of the standards or prerequisites, you must meet with your PETE program advisor to determine how to address deficiencies and prepare for the Student Teaching application process for the following semester.