



# Visiting Extension Specialist, Integrated Health Disparities Physical Education and Health - Exercise Physiology

## WE TRANSFORM LIVES

Everything we do is designed to improve the quality of life of the people in the state of Illinois, across the nation, and around the world. We discover, develop, translate, and disseminate knowledge to address societal concerns and train the next generation of experts and leaders in a way that empowers them to expand the boundaries of science to higher levels of understanding and influence.

**Be a part of our story.** Through learning partnerships that extend knowledge and change lives, University of Illinois Extension provides educational programs aimed at making life better, healthier, safer, and more profitable for individuals and their communities. Illinois Extension has operated continuously for more than 100 years connecting the citizens of Illinois to their land-grant university by providing educational programming around the state. University of Illinois Extension is based in the College of ACES and works with all colleges and units of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The Visiting Extension Specialist, Integrated Health Disparities (Physical Education and Health – Exercise Physiology) serves as a full time, 12-month academic professional with primary responsibility for planning, developing, and implementing exercise physiology education content (in-person and digital), curriculum, instructional materials, and other resources for University of Illinois Extension’s integrated health education programs. This position is a member of the Integrated Health Disparities statewide team and supports the creation of instructional materials for statewide programming. State specialists are the backbone of Extension, providing research, evidence-based information, and programs on specific disciplines to our community and stakeholders. From authoring publications to providing resources for the community and stakeholders, this position will serve a critical role for Extension.

We are searching for an innovative Physical Education or Exercise Physiology specialist to join our IHD team. In this role, the Specialist will complete community assessments, make programmatic plans, work with other extension professionals to develop community support plans, and conduct individual and/or group educational sessions. The successful specialist will have a sound understanding of human anatomy, biology, physiology, and human movement as well as the types of health and physical education tools used to prevent disorders associated with inactivity and to promote health and physical activity. The specialist will have expertise in delivering physical activity programs that seek to promote social and emotional learning, primarily through the teaching personal and social responsibility model. The Specialist is expected to provide referral intervention when required. Ideal candidates should be compassionate problem solvers who feel comfortable collaborating with other kinesiology, exercise education, physical activity or therapy, and health care experts. The specialist will contribute to the advancement of Illinois’ communities on the way to building partnerships, developing initiatives, and advocating for programming focused on physical activity as a path to stronger public health and decrease health disparities.

The ideal candidate is adept at building and maintaining trust-based relationships, engaging stakeholders, and applying an equity lens towards transforming lives and communities. As such, we strongly encourage applications from candidates who foster and promote the values of diversity and inclusion.

## Application Due

April 27, 2022

## Proposed Start Date

As soon as possible after the closing date

## Salary

Commensurate with experience and qualifications

## To Apply

Go To: <http://go.illinois.edu/162419>

Log in to your account and upload a cover letter and resume, as well as the names and contact information of three professional references

## More Information

The position is a temporary, full-time, benefits eligible, non-tenure academic professional position. The position may become non-visiting at a later time dependent upon funding and/or programmatic needs. Generous vacation and sick leave. State Universities Retirement System. Group health, dental, vision and life insurance.

This is a security-sensitive position. Comprehensive background checks, including but not limited to a criminal conviction information check, and a review of the Registered Sex Offender list, will be conducted.

One full-time position is available.

**Location: Urbana-Champaign Campus**

### **Curriculum and Content Development**

- Conducts needs assessments, develops, and implements innovative and impactful curricula using advanced theories and technologies to enhance learner engagement, development, and retention for physical activity education programs that promote health and illness prevention.
- Designs and evaluates evidence-based physical activity education programs that seek to promote health and illness prevention, physical education tools or materials, and resources related to physical activity, kinesiology, with social and emotional learning opportunities.
- Develops and implements education plans for prevention of disorders associated with physical inactivity (e.g., weight management, metabolic syndrome, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemias, cancer, and more) and promotion of health that Extension educators may deliver to residents of Illinois.
- Designs and develops learning materials in a variety of formats (scenario-based, problem-based, competency-based, hybrid models with synchronic and asynchronous delivery). This may include course revisions, activities, and assessments for online content.
- Within the designated area(s) of specialization, develops and adapts innovative curricula to meet the needs of professional providers in the field.
- Develops effective and contemporary approaches to communicate with clientele. This may include constantly evolving electronic technologies (e.g., Twitter, blogs, e-learning, etc.).
- Reviews and enhances existing content to ensure level appropriateness and consistency with learning objectives; provides translation of curriculum materials for specific populations, including English as Second Language learners.
- Applies research in educational best practices, instructional resources, instructional technologies, and multimedia hardware/software to support teaching and learning.
- Suggests and assists with implementing instructional technology for effective and efficient training delivery theory and online learning technologies.
- Collaborates with content teams, clinical staff, and subject matter experts to build, review, and revise content as needed to adapt to the emerging needs of the field.
- Identifies, locates, and curates resources to inform and support course content to meet field needs.
- Uses research and evaluation findings to create innovative programs and make changes to existing programs to improve quality.
- Research educational best practices, instructional resources, instructional technologies, and multimedia hardware/software to support teaching and learning.
- Utilizes innovative organizational development and adult learning techniques and principles.
- Plans and conducts training for instructors to prepare to deliver newly developed curricula.
- Conduct all activities in accordance with the Civil Rights Act, Title IX, Rehabilitation, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the University of Illinois Extension Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity Plan.

### **Project Management and Transfer of Training**

- Works as an effective team member in executing plans and projects, including assisting in project and program coordination or execution roles, as appropriate.
- Serves as a culturally competent and effective team member and volunteers for leadership roles as appropriate.
- Manages projects from ideation to launch to measurement.
- Reports impacts to Assistant Dean/Program Leader for IHD as required.
- Meets deadlines, complies with all reporting deadlines and requirements (e.g., work plans, activities, impact reporting, database entry, etc.), and adjusts to shifting priorities.
- Assists with instructor preparedness and effectiveness and onsite learning instruction, as needed.
- Provides instructor feedback and coaching to improve the delivery of content.
- Develops instructor and course evaluations, analyses, and reports.

*The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. Convictions are not a bar to employment. The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. For more information, visit [Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment](#). The University of Illinois must also comply with applicable federal export control laws and regulations and, as such, reserves the right to employ restricted party screening procedures for applicants.*

*As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System uses [E-Verify](#) to verify [employment eligibility](#).*

*The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer that recruits and hires qualified candidates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability or veteran status. For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EEO>.*

*University of Illinois faculty, staff and students are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If you are not able to receive the vaccine for medical or religious reasons, you may seek approval for an exemption in accordance with applicable University processes.*

## Professional Development and Scholarship

- Maintains the competencies to develop and deliver relevant educational programming, and professional credentials with national and/or state credentialing authorities.
- Continually seeks professional development opportunities to enhance content and cultural competency in the subject matter area.
- Leads and cooperate in the conduct of applied research in physical activity education programs that promote health and illness prevention, educational best practices, instructional resources, instructional technologies, and multimedia hardware/software to support teaching and learning.
- Establishes professional relationships and participates in campus-based partnerships that tie academic programs and research to complement Extension programming by partnering with other Extension field staff and/or faculty members on research projects as appropriate within the initiatives.
- Prepares and secures internal and external resources (grants) to enhance the development of innovative educational programs with potential for high impact; leads and completes funded projects. Cooperation with campus faculty is strongly encouraged in securing resources.
- Be an active member within a professional society(ies) to keep abreast of changes within the discipline.

## Other Information

- Comply with all University of Illinois Extension Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity policies and guidelines in all aspects of Extension work; assist unit staff with data collection for Affirmative Action, Gender, and Targeted reports as needed.
- Assume additional related responsibilities to enhance the mission of the unit.
- Local, regional, and statewide travel required; personal transportation required.
- To perform the functions of this position, the employee will be required to perform work both within an office and outside in the communities that are served, and must have the capability to travel from one location to the other in a timely fashion. Employee is responsible for securing personal transportation. A valid driver's license is preferred. Some work will be required during evenings and/or weekends. When working, the employee may be exposed to a variety of environmental factors to include, but not limited to, hot or cold weather, exposure to noise and allergens, and uneven ground. In performing the functions of this position, the employee may be subjected to various mental and physical demands as well to include, but not limited to, independently traveling to and performing work at different locations, lifting and moving items that may occasionally weigh up to forty (40) pounds and frequently weigh up to twenty (20) pounds, and twisting, pushing and pulling movements. More detailed information regarding the functions of this position (including the physical, mental and environmental requirements of the position) may be obtained from Human Resources for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) by contacting [hr@aces.illinois.edu](mailto:hr@aces.illinois.edu).

**Administrative Relationship:** The Visiting Extension Specialist is administratively responsible to the Assistant Dean, Integrated Health Disparities.

## Qualifications

### Required:

- Master's degree Exercise Physiology, Kinesiology, Physical Education or a closely related discipline from an accredited institution of Higher Education. Candidates with a Master's degree in progress may be considered for interviews, but degree must be completed by hire date.
- Minimum 2 years of field experience in teaching adult and/or youth audiences the programmatic responsibilities in exercise physiology, kinesiology, physical education, a related discipline with diverse population groups. At least two years of demonstrated work experience in the area of programming and service delivery, working with curriculum development, instructional design teams, and training delivery, including youth and adult education with hybrid education models; Evidence of the ability to be an effective educator and mentor. Experience working with diverse audiences in multicultural environments or with people who have

### Environmental Demands:

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health risks and/or physical limitations. Experience managing multiple tasks, timelines, and schedules while maintaining high-quality work. Evidence of the ability to conduct community-based participatory research and apply research results to real-world situations. Evidence of relevant grant and research experience. Expertise in quality data collection, evaluation, and reporting. Experience in displaying strong interpersonal, observational, and problem-solving skills, as well as resilience and sound judgment. Experience in building and maintaining professional relationships and effective partnerships. Experience with communicating effectively using a variety of methods and technology.

**Preferred:**

- Earned doctoral degree (Ph.D. or D. Sci.) in a field relevant to the programmatic responsibilities in exercise physiology, kinesiology, physical education, or a closely related field from an accredited university.
- Knowledge of or experience with community-based education, including Extension and “train-the-trainer” models. Five years of field experience in teaching adult and/or youth audiences the programmatic responsibilities in exercise physiology, kinesiology, physical education, or a related discipline with diverse population groups. Experience with data analysis that aligns with this position and how assessment/evaluation/impact data is gathered, analyzed, and summarized. Experience working with diverse audiences in multicultural environments or with people who have health risks and/or physical limitations. Evidence of development or implementation of adapted programming that promotes safe and effective physical activity training for individuals affected by health risks and/or physical limitations with motivational support for maintenance of a healthy lifestyle. English/Spanish bilingual communication skills and/or knowledge of regional dialects is preferred (proficiency in oral and written Spanish). Ideal candidates will also have successful experiences in coalition and partnership building, community and organizational facilitation, community planning, non-profit management, community economic development, local government, community and economic data analysis, international development, leadership development, and conflict-resolution.

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- Sound understanding of health-related lifestyle management theories involving exercise or physical movement. Ability to effectively work with people from different cultural backgrounds, including those associated with race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, socioeconomic status, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and other aspects of human diversity. Ability to liaison with healthcare providers, families, caregivers, social workers, community members, and teachers, as required. Ability to observe the appropriate workplace health and safety guidelines at all times. Knowledge of integrated health disparities impacts and outcomes, adult, and youth learning theory. Excellent written and verbal English communication, analytical, interpersonal, and organizational skills. Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Word). Proficiency in educational and technical writing. Skilled at using Adobe suite other creative software and tools to create digital assets. Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work well with groups. Self-motivated and able to work semi-independently. Ability to work flexible hours and be self-directing. Familiarity with the national Extension system and/or University of Illinois Extension, effective and innovative teaching strategies that engage others, including strong listening, written, and oral communication skills, and a basic understanding of community-, organizational-, and system-level factors that affect health outcomes and contribute to health disparities is preferred.

For further information about the position please contact Search Chair Shibu kar at shibakar@illinois.edu. For technical assistance with the online application process, please email jobs@illinois.edu.

**Application Procedure:**

To apply, go to: <https://go.illinois.edu/162419>. Log in to your account and upload a cover letter and resume, as well as the names and contact information of three professional references. Resume dates must be in month/year format and employment history, at a minimum, should include all work dating back to the completion of your undergraduate degree. Positions that were less than full-time/100% must be noted as being part-time. Transcripts may be requested at a later date. To receive full consideration, all requested application materials must be submitted via the online system by the close date of **April 27, 2022**.

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[extension.illinois.edu](https://extension.illinois.edu)



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