



# TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

## Project Nexus

Dear Prospective APE student,

Thank you for your interest in the Adapted Physical Education (APE) grant program at TWU. Students pursuing a master's degree in Adapted Physical Activity and national certification in APE may apply for funding through the Project Nexus grant.

The grant program is funded from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). In accordance with this project's requirements, you will be required to perform professional development activities including work with children with disabilities who have high intensity needs during and upon completion of the program.

Applicants pursuing the master's degree *must hold* a bachelors' degree in kinesiology or a related area, *and* teaching certification in physical education. Applicants must apply to the TWU Graduate School for admission to the School of Health Promotion and Kinesiology's Adapted Physical Activity Program and complete the following Project Nexus Application. Please apply to the graduate school and submit the application as soon as possible for full consideration. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact, me at [sdillon@twu.edu](mailto:sdillon@twu.edu) or (940) 898-2582.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Suzanna Rocco Dillon'.

Suzanna Rocco Dillon, PhD, CAPE

Associate Professor and Project Nexus Director



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The TWU Adapted Physical Activity Program is pleased to announce the availability of grant funding to assist students with obtaining a master's degree in adapted physical activity. The *Project Nexus: Interdisciplinary Preparation of Adapted Physical Educators and Speech-Language Pathologists to Serve Children with Disabilities who have High-Intensity Needs* grant is a federally funded grant to train pre-service adapted physical educators and speech-language pathologists to work with children with disabilities who have high intensity needs.

Full-time grant recipients in APE receive tuition for the 36 credit hour master's program, a monthly stipend to assist with professional expenses, a travel stipend to support travel to a state and national professional conference, funds to cover the Adapted Physical Education National Standards Exam fees and book costs, and other professional development related costs dispensed across the three-semester master's program. If selected as a Project Nexus APE Scholar, you may receive up to \$20,300 of funding over a maximum of three semesters.

APE Scholars will begin their program in the fall of each academic year. To be considered for grant funding, please be sure to apply for the grant by May 1<sup>st</sup> for consideration for the following fall semester (late August start).

Applicant Checklist (*All materials to be submitted to Dr. Dillon unless otherwise noted*)

- Form A: Application for Project Nexus – APE Application
- Form B: Applicant Survey
- A typed letter of interest (2 pages maximum) that addresses your career goals and prior experience working with individuals with disabilities.
- Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended
- Two letters of recommendation for Project Nexus
- Complete application for admission to TWU – School of Health Promotion and Kinesiology Adapted Physical Activity Program (submitted online)



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## Project Nexus APE Grant Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

SSN: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a licensed teacher in Texas? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If so, in what areas/subjects? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently licensed in another state? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, in what state and in what area/subject? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold any other relevant certifications (e.g., First Aid, CPR, WSI, LG, Special Olympics Coach, etc.)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, what certifications \_\_\_\_\_

Education (Please include all schools attended and add lines, if needed)

College/University	Major	Degree	GPA
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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_



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## Applicant Survey

Project Nexus will consider all applicants without regard to race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status. However, Project Nexus must consider citizenship as the United States government guidelines require all recipients of funds from Project Nexus be U.S. Citizens. This survey, while not used as a part of your official application or the decision-making process regarding a scholar award, it will help Project Nexus document the diversity of our applicants and document applicant demographics. As such, your completion of this survey is strictly voluntary.

Position(s) applied for: APE Scholar Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear of this grant opportunity?

- Advertisement in: \_\_\_\_\_  Conference  
 Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Web site

Equal Employment Opportunity Identification Groups

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Please check one:  Male  Female

Please check one:

- Caucasian  African  Hispanic  Asian/Pacific Islander  
 American Indian/Alaskan Native  Other

Please check any that apply:

- Veteran  Individual with a disability

I understand that this information, provided voluntarily, will be kept confidential.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## **Project Nexus Interdisciplinary Personnel Preparation Scholar Expectations**

### **Student Objectives**

1. Complete a master's degree in Kinesiology with an emphasis in adapted physical education.
2. Participate in all expected professional development experiences including field experiences, consultative and mentor experiences, Learning Community experiences and the Summer Workshop for Parents.
3. Develop the skills necessary for effective teaching in adapted physical education to students with disabilities with high intensity needs.
4. Address the needs of children with disabilities from early childhood to early adulthood through adapted physical education programming inclusive of evidence-based practices.
5. Facilitate the development of successful and mutually beneficial interdisciplinary collaboration.

### **Student Responsibilities**

1. Log-in to the PDPDCS website and update records every 6 months  
<https://pdp.ed.gov/OSEP/>
2. Demonstrate professional behaviors commensurate of a grant scholar including demonstrating model academic behaviors, ethical professional behaviors, and collaborative interdisciplinary behaviors.
3. Maintain satisfactory progress toward the degree, including a GPA of 3.0 in each graduate course.
4. Participate in 20 hours of professional development per week including field experiences, STAR Lab experiences and Project Nexus Learning Community.
5. Attend all mandatory Learning Community meetings and other grant meetings scheduled by Dr. Dillon, Dr. Armstrong, and/or supervisors.
6. Take and pass the APENS Exam within 3-months of completion of the program.