



2026 IMPACT REPORT



Coalition for the Registration
of Exercise Professionals®



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends,

This has been a year of steady progress for CREP and the exercise profession. We have continued to reinforce what sets registered exercise professionals apart: clarity around accredited certification, transparency through USREPS, and an unwavering commitment to protecting the public through validated professional standards. In a sector that can often be filled with confusion, validity matters.

At the national level, prevention is moving closer to the center of healthcare policy. Initiatives like [ELEVATE](#) and [ACCESS](#) reflect growing recognition that lifestyle intervention and chronic disease management must be evidence-based and outcome-driven. For these efforts to succeed, policymakers must be confident in the qualifications of the workforce delivering services. Through efforts of the [US National Exercise Referral Framework](#) and [US Registry of Exercise Professionals](#), CREP provides a practical framework to ensure that prevention is delivered by properly credentialed professionals operating within appropriate levels of oversight.

We continue to remain focused on athlete safety through our [Athlete Alive](#) initiative. For 2026, we are looking for opportunities to expand access to registered exercise professionals as essential contributors to safe and effective athletic development in our schools. Our goal is simple: young athletes deserve to be trained by qualified exercise professionals.

Looking ahead, CREP will remain a trusted resource for policymakers, healthcare leaders, and industry stakeholders. The Coalition exists to provide clarity in how credentialing standards tie directly to the qualified workforce in the health fitness sector. CREP will continue to advance efforts to elevate recognition of registered exercise professionals nationwide.

Thank you for your support of CREP as we continue to fight for the recognition of registered exercise professionals as key stakeholders in disease management and prevention in healthcare.

In health,

Brian Biagioli, PhD

President

Coalition for the Registration of Exercise Professionals (CREP)



MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EXERCISE (ACE)

As a proud founding member of the Coalition for the Registration of Exercise Professionals (CREP), the American Council on Exercise (ACE) is committed to collaborating with like-minded organizations to establish and uphold industry standards. Through this partnership, ACE works diligently to elevate the role of exercise professionals, ensuring they are recognized as essential contributors to public health and wellness.

Within CREP, ACE plays a pivotal role in maintaining a trusted, internationally recognized registry of health and exercise professionals. This registry serves as a valuable resource for both the public and the healthcare community, reinforcing the importance of qualified professionals in delivering safe, effective guidance that promotes lifelong physical activity and overall well-being.

“ACE is honored to be a longtime partner and supporter of CREP, working collectively to set industry standards and amplify the critical role of exercise professionals within the healthcare continuum. Together, CREP organizations help ensure that the public receives high-quality, evidence-based guidance, fostering active lifestyles that lead to positive health outcomes.”

- Cedric X. Bryant, PhD, FACSM, Chief Executive Officer
American Council on Exercise

ABOUT US

CREP is a not-for-profit 501 C(6) corporation composed of leading certification organizations offering NCCA or ISO 17024 accredited programs for distinct exercise professional roles recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor. 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.

CREP advances its mission by maintaining the United States Registry of Exercise Professionals® (USREPS®), an internationally recognized registry of exercise professionals in the United States, and as an advocate for the exercise professional who holds NCCA- or ISO accredited exercise certification on issues that pertain to regulation, access, and scope of work. Current exercise certifications of member organizations listed in USREPS include Certified Personal Trainer, Certified Group Fitness Instructor, Medical Exercise Specialists, Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist, and Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist.

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE (ACSM)

ACSM proudly stands as a founding member of CREP. By collaborating with like-minded organizations, ACSM promotes professionalization efforts in the workforce to foster excellence and trust in the field. In collaboration with CREP, ACSM can achieve its vision by ensuring communities have access to qualified health fitness professionals. ACSM aims to seamlessly integrate these professionals into the continuum of multidisciplinary health care teams to enhance patient care and outcomes. By leveraging the collective expertise and advocacy efforts of CREP, member organizations can promote registered exercise professionals as the standard in the health fitness industry, playing an integral role in holistic care delivery in their communities.

“ACSM is committed to setting industry benchmarks and amplifying the essential role of registered health fitness professionals. Together, we can elevate efforts to raise awareness of registered professionals, improve access, foster safe and effective guidance for active lifestyles, and cultivate positive health outcomes in our communities.”

- Katie Feltman, CEO
American College of Sports Medicine

THE COLLEGIATE STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACHES ASSOCIATION (CSCCA)

The Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association is committed to developing elite strength and conditioning coaches who positively influence their athletes and organizations they serve. Athlete health and safety is our number one priority and is strongly emphasized throughout our educational content, certification, and recertification requirements. As a leading organization in the field of strength and conditioning, we take pride in our collaborative efforts with organizations like CREP and their Athlete Alive 2025 initiative. Additionally, our collaboration with the NSCA to publish the “CSCCA and NSCA Joint Consensus Guidelines for Transition Periods: Safe Return to Training Following Inactivity” continues to be a resource of best practices for our certified coaches as we uphold our mission of prioritizing athlete health and safety.

“Our partnership with USREPS ensures a reliable registration system and real-time credential verification, instilling confidence in consumers, employers, and regulators as they verify the qualifications of strength and conditioning professionals.”

- Beth Byron, MS, MSCC, Chief Science Officer
Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association



MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINERS (NCCPT)

NCCPT sees many benefits of being a member of CREP. Our partnership contributes to a more cohesive and professional fitness industry, benefiting both professionals and the public they serve. CREP allows for a greater level of standardization in the fitness industry. It ensures our NCCPT candidates meet minimum standards of education, experience, and competency which only backs up the expectations of those professionals in the field. CREP organizations are committed to promoting public safety and ensuring quality fitness industry professionals. This achievement adds credibility to the NCCPT credential. Due to CREP's work in advocacy, NCCPT is represented in the broader discussions regarding regulation, licensure, and other industry-related matters at the legislative and regulatory level. NCCPT is honored to be a partner in CREP's mission and goals.

“As the fitness industry continues to evolve, the alignment between our mission to bring healthy living to everyone through education and community and CREP’s commitment to advancing professional recognition becomes increasingly vital. Through our partnership with CREP, we’re creating a stronger foundation where certified exercise professionals can effectively serve diverse populations worldwide. The recognition of these professionals’ expertise by healthcare providers, policymakers, and the public is essential to achieving our shared vision of a healthier world. By supporting CREP’s efforts to establish clear professional standards and recognition, we’re ensuring that quality education translates into trusted, effective service delivery across medical, health, fitness, and sports performance settings. This partnership symbolizes how professional registration and comprehensive, science-backed education work hand in hand to elevate both practitioner excellence and public health outcomes.”

- Warren Heffelfinger, CEO
National Council for Certified Personal Trainers

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON STRENGTH AND FITNESS (NCSF)

As a leading organization in the sport and fitness sectors and founding member of CREP, NCSF is proud to work collaboratively with the industry thought leaders and like-minded organizations that support CREP and the United States Registry. With initiatives like Athlete Alive 2025, USREPS workforce recognition efforts, and global standardization of registration for exercise professional roles, CREP represents resource support and advocacy for validly credentialed professionals. The United States registration system for our exercise professionals ensures world-wide recognition of the credentials they hold. The real time credential verification through the registry increases confidence by consumers, employers, and regulators and differentiates those individuals with legally defensible certifications.

“USREPS has been a brilliant utility to identify highly-skilled exercise professionals working in the United States. The global opportunity for portability of vetted qualifications in the US means our registered professionals serving institutions, organizations, and the public-at-large can enjoy global recognition of their professional competencies.”

- Brian Biagioli, Executive Director
National Council on Strength and Fitness

NATIONAL STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING ASSOCIATION (NSCA)

A founding member of CREP, the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) exists to educate, support, and empower every strength and conditioning professional. Aligned with CREP's mission to increase visibility and verifiable expertise, the NSCA champions knowledge and integrity through industry-leading certifications, cutting-edge research journals, and continuous professional development. Our rigorous certification process signifies a benchmark of excellence and a commitment to evidence-based practice, elevating the profession while safeguarding our practitioners and those they serve. The NSCA remains steadfast in advocating for the needs and recognition of strength and conditioning professionals, uplifting the criteria for quality and acknowledgment in the industry.

“The NSCA is devoted to advancing the profession and amplifying the impact of our more than 60,000 members and certificants. We believe that every health and training environment can benefit from a certified strength and conditioning professional who embodies the highest standards of safety, efficacy, and ethical practice.”

- Michael Massik, Executive Director
National Strength and Conditioning Association

OUR MISSION

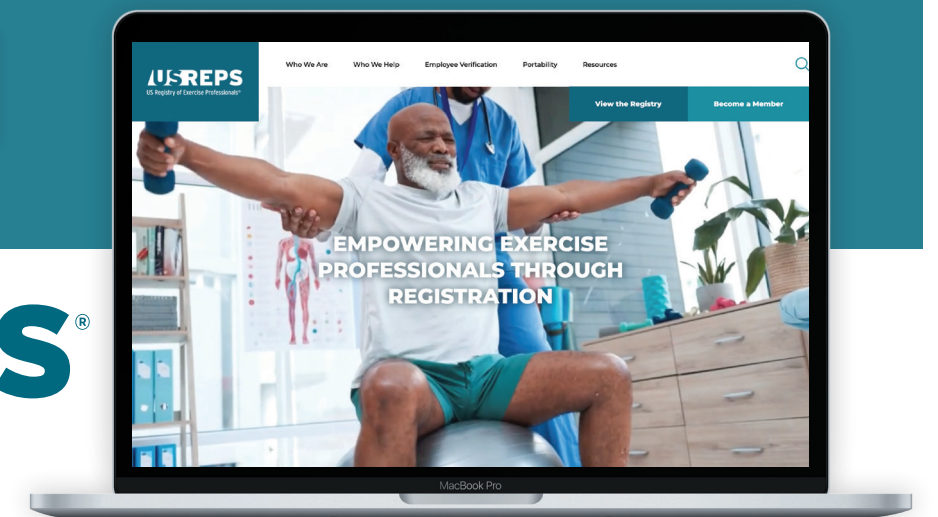
The **mission** of CREP is to secure recognition of registered exercise professionals for their distinct roles in medical, health, fitness, and sports performance fields. CREP's **vision** is for consumers and other allied health professionals and policymakers to recognize registered exercise professionals for their leadership and expertise in the design and delivery of physical activity and exercise programs which improve the health, fitness, and athletic performance of the public.



Visit our new website with enhanced registry features at USREPS.ORG

LEARN MORE

USREPS®





TRENDING WHY WE CONTINUE OUR MISSION...

Physical inactivity is linked to **19 CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS¹**

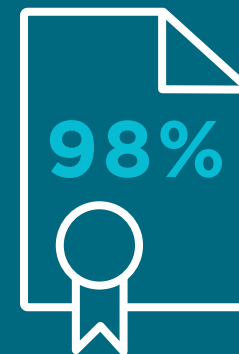
INCLUDING:

- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- Obesity
- Chronic pulmonary disease
- Neurological disorders
- Depression



31%

of adults do not meet physical activity guidelines worldwide according to WHO.²



98%

of employers require **NCCA-accredited** certification upon hire.³

Nearly **130,000** registered exercise professionals



in the USREPS database



14%

Employment of fitness trainers and instructors is projected to grow 14 percent from 2023 to 2033, significantly faster than overall U.S. job growth.⁴

¹ https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2025/24_0149.htm

² <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/physical-activity>

³ <https://www.clubindustry.com/top-100>

⁴ www.idealift.com/the-state-of-the-fitness-job-market-in-2025

IMPACT

ATHLETE ALIVE 2026

What began as a focused effort to strengthen student-athlete safety in collegiate training environments has evolved into a nationally recognized benchmark for best practices in strength and conditioning leadership. Following three years of research, expert collaboration, and committee development, clearly defined entry-level competencies for safe and effective sport conditioning now serve as the foundation of the Athlete Alive student-athlete safety initiative.

Through this initiative, CREP has evaluated collegiate programs for alignment with NCAA standards, helping ensure that strength and conditioning professionals meet recognized safety, education, and certification requirements. Athlete Alive celebrates institutions that demonstrate excellence while also elevating awareness among athletic departments about the critical importance of qualified oversight in performance training environments.

Although meaningful progress has been achieved, preventable injuries and exertional deaths remain an ongoing concern in athletics. CREP continues to advocate for professional standards, emergency preparedness, and credential transparency to help safeguard student-athletes at every level of sport. The initiative calls for full compliance among collegiate strength and conditioning programs, reinforcing the role of qualified professionals in protecting athlete health and performance.

Beginning in 2026, CREP will expand the Athlete Alive initiative to include the high school level nationally, extending its commitment to safety beyond collegiate athletics. By bringing consistent professional standards and credential recognition to secondary school environments, CREP aims to strengthen protections for younger athletes and further promote a culture of prevention, preparedness, and accountability across the entire athletic pipeline.



USREPS



DAKOTA FLASH
WILSON

Ouachita Baptist University

Director of Athletic Performance



CREP WEBINAR SERIES

Since launching its webinar series in 2023, CREP has steadily built a valued forum for education, professional exchange, and collaboration that serves the broader health, fitness, and exercise profession. From its inception, the series has featured thoughtful programming covering high-priority topics that support the advancement of the industry and the workforce that drives it. What distinguishes this initiative is the depth and breadth of expertise brought together — CREP members, leaders, subject matter experts, and experienced practitioners who collectively elevate the dialogue around standards, practice, and professional integration.

In 2024, the webinar series grew significantly, attracting broader participation, deeper engagement, and heightened interest across the community. This expansion underscored CREP’s commitment to advancing its mission and providing accessible continuing education and dialogue opportunities for exercise professionals at all stages of their careers.

In 2025, momentum continued with an expanded and increasingly strategic lineup of programming designed to advance professional credibility, support healthcare integration, and elevate the role of exercise professionals within evolving industry and policy environments. Topics for 2025 sessions include overcoming barriers to clinical recognition, navigating professional standards, and positioning exercise professionals for meaningful impact in healthcare and public health settings. These webinars reflect CREP’s ongoing dedication to fostering connection, insight, and actionable guidance for the community.



WEBINAR 1: Certification to Success: Building a Sustainable Career in Fitness and Wellness

A career-focused discussion on moving beyond certification to long-term professional success in the industry.



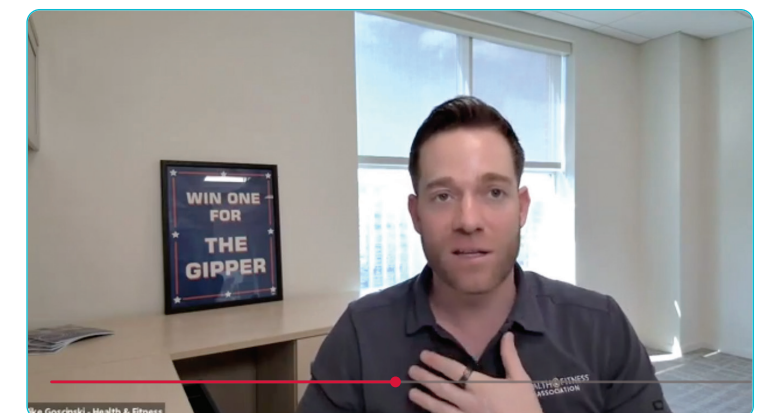
WEBINAR 2: Defining Credibility in the Fitness Industry

A panel on the role of professional registries, accreditation, and employer recognition in protecting the public and enhancing professional standards.



WEBINAR 3: Advocacy in Action: Reflecting on 2024 & Preparing for 2025 and Beyond

A policy-focused webinar highlighting major advocacy accomplishments, lessons learned, and strategies to elevate the profession through public policy engagement.



These discussions not only provide timely insights but also create opportunities for professionals to engage with leaders shaping the future of exercise, health, and fitness — reinforcing the value of community learning and professional advancement.



NATIONAL EXERCISE REFERRAL FRAMEWORK (NERF)

U.S. NERF: Advancing the Integration of Exercise Into Healthcare

The U.S. National Exercise Referral Framework (NERF) continues to strengthen the bridge between healthcare providers and credentialed exercise professionals. Designed as a structured, evidence-based referral system, NERF aligns a registered exercise professional's qualifications with a patient's medical status, risk profile, and health goals — ensuring the right level of expertise for the right level of need.

As healthcare systems increasingly prioritize prevention, lifestyle medicine, and chronic disease management, NERF supports the formal integration of physical activity into patient care pathways. Exercise is no longer viewed as an optional wellness enhancement, but as a validated, clinically relevant intervention that improves outcomes and reduces long-term healthcare costs.

Despite overwhelming evidence supporting exercise as a frontline strategy for managing and preventing conditions such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, musculoskeletal disorders, and mental health challenges, many providers still lack a clear mechanism to identify appropriately credentialed professionals. NERF addresses this gap by creating a standardized, transparent pathway for referral.

A Clear, Tiered Referral Model

The U.S. NERF framework establishes four levels of physician engagement to ensure appropriate oversight and patient safety:

- **Physician-Supervised:** Individuals requiring direct medical oversight (e.g., cardiac rehabilitation, post-clinical recovery programs)
- **Physician-Referred:** Patients with chronic or complex conditions who benefit from structured, condition-specific exercise programming
- **Physician-Cleared:** Individuals medically cleared for independent exercise or higher-intensity programming
- **Physician-Recommended:** Individuals seeking general health, prevention, and lifestyle improvements

This tiered approach provides clarity for providers while reinforcing patient safety and professional accountability.

USREPS: Strengthening Confidence in Referral Decisions

The U.S. Registry of Exercise Professionals (USREPS) serves as the credential verification engine connected directly to NERF. By confirming education, certification, and scope of practice, USREPS[®] ensures that only qualified professionals participate within the referral structure.

This integration creates a streamlined system that enables healthcare providers to confidently identify exercise professionals who meet recognized industry standards and demonstrate competency in evidence-based exercise prescription.

USREPS[®] includes recognized job roles aligned with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, including:

- Clinical Exercise Physiologists
- Medical Exercise Specialists
- Strength & Conditioning Coaches
- Personal Trainers
- Group Fitness Instructors

Together, NERF and USREPS[®] establish a transparent, accountable infrastructure that enhances collaboration between medicine and movement professionals.





Driving Implementation, Policy, and Measurable Impact

CREP continues to champion policies and partnerships that embed structured exercise referral pathways into healthcare delivery models. Current efforts focus on:

- Expanding physician education and awareness
- Supporting reimbursement exploration and pilot initiatives
- Collecting outcome data on health improvements and cost savings
- Strengthening access to safe, community-based physical activity services

Implementation pilots are generating practical insights into best practices, referral workflows, and measurable patient outcomes. These findings will inform long-term policy development and broader system adoption.

A Scalable Model for the Future of Healthcare

The U.S. NERF offers a clear and scalable framework for integrating exercise into standard care. By ensuring that credentialed professionals deliver safe, effective, evidence-based programs, NERF helps close the gap between clinical treatment and long-term health management.

As prevention and lifestyle medicine continue to reshape healthcare delivery, NERF positions exercise as an essential component of whole-person care.

To explore NERF’s strategic milestones, implementation roadmap, and evolving impact, download the full resource.

Download the NERF Report

[LEARN MORE](#)



INTERNATIONAL PORTABILITY

WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL PORTABILITY?

The International Confederation of Registers for Exercise Professionals (iCREPS) is a global society of countries with registration systems used to verify qualified exercise professionals who have met a common standard of practice. Those individuals registered by USREPS for the various exercise professional roles are vetted for these globally recognized qualifications providing a path of international portability between iCREPS member countries. This allows exercise professionals to seamlessly practice in various regions without the need for requalification. This is particularly significant in an industry where mobility and global opportunities are on the rise and international need for these services grow.

CREP'S ROLE: A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

CREP, as the organization that powers the US Registry of Exercise Professionals (USREPS), recognizes the significance of international portability for our members. To ensure that our certification programs are recognized on a global scale, CREP actively participates in the International Confederation of Registers for Exercise Professionals on the board.

WHY IS INTERNATIONAL PORTABILITY IMPORTANT?

- 1. CONSISTENT STANDARDS:** By collaborating with international counterparts, CREP ensures that the standards set for exercise professionals align with global best practices, fostering consistency and excellence.
- 2. ENHANCED CREDIBILITY:** Our participation in international initiatives underscores CREP's commitment to maintaining high standards. This commitment enhances the credibility and reputation of CREP and the professionals on the US Registry.
- 3. EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES:** International recognition opens doors to a broader array of opportunities for CREP member organizations and their registered professionals. Whether it's pursuing new career paths, engaging in global collaborations, or furthering professional engagement portability links international best practices.

ICREPS MEMBERS



ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

CREP advocates for registered exercise professionals on issues that directly affect regulation, access to practice, professional recognition, and scope of work. This advocacy is grounded in a year-round public policy monitoring and engagement function designed to reduce risk to the profession, elevate standards, and position qualified exercise professionals as essential contributors to public health, healthcare delivery, and athlete safety.

BUILDING POLICY INTELLIGENCE AS INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2025, CREP re-established a disciplined, continuous public policy monitoring function across federal and all fifty state legislatures. On a monthly basis, CREP tracked over 150 pieces of legislation, assessing each through a structured policy lens:

- **SUPPORT** - proactive engagement warranted
- **OPPOSE** - material risk to public safety or the profession
- **WATCH** - monitor for movement, amendment, or escalation

Bills were mapped to CREP's defined priority areas, including professional recognition, education and credentialing standards, healthcare integration, public health policy, athlete safety, labor law, and tax policy. This approach moved CREP from episodic reaction to policy intelligence as standing infrastructure, allowing leadership and members to focus attention where engagement could meaningfully influence outcomes.

STRATEGIC ADVOCACY AND LEGISLATIVE ENGAGEMENT

CREP's advocacy posture in 2025 was intentionally selective and evidence based. Rather than reacting to every bill, CREP focused on high-leverage opportunities where its expertise added credibility and clarity for policymakers.

Key federal engagement included:

- Promoting Physical Activity for Americans Act
- PHIT Act (HSA/FSA expansion)
- Jordan McNair Student Athlete Heat Fatality Prevention Act

At the state level, CREP served as a resource to legislative offices, regulators, and aligned organizations in forty-five states on issues related to athlete safety, scope of practice, and the qualifications of individuals supervising training and conditioning activities.

ATHLETE SAFETY AS A DEFINING POLICY PRIORITY

Athlete safety emerged as one of CREP's most visible and consequential policy domains in 2025. Legislative activity increasingly focused on extreme heat exposure, emergency preparedness, and the qualifications of individuals responsible for conditioning and training, particularly at the high school level.

CREP elevated athlete safety by connecting legislative proposals to real-world outcomes and by advocating for standards that emphasize professional qualifications, supervision, and accountability. Multiple state-level athlete safety bills aligned with CREP priorities advanced or passed during the year.

This work also aligned directly with CREP's Athlete Alive 2025 initiative, reinforcing the organization's willingness to address difficult but necessary conversations around preventable injury and death in collegiate sport. Athlete safety is now firmly established as a core pillar of CREP's policy identity.

ADVANCING HEALTHCARE INTEGRATION THROUGH THE U.S. NATIONAL EXERCISE REFERRAL FRAMEWORK

In parallel, CREP advanced the U.S. National Exercise Referral Framework (NERF) as a practical policy and implementation tool for healthcare leaders, policymakers, and payers.

The NERF provides clarity around:

- Which exercise professionals are appropriate for physician referral based on the health status of the patient.
- How credentials align with scope and level of medical oversight
- How exercise can function as a structured, referable intervention

By shifting the conversation from "exercise is good for you" to "exercise is delivered by qualified professionals within defined roles," CREP helped lay foundational groundwork for future coverage determinations, reimbursement pathways, and workforce integration.

COLLABORATION AND COALITION-BASED IMPACT

CREP continuously sought opportunities to collaborate with policymakers, educators, health advocacy organizations, and allied health professions to advance shared goals without compromising CREP's independence or mission clarity. A notable example included collaboration with the Health & Fitness Association to successfully oppose a proposed state sales tax on personal training and group exercise services—preventing increased costs for consumers and unnecessary burdens on professionals and facilities.

Additional outreach and advocacy efforts included:

- Ongoing input to the Physical Activity Alliance's It's Time to Move initiative.
- Support for physical activity assessment, prescription, and referral as a standard of care
- Promotion of USREPS as a verification utility for policymakers and healthcare stakeholders

WHAT CHANGED BECAUSE OF THIS WORK

By the end of 2025, CREP had fundamentally shifted its advocacy posture:

- From reactive monitoring to strategic policy intelligence
- From generalized advocacy to targeted, evidence-based engagement.
- From participation to policy leadership

Member feedback reflected strong alignment with CREP's priorities and high satisfaction with policy monitoring and communication support, validating both the direction and execution of this work.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

The systems, relationships, and credibility built in 2025 position CREP to play offense in 2026. Priority areas include:

- Advancing coverage and reimbursement conversations for outcomes-based exercise programs
- Expanding athlete safety advocacy with continued focus on qualifications and accountability
- Supporting workforce-aligned tax and education policy opportunities
- Engaging proactively with a new Congress and evolving federal agency leadership

CREP enters 2026 positioned not simply to respond to policy—but to help define it.



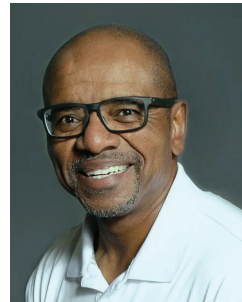
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BRIAN BIAGIOLI

President

The United States Registry of Exercise Professionals® is operated by the Coalition. The Coalition has a volunteer Board of Directors composed of individuals representing qualifying member organizations. The Board and two non-voting Advisory Directors are elected to a specified term. The two Advisory Directors, one from each organization, represent elected individuals from the Committee on Accreditation for the Exercise Sciences (CoAES) which accredits two-year, four-year and graduate level programs in Exercise Science and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), which works to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public through the accreditation of a variety of certification programs/organizations that assess professional competence.



CEDRIC X. BRYANT

Vice-President



FRANCIS NERIC

Past-President



BRENT ALVAR

Treasurer



BRENT FELAND

Secretary



CHAD BUCKENDAHL

Advisory Director



BEN THOMPSON

Advisory Director



DANIELLE VITOGIANNES

Executive Officer

COLLABORATORS

CREP would like to thank the following organizations for their ongoing support and commitment to advancing the exercise profession, which is crucial to fulfilling CREP's mission. CREP's board members are in leadership positions at these vitally important institutions. Our collaborative efforts enhance the credibility of registered exercise professionals and provide opportunities to strengthen and extend CREP's mission of ensuring that exercise professionals meet the highest standards of competency and professionalism in the health fitness industry.





JOIN CREP

MEMBER BENEFITS

Joining the Coalition for the Registration of Exercise Professionals (CREP) is an invaluable decision for certification organizations seeking to enhance their standing within the fitness industry. CREP membership unlocks benefits designed to bolster the credibility and recognition of members and their certificate holders. CREP oversees the US Registry of Exercise Professionals (USREPS), a comprehensive repository of qualified exercise professionals. This affiliation not only establishes a certification organization's commitment to professional standards but also provides a prominent platform for exposure within the fitness community. Members enjoy enhanced visibility, as their certifications are prominently featured in the USREPS database, fostering trust and confidence among both industry professionals and the public. Additionally, CREP offers collaborative opportunities, enabling organizations to participate in shaping industry standards, staying current of the latest trends, and elevating the quality and credibility of exercise professionals across the United States.

HOW TO JOIN

In order to be eligible for membership, a certification organization must meet the following criteria:

- Be engaged in the fitness business
- Offer no less than one current certification program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies ("NCCA") for an exercise professional role defined by the U.S. Department of Labor or one ISO 17024-compliant certification exam program for an exercise professional role defined by the U.S. Department of Labor
- Provide certifications or credentials which are (A) NCCA accredited or ISO 17024-compliant, (B) are in the process of receiving NCCA accreditation or ISO 10724 compliance review, or (C) for which an NCCA accredited certification or ISO 17024-compliant certification serves as a prerequisite

The United States Registry of Exercise Professionals[®] will display all of the current NCCA-accredited or ISO 17024-compliant certifications that an individual holds from member organizations. No specialty certifications or other credentials will be listed on the Registry.

At this time, individual membership is not offered. Member organizations are required to pay dues and registration fees to support the Registry and the other work of the Coalition.

UNDERSTANDING SCOPE OF PRACTICE

**Chad Buckendahl, CREP Advisory Director
ACS Ventures, LLC**

Accredited certification programs are required to conduct periodic job task analyses that evaluate the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for competent practice. These studies are designed to define what a professional must know and be able to do at the point of initial certification. While essential for validating exam content and entry-level competence, job task analyses do not always clarify the full continuum of professional practice — particularly the practical upper and lower boundaries of what certificants should and should not do.

Because job task analyses focus primarily on entry-level expectations, they may not fully inform broader program components such as eligibility standards, specialization pathways, or ongoing professional development requirements. In contrast, licensed professions operate under legislatively enacted practice acts that explicitly define the legal scope

and limits of professional practice. Those frameworks establish clear boundaries for both practitioners and the public.

Developing and articulating a comprehensive scope of practice requires examining the entire range of professional expectations — not only at entry, but across career progression. A clearly defined scope helps certification programs identify areas of distinction, areas of overlap with adjacent professions, and opportunities for strategic differentiation. Importantly, it also supports stronger communication to employers, policymakers, and consumers about the value and role of credentialed professionals.

When thoughtfully developed, a scope of practice can extend beyond certification itself, serving as a foundation for career pathways, specialty credentials, and expanded professional opportunities — ultimately strengthening the ecosystem and long-term value for credential holders.



PREMIER PARTNER PROGRAM

A NEW WAY TO ENGAGE WITH CREP

The CREP Premier Partner Program offers an exclusive opportunity to elevate your organization's visibility and influence within the industry. By joining this new initiative for 2025, your company will have unparalleled access to the CREP network, fostering deeper connections with key decision-makers and positioning your brand as a thought leader. This program is designed to enhance your engagement, amplify your reach, and align your organization with CREP's mission to drive industry innovation and collaboration.



Exclusive Access to CREP Member Representatives:

Build valuable relationships with industry leaders through exclusive networking opportunities.



Participation in Bi-Annual Town Hall Meetings:

Share insights and collaborate directly with top professionals at these member-only events.



Webinar Panelist Opportunities:

Showcase your expertise by participating as a panelist in CREP webinars, positioning your organization as a trusted authority.



Blog Authoring Privileges:

Publish thought leadership pieces on the CREP website, gaining exposure to a targeted audience of industry stakeholders.



Enhanced Brand Recognition:

Leverage CREP's platform to increase your organization's visibility across key industry channels.



Priority Sponsorship Opportunities:

Gain first access to sponsor high-profile CREP events and initiatives.

TAKE ACTION

Join the 2025 Premier Partner Program today and take advantage of this unique opportunity to grow your influence, expand your network, and contribute to shaping the future of the industry

Visit www.usreps.org to apply or contact us at info@usreps.org.



PREMIER PARTNERS



Coach360 is a centralized platform that offers membership tools, education, and the latest industry trends. They empower coaches with what they really need: the tools to create a career in the business of health, fitness, and wellness coaching. Their mission is to revolutionize wellness for consumers worldwide by enhancing education and providing business tools for the underserved health, fitness, and wellness coach community.



“Coach360 exists to support and elevate the coaching community, and our partnership with CREP reinforces that mission. Together, we are creating a stronger, more credible industry—one where educated, qualified professionals are recognized as key drivers of healthier communities worldwide”

KATHLEEN FERGUSON
Founder and CEO, Coach 360



The Parkinson's Foundation makes life better for people with Parkinson's disease (PD) by improving care and advancing research toward a cure. In everything we do, we build on the energy, experience and passion of our global Parkinson's community. The Parkinson's Foundation makes life better for people with Parkinson's disease by improving care and advancing research toward a cure.



“Exercise is one of the most powerful tools we have to help people live well with Parkinson's disease. As a Premier Partner of USREPS, the Parkinson's Foundation is proud to support efforts that strengthen and elevate the exercise professional workforce. Together, we are helping ensure that more qualified professionals are prepared to safely and effectively teach and train people living with Parkinson's through evidence-based exercise.”

LISA HOFFMAN, MA
Senior Director, Professional Education



American Heart Association.

Since the American Heart Association was founded in 1924, deaths from cardiovascular diseases have been cut in half. But heart disease remains the leading cause of death, and there's still so much more to do. Each year, over 350,000 people experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital, with only 10% surviving due to lack of timely CPR. Thanks to donor support, the American Heart Association trains 22 million people annually, doubling survival rates. Your generosity can help bring life-saving CPR training to more communities, empowering people to act in critical moments.



“Many people managing hypertension, diabetes, obesity, or heart disease rely on trained fitness professionals to safely increase physical activity and educate them about healthy lifestyle to mitigate risk factors for disease progression. CREP's emphasis on enhancing expertise and competency aligns with the American Heart Association's focus on secondary prevention and chronic disease management.”

SHERYL BROWN, PT, MSPT
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