

# Athletics Department

## AUP for Academic Year 2023-2024

October 2023

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## Describe Department/Unit

### Connection to College Mission

The mission of the Cerro Coso Community College Athletic Department is to enhance the educational objectives of the college, providing equity of access to services in support of the college's Mission Statement and Title IX. Cerro Coso engages in intercollegiate athletics primarily to enhance the education of those who participate, and to provide a platform from which students can attain their highest potential. By providing an emphasis on academics, a high level of competition, and programs designed to emphasize positive social and community interaction, we open the opportunity to further develop life skills applicable both inside and outside of athletics. The Athletic Department strives to open the availability of educational enhancement produced by participation in intercollegiate athletics to as many students as possible, and to support our student-athletes' goal of preparation for the next chapter of their lives' by graduating from our institution.

As a department one of our main goals is to provide a variety of athletic opportunities for students, and programs that will assist in personal development through education, competition, and social and community interaction. As we continue to expand the academic and athletic choices our student-athletes have, we further diversify our campus. The goals of the Athletic Department are rooted in creating athletic opportunity, engaging the community and supporting the academic progress of the student-athlete. When combined with a strong academic emphasis, collegiate athletics can provide students the opportunity to earn financial and/or academic support that will further their education through the pursuit of an advanced degree by matriculating to a four year institution. As a department we strive to provide an engaging academic and athletic environment, and support goals and aspirations of continuing opportunities to play at the NCAA/NAIA collegiate or professional level, while pursuing a four year degree.

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## Report on Improvements Made and Gaps Identified in the Prior Year

### Student Equity

Collaborations with student services (counseling and financial aid) to improve interactions with student athletes. Communication flow has been established between counseling/athletics to identify recruits and create a "warm handoff" from the coach to counseling. Development of athletic counseling through education plans and advising are considered to support progress for the student athlete, given the nature of athletic eligibility

- Housing inequity for student athletes is a barrier to enrollment
- Need to increase numbers of female athletic participation

### Outcomes Assessment: Loop-Back Improvements Made

#### Actions taken in the prior academic year

AUO 1: Collaboration between the athletic academic specialist and the LRC has been established to improve tracking and student understanding of LAC support.

AUO 2: Expectations of recruiting by head coaches has been addressed. Support by the counseling department to improve onboarding process has been established.

AUO 3: Supports continue to be refined in this area. Target for achieving this outcome: 1. Recruit college ready athletes (coaches) 2. Create appropriate 1st semester schedule (counseling) 3. Support academic success during the semester

(academic support specialist)

## Outcomes Assessment: Results of Last Year's Assessments

**AUO 1: 4 hours of study hall reached per week per student (SPRING 2022)**

**AUO 2: Each athletic team will reach targeted roster count at first official practice date. (SPRING 2022)**

**AUO 3: Student Athletes will maintain an average G.P.A. equal or higher to that of the average general student population. Student Athletes will complete a higher average of total units. (SPRING 2022)**

**Target Met?**

Did Not Assess

## Outcomes Assessment: Missed Targets

## Outcomes Assessment: Schedule of This Year's Assessments

Fulfill roster capacity/enrollment goals for each individual sport and department as a whole.

Individual Team Win/Loss Record (at or above .500)

Demonstrate a commitment to the college education mission of academic success as measure by student-athlete unit completion (persistence and graduation/transfer)

Participation in opportunities for community service, civic engagement, and interaction with the surrounding campus/community.

## Program Review

### Athletics

**Year of Last Program Review:**

2018 (In Progress)

**Actions Taken in the Prior Year to Address Strategies:**

Strategic Goal #3, Student AccessThe coaches of the athletic department will improve their recruiting practices. This will increase the number of students brought to campus as well as improve the quality of the individual student-athlete recruited to campusThe athletic department with the support of counseling services and the VP of Student Services have been working together to improve the efficiency of onboarding recruits into the college. The end result will be a protocol to follow the process beginning with the coach making contact with a recruit to connecting them with a counseling technician (this position is the liaison for the recruit) and ultimately to the athletic counselor. This effort will enhance the athletic teams' ability to support a recruit registering for the fall semester and increasing our chance to retain the recruit becoming a student-athlete.

**Strategies Still to be Addressed:**

The current program review is under the second reading, and will be submitted this year. Strategies to be addressed are

submitted under current program review.

## Last Year's Initiatives

### Program Expansion

Achieve "competitiveness" for all sports in intercollegiate competition

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## Reminder of Initiatives for the Current Year

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eSports

Beach Volleyball

Cross Country

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## Plan Initiatives for Next Year

### Initiatives for Next Academic Year

eSports

Is this part of a multiyear initiative?

Yes

**Specific Action Steps to be Taken:**

Determine need and sustainability of an eSports program, develop budget and determine facility availability.

**Early Observational Data, or "Lead" Measure(s):**

Community interest, campus (student) interest/clubs, Foundation member interest all indicate an awareness and potential for this type of programming.

**Does the department request help developing these instruments?**

No

**Institutional Performance Data, or "Lag" Measure(s):**

**Person Responsible:**

Athletic Director

**Unit gap or institutional goals addressed:**

It addresses a 2- or 5- year program review strategy, It addresses a gap in student equity, It addresses a Guided Pathways practice, It addresses a Strategic Plan goal or objective, Other. Explain below

Enrollment management

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## Evaluate Resource Needs

### Facilities

Support to recondition the outdoor volleyball sand court. Estimated cost for materials and labor (outside contractor) to remove current dirt, and install volleyball sand is \$90,000.

Temporary batting cages and bullpen for the softball team to relocate during Measure J construction. \$20,000. M&O would need to support the install.

### Information Technology

None at this time. All current requests are built into the Measure J project.

### Marketing

A need exists to promote events and programs within the immediate service area with a goal of increasing awareness and engagement between the community and college athletic programs. This would be a request to increase external marketing resources (ad campaign, billboards, school print materials), and increase a community connection with the college through camps and game attendance.

### Professional Development

In line with enrollment management and increasing roster sizes, it would be appropriate to provide professional development around best recruiting practices and techniques. This is one area that is vital to program survival, but does not receive appropriate development for coaching staff.

### Other Needs

N/A

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## Staffing Requests

### 1000 Category - Certificated Positions

### 2000 Category - Classified Staff

#### Athletic Trainer

**Location:**

Ridgecrest/IWV

**Salary Grade:**

46.5

**Number of Months:**

12

**Number of Hours per Week:**

40

**Salary Amount:**

5151.03/month

**Justification:**

This is not a request for a new trainer, but to move the athletic trainer position from a 1906/annual hourly flex position to monthly salary position. The trainer works for 12 months and has additional responsibility outside of purely serving wellness needs of the student-athlete. The current hourly flex schedule does not provide a sufficient amount of time to meet all of the needs of the position, and the trainer is often "out of hours" in the spring. This is due to the high volume of demand on one trainer throughout the summer/fall/winter cycle of the year.