



**2017-18 NCAA Division I Council-Governance Legislative Proposals  
Question and Answer Document  
(Updated: December 21, 2017)**

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of selected proposals.

**NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2017-15 Ethical Conduct -- Sports Wagering Activities -- Sanctions -- Elimination of Legislated Sanctions**

**Question No. 1:** Does this proposal eliminate the prohibition on sports wagering?

**Answer:** No. This proposal eliminates the current, legislated minimum sanctions for sports wagering. Sports wagering will remain impermissible under NCAA legislation, but the adoption of this proposal will allow the NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement authority to develop appropriate guidelines for review of cases on an individual basis and consider the totality of the circumstances. Further, the existing legislated sanctions will be incorporated into the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement guidelines.

**Question No. 2:** Does an institution currently have an opportunity to appeal a sports wagering sanction on behalf of a student-athlete who has triggered a legislated penalty?

**Answer:** No appellate opportunity exists for the minimum legislated penalty. An institution can appeal a withholding condition greater than the legislated minimum penalty, but the appellate body (Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement) may not issue a withholding condition less than the minimum legislated penalty.

**Question No. 3:** If this proposal is adopted, will an institution be able to appeal a sports wagering sanction on behalf of a student-athlete?

**Answer:** Yes. If the proposal is adopted, an institution could appeal a sports wagering sanction to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

**Question No. 4:** Will this proposal be applied retroactively to violations of the sports wagering legislation?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** Is the same proposal being considered in Divisions II and III?

**Answer:** Yes. NCAA Bylaw 10.3.2 is a common provision across all three divisions and requires a majority vote of each of the three divisions, voting separately, for adoption or amendment.

**Proposal No. 2017-16 Personnel -- Graduate Assistant Coach -- Bowl Subdivision Football -  
- Training Table Meals**

**Question No. 1:** Do NCAA financial aid regulations have any effect on providing FBS graduate assistant coaches training table meals?

**Answer:** No. However, institutional and/or federal financial aid regulations may be applicable.

**Proposal No. 2017-17 Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition -- Criteria for  
Determining Season of Competition -- Up to Four Contests -- Football**

**Question No. 1:** How does this proposal impact hardship waiver legislation?

**Answer:** This proposal does not change the legislative requirements for a hardship waiver. If a student-athlete competes in more than four contests during a season, thereby triggering use of a season, and sustains an incapacitating injury or illness, current hardship waiver legislation would apply. If a student-athlete participates in four or fewer contests, a hardship waiver is not necessary because the student-athlete has not used a season of competition.

**Question No. 2:** How does this proposal impact the five-year waiver rule?

**Answer:** This proposal does not change the legislative requirements for the five-year waiver rule. A student-athlete may receive an extension of his or her five-year period of eligibility if, based on objective documentation, the student-athlete was denied the opportunity to participate in more than one season in his or her sport for reasons that are beyond the control of the student-athlete or institution. Based on current standards established by the Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement, if a student-athlete does not trigger use of a season of competition during a particular year in which he was injured, staff is directed to review whether the student-athlete's inability to participate was due to circumstances beyond the control of the student-athlete or institution.

**Question No. 3:** If Proposal No. 2017-21 is adopted, could a football student-athlete who competes in four contests or less during his initial year of enrollment and ceases further participation due to an institutional decision (e.g., coach's decision to redshirt the student-athlete) qualify for an extension of his five-year period of eligibility?

**Answer:** Yes. Provided the student-athlete was deprived of the opportunity to participate in one other season for reasons beyond the control of the student-athlete or institution.

**Question No. 4:** Is this exception available only during a student-athlete's initial year of enrollment?

**Answer:** No. This exception is available during any year of a student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility. Additionally, this exception may be used more than once during a student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility. For example, a student-athlete who competes in two contests during his first year and four contests during his second year would enter his third year of eligibility with four seasons of competition remaining. However, the five-year period of eligibility legislation still applies.

**Question No. 5:** Does the student-athlete have to compete in four consecutive contests to qualify for the exception.

**Answer:** No. The student-athlete may compete in any four contests at any point in the season and still qualify for the exception, provided he does not compete in more than four total contests.

**Question No. 6:** Does this exception apply to sports other than football?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 7:** Does this exception cover participation in junior varsity contests?

**Answer:** Yes. A football student-athlete who competes in junior varsity contests or other nontraditional contests that would trigger use of a season of competition (e.g., contests against NAIA institutions, contests against a two-year institution, contests against a different division), may use the exception provided the student-athlete does not compete in more than four total contests.

**Question No. 8:** Does this exception apply to a transfer student-athlete who participated at a junior college, NAIA institution, other non-NCAA institution, or NCAA Division II or III institution?

**Answer:** Yes. A football student-athlete who competes at a junior college, NAIA institution, other non-NCAA institution, or NCAA Division II or III institution, which may have triggered use of a season of competition according to the rules of that particular governing body and/or division, may use the exception provided the student-athlete does not compete in more than four total contests.

**Question No. 9:** May a student-athlete who was subject to a withholding condition at the outset of the football season, for reasons related to serving an amateurism certification condition, delayed enrollment condition or student-athlete reinstatement condition subsequently compete in four contests of the same football season and still qualify for the exception?

**Answer:** No. A student-athlete serving a withholding condition associated with an amateurism certification condition, delayed enrollment condition or student-athlete reinstatement condition will be charged with use of a season of competition even if the student-athlete competes in four contests or less subsequent to fulfilling that withholding condition.

**Questions No. 10:** May a student-athlete who was not eligible to compete in the first four contests of the football season per Bylaw 14.4.3.1.6 subsequently compete in four contests of the same season and still qualify for the exception?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 11:** Does participation in any of the contests specified in the annual exemptions to maximum football contests dates specified in Bylaw 17.10.5.2 (e.g., postseason and/or bowl games) count towards the four contests allowed under this exception?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 12:** Does satisfaction of this exception impact a student-athlete's ability to qualify for any four-year transfer exceptions with provisions related to non-competition at the previous institution(s) (e.g., two-year nonparticipation, return to original institution without participation or nonrecruited student exception)?

**Answer:** No. A student-athlete must still meet the normal provisions of any four-year transfer exception regardless of whether he/she meets the parameters of this season of competition exception in football.

**Question No. 13:** Could a student-athlete who has used his four seasons of competition participate in up to four contests during a fifth season of competition?

**Answer:** No. A student-athlete who has utilized four seasons of competition in a particular sport has exhausted his eligibility for that sport.

**Question No. 14:** What is the effective date of the proposal?

**Answer:** August 1, 2018, for competition occurring in fall 2018 and later.

**Proposal No. 2017-18 Amateurism – Seasons of Competition -- Delayed Enrollment -- Exception -- Junior Level National/International Competition -- Junior Level Equivalent**

**Question No. 1:** Is the proposal retroactive?

**Answer:** No. The proposal is applicable only to a student-athlete who initially enrolls full-time in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2018.

**Question No. 2:** What if a student-athlete initially enrolls full-time in a collegiate institution prior to August 1, 2018, but does not receive final amateurism certification until after August 1, 2018?

**Answer:** The proposal does not apply to a student-athlete who enrolled full time in a collegiate institution prior to August 1, 2018, regardless of when the student-athlete received final amateurism certification.

**Question No. 3:** Does the proposal apply to any junior level competition?

**Answer:** No. The proposal only applies to junior level competitions in official Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships, and officially recognized competition from which participants may directly qualify for final tryouts for a national team that will participate in the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships.

**Proposal No. 2017-21 Athletics Eligibility -- Five-Year Rule Waiver Criteria -- Redshirt Year Provision**

**Question No. 1:** Must the "redshirt year" (i.e., a season the student-athlete does not participate due to an institutional decision) occur during the student-athlete's initial year of full-time, collegiate enrollment?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 2:** Must the redshirt year (i.e., the season the student-athlete did not participate due to an institutional decision) occur during the student-athlete's initial year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution?

**Answer:** No. The redshirt year may occur at another institution (e.g., NAIA, two-year institution, international institution or another NCAA institution) during his or her initial year of full-time, collegiate enrollment. However, the student-athlete must have been a member of the previous institution's athletics team and otherwise eligible for competition.

**Question No. 3:** Could a student-athlete who was not a member of the athletics team during his or her initial year of full-time, collegiate enrollment meet the "institutional decision" criteria?

**Answer:** No. The student-athlete must have been otherwise eligible for competition and listed on the institution's squad list during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship.

**Question No. 4:** What if the student-athlete was a member of a different team during his or her initial year? For example, what if the student-athlete redshirted his initial year as football player and then joined the outdoor track team his second year and beyond?

**Answer:** The five-year waiver rule is sport specific. Therefore, if a student-athlete redshirts his initial year as a football player, the redshirt year could only be considered in an extension request for football.

**Question No. 5:** May a student-athlete who was medically unable to participate during his or her initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment consider that year a "redshirt"?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the student-athlete was otherwise eligible to participate.

**Question No. 6:** If Proposal No. 2017-17 is adopted, could a football student-athlete who competes in four contests or less during his initial year of enrollment and ceases further participation due to an institutional decision (e.g., coach's decision to redshirt the student-athlete) qualify for an extension of his five-year period of eligibility?

**Answer:** Yes. Provided the student-athlete was deprived of the opportunity to participate in one other season for reasons beyond the control of the student-athlete or institution.

**Questions No. 7:** What are reasons beyond the control of the student-athlete or institution for which a student-athlete may qualify for a five-year waiver?

**Answer:** This proposal does not change the circumstances which are considered beyond the control of the student-athlete or institution. Five-Year Rule Waiver legislation (See Bylaw 12.8.1.7.1.1) provides a list of circumstances considered to be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the institution.

**Question No. 8:** What does "institutional decision" mean for purposes of this proposal?

**Answer:** The "institutional decision" must deprive an otherwise eligible student-athlete from participating during their initial season of intercollegiate eligibility.

**Question No. 9:** Must an institution decide at the outset of a season whether or not a student-athlete is going to redshirt their initial season of intercollegiate eligibility?

**Answer:** No. While an institution may decide at the outset of a season to redshirt a student-athlete, a student-athlete who does not compete for the entirety of his or her initial season of intercollegiate eligibility may be considered a "redshirt" for purposes of this proposal.

**Question No. 10:** Could an academic redshirt or nonqualifier utilize this waiver criteria?

**Answer:** No. A student-athlete must have been eligible to compete during their initial year of collegiate enrollment.

**Proposal No. 2017-22 Recruiting – Contact and Evaluations – Football – Spring Recruiting Period and Contact During Spring of Junior Year.**

**Question No. 1:** During the spring recruiting period, how does an in-person, off-campus contact between an institutional coach and a junior prospective student-athlete count toward the institution’s recruiting limitations?

**Answer:** During the spring recruiting period, in-person, off-campus contact between a coach and a junior prospective student-athlete must count as one of the two permissible recruiting opportunities during the spring and one of the six permissible contacts (junior and senior years combined) for the prospective student-athlete. Additionally, it would count as a recruiting person day.

**Question No. 2:** Do evaluation activities during the spring recruiting period count toward the 168 recruiting-person days (216 for U.S. service academies) restriction and the limit of two recruiting opportunities per junior prospective student-athlete?

**Answer:** Yes. Evaluations during the spring recruiting period must be included in the 168 recruiting-person days and count toward the limit of two recruiting opportunities per junior prospective student-athlete.

**Question No. 3:** Do evaluations that occur during the fall evaluation period count against the permissible recruiting opportunities in the spring recruiting period?

**Answer:** No. Institutional staff members are limited to one evaluation during the fall evaluation period and two recruiting opportunities (i.e., contacts and evaluations) during the spring recruiting period.

**Question No. 4:** Is there a limit on recruiting opportunities for senior prospective student-athletes during the spring recruiting period?

**Answer:** While there is no numerical limitation on the number of in-person, off-campus contacts that may occur with a senior prospective student-athlete during the spring recruiting period, contacts must count within the permissible six contacts (junior and senior year combined). Further, contacts are limited to one per week of the recruiting period and may occur at any location.

**Question No. 5:** If a coach conducts an athletics evaluation on one day and an academic evaluation on another day, may the coach return to the educational institution to initiate in-person, off-campus recruiting contact with a junior prospective student-athlete?



**Answer:** No. Each institution is limited to two recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations combined) during a prospective student-athlete's junior year.

**Question No. 6:** May a coach have contact with a prospective student-athlete during the day, while classes are in session at the prospective student-athlete's educational institution?

**Answer:** Yes. Contact may only be made only when such permission is granted by the educational institution.

**Question No. 7:** Does a visit to a prospective student-athlete's educational institution during the spring recruiting period without in-person recruiting contact count as a recruiting opportunity for all prospective student-athletes at that educational institution?

**Answer:** Yes. Such a visit counts as one of the two recruiting opportunities and as an evaluation for all prospective student-athletes at the educational institution.

**Question No. 8:** Does this proposal permit Football Bowl Subdivision head coaches to recruit off-campus during the spring recruiting period?

**Answer:** No.

### **Proposal No. 2017-23 Recruiting -- Evaluations and Recruiting Calendars -- Women's Basketball**

**Question No. 1:** During a recruiting shutdown period, may a coach or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities receive telephone calls, text messages, etc. from a prospective student-athlete or her family members?

**Answer:** No. If a coach or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities receives a telephone call or text message, he or she may explain the recruiting rules. After doing so, he or she must immediately end the phone call or cease text messaging.

**Question No. 2:** May a coach or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities send general correspondence (e.g., questionnaires, mail) during the recruiting shutdown?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 3:** During a recruiting shutdown period, may a coach or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities make or receive telephone calls or send electronic correspondence to a prospective-student athlete (or her family members) that relate solely to institutional camp or clinic logistical issues?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** During a recruiting shutdown period, may a coach or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities make or receive telephone calls or send electronic correspondence related to a prospective student-athlete's official or unofficial visit?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** Are institutional camps or clinics permissible during a recruiting shutdown?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2017-26 Recruiting -- Tryouts and Camps and Clinics -- Definition of Prospective Student-Athlete -- Softball**

**Question No. 1:** Does the classification of 7th and 8th graders as prospective student-athletes apply to all recruiting legislation?

**Answer:** No. The proposal only affects tryout and camp and clinic legislation.

**Question No. 2:** Is this proposal the same as current men's basketball legislation?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Proposal No. 2017-28 Recruiting – Definitions and Applications – Individual Associated with a Prospective Student-Athlete – NCAA Division I Staff Member**

**Question No. 1:** Does this proposal impact employment of an individual associated with a recruited prospective student-athlete (IAWRP) at a camp or clinic in basketball and football?

**Answer:** No. The proposal does not impact employment of an IAWRP at a camp or clinic legislation in basketball and football; therefore, it remains

impermissible to employ an IAWRP at the institution's camp or clinic unless at least two years (24 months) have elapsed since the prospective student-athlete's full-time enrollment at the institution.

**Proposal No. 2017-29 Recruiting and Athletics Personnel – Elimination of Restrictions on Endorsements, Recruiting Correspondence and Publicity**

**Question No. 1:** Does this proposal only apply to those interactions that occur over social media?

**Answer:** No. Under this proposal, there are no longer restrictions on endorsement, general/electronic correspondence and publicity. The application of this proposal impacts interactions via social media in addition to other traditional methods of communication (e.g., general correspondence, institutional radio shows and institutional media releases).

**Question No. 2:** May social media interactions between institutional athletics department staff members and prospective student-athletes occur within the public domain?

**Answer:** Yes. Under this proposal, social media interactions between an institutional staff member and a prospective student-athlete may occur at any time, and are not required to be private between sender and recipient. Further, permissible attachments to social media interactions (e.g., institutional created graphic) may be included in such posts.

**Question No. 3:** Does this proposal impact the provision of audio/video materials, created for recruiting purposes, to prospective student-athletes (i.e., Bylaw 13.4.1.9)?

**Answer:** No. It would remain impermissible to produce video or audio materials to show to, play for or provide to a prospective student-athlete.

**Question No. 4:** May an institutional staff member comment on the recruitment of a specific prospective student-athlete prior to the prospective student-athlete's written commitment to the staff member's institution?

**Answer:** Yes. An institutional staff member may comment on the recruitment of a specific prospective student-athlete at any time.

**Question No. 5:** May an institution's athletics department enter into a promotional agreement with a high school team, high school coach, nonscholastic event or recruiting/scouting service?

**Answer:** While this proposal eliminates endorsement restrictions on high school teams, high school coaches, nonscholastic events and recruiting/scouting services, other recruiting legislation (e.g., Bylaws 13.8.2 – material benefits, and 13.15.1 precollege expenses) restricts direct or indirect benefits to prospective student-athletes, individuals responsible for teaching or directing prospective student-athlete and individuals associated with prospective student-athletes.

**Proposal No. 2017-30 Recruiting – Printed Recruiting Materials -- Content of Questionnaires**

**Question No. 1:** Is there a numerical limit on the number of questionnaires that can be sent to a prospective student-athlete?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 2:** Can a questionnaire be sent to an individual of any age?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Proposal No. 2017-31 Recruiting -- Recruiting Materials -- Video/Audio Materials -- Recruiting Presentations**

**Question No. 1:** Is it still permissible to provide prospective student-athletes with official academic admissions and student-services media produced by the institution and available to all students?

**Answer:** Yes. Official academic admissions and student-services media remains permissible video/audio material.

**Question No. 2:** May an institution produce a computer-generated recruiting presentation (e.g., using presentation software) to show to, play for or provide to a prospective student-athlete?

**Answer:** Yes. A computer-generated recruiting presentation is considered permissible video/audio material.

**Question No. 3:** The legislation states that video/audio material cannot be created by an entity outside the institution. Who may produce the video/audio material at the institution?

**Answer:** Any institutional employee may produce the video/audio material, including noncoaching athletics department staff members (e.g., academic advisor, director of operations). However, an institution may not arrange for an outside entity to prepare the video/audio material as a gift-in-kind to the institution.

**Question No. 4:** Must the video/audio material be posted on the institution's website to provide the material to a prospective student-athlete?

**Answer:** No. However, an institution may post such materials on their website at its discretion.

**Question No. 5:** While on an unofficial or official visit or during a contact with an institution's coach, are there any restrictions on how a prospective student-athlete may listen to or view video/audio material?

**Answer:** While on an unofficial or official visit or during a contact with an institution's coach a prospective student-athlete can listen to or view video/audio materials using any mode (e.g., big screen televisions, virtual reality goggles) provided the prospective student-athlete is not allowed to keep the electronic device. Further, all publicity and visit legislation is still applicable. The video/audio material may not be played or shown to prospective student-athletes in view of the general public nor in a way that constitutes a gameday simulation.

**Question No. 6:** May the video/audio material be provided to a prospective student-athlete via a digital media storage device (e.g., DVD, flash drive)?

**Answer:** No. Video/audio material may only be provided to a prospective student-athlete via electronic correspondence (e.g., electronic mail, text message).

**Question No. 7:** May video/audio material be posted publicly to a prospective student-athlete's social media page?

**Answer:** No. While this proposal would permit audio/video materials to be sent to a prospective student athlete via electronic correspondence, such correspondence must be private between sender and recipient.

**Proposal No. 2017-32 Recruiting -- Transportation During an Official or Unofficial Visit -- Team Vehicles**

**Question No. 1:** During a visit, would it be permissible for an institution to transport prospective student-athletes on a bus from the hotel to the competition site as part of the team motorcade?

**Answer:** No. This activity would constitute a game day simulation, which remains impermissible.

**Question No. 2:** If an institution uses nonvehicular forms of transportation to transport its athletics teams (e.g., airplane, helicopter, boat), may the institution use such forms of transportation to transport a prospect student-athlete (and those accompanying the prospective student-athlete) during an official or unofficial visit?

**Answer:** No. This proposal is intended to permit an institution to utilize regular forms of transportation (e.g., bus, golf cart, sprinter van) that the institution normally uses to transport its athletics teams.

**Question No. 3:** May the institution use the transportation company that is regularly used for team transportation to provide transportation to coaches, student-athletes, prospective student-athletes and their guests during an official or unofficial visit?

**Answer:** Yes, if the transportation provided by the company (e.g., bus, van) is consistent with what is normally used to transport an institution's athletics team.

**Proposal No. 2017-34 Recruiting -- Activities During Official or Unofficial Visit -- Decorations in Common Areas**

**Question No. 1:** Would it be permissible for an institution to decorate a hotel room or dorm room?

**Answer:** No. The proposal is intended to permit an institution to decorate common areas in athletics facilities that are not accessible or visible to the general public (e.g., coach's office, suite in arena or stadium).

**Question No. 2:** If a member of the general public walks into a common area while decorated, would it be a violation?

**Answer:** No. Provided the institution takes the appropriate steps to notify the member of the general public the area is restricted and not open. It is not permissible for institutions to publicize the decorated area as part of the visit.

**Question No. 3:** What types of decorations (e.g., balloons, general welcome signs, trophies) are intended to become permissive with this proposal?

**Answer:** The proposal provides flexibility to institutions to decorate athletics areas that are not generally open to the public as they see fit. For example, championship rings may be displayed in the locker room regardless of where they are traditionally found throughout the year. However, the decorations may not be personalized for a prospective student-athlete.

**Question No. 4:** Would the proposal permit an institution to relocate a trophy from a trophy case to the location of a meal with a prospective student-athlete during a visit?

**Answer:** Yes. Provided the meal occurs in an athletics facility that is not accessible or visible to the general public. It would not be permissible to move the trophy to a meal that occurs outside an athletics facility.

**Question No. 5:** Would the proposal permit an institution to have a "Welcome Juniors " sign printed and hung inside the locker-room?

**Answer:** Yes. Provided the welcome sign is not personalized and is not in view of the general public.

**Question No. 6:** Would the proposal permit an institution to have a welcome sign scrolling on the marquee outside an athletics arena?

**Answer:** No. A welcome sign outside an athletics facility would be in view of the public and would not be permissible.

**Proposal No. 2017-37 Recruiting -- Sports Camps and Clinics -- Location Restriction -- Football**

**Question No. 1:** Would there be an exception for institutions that are on the boarder of another state (e.g., 50-mile radius from the institution if in another state)?

**Answer:** No. This legislation is specific to restricting the location of institutional camps or clinics to the state where the institution is located.

**Proposal No. 2017-40 Recruiting -- Sports Camps or Clinics -- Employment at Camps or Clinics -- Noncoaching Staff Members -- Football**

**Question No. 1** May a noncoaching staff member with responsibilities specific to football have recruiting conversations with prospective student-athletes while employed at camps?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2017-49 Academic Eligibility -- Practice Prior to Initial Enrollment -- Prohibited Practice Activities -- Football -- Observation of Closed Practices**

**Question No. 1:** Does the proposal allow a prospective student-athlete to participate in practice activities before enrollment?

**Answer:** No. Prospective student-athletes are prohibited from participating in any practice activities with a coaching staff member before enrollment.

**Question No. 2:** May a prospective student-athlete observe a closed practice activity (e.g., film review session) on a regular basis?

**Answer:** No. Observing a team's closed practice activity (e.g., film review session) on a regular basis would constitute participation in practice activities. The prospective student-athlete may only observe a team's closed practice activity on an occasional basis as part of the recruiting process.

**Proposal No. 2017-50 Academic Eligibility -- Requirement for Practice -- Exception -- Former Student Participating in Practice on an Occasional Basis -- Football**

**Question No. 1:** Does this limitation apply to all former student-athletes, regardless of their current affiliation with a professional football team?

**Answer:** Yes. No former student-athlete may participate in a football practice session, regardless of their status with a professional football team, or any other sport. This restriction applies to all former student-athletes, even those that never played football at the institution.



**Question No. 2:** May a former student-athlete observe practice and/or speak to a team during practice?

**Answer:** Yes. The proposal only applies to a former student-athlete's ability to participate in practice activities.

**Question No. 3:** May a former student-athlete participate in the institution's spring football game per Bylaw 17.10.5.2.1-(a)?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Proposal No. 2017-52 - Academic Eligibility -- Four-Year College Transfers -- Competition in Year of Transfer -- NCAA Championship Selection Based on Nonchampionship Performance**

**Question No. 1:** What is the earliest point at which a mid-year transfer student-athlete may become eligible to compete at the certifying institution?

**Answer:** Provided the student-athlete received a waiver or otherwise met a four-year transfer exception on enrollment at the certifying institution, the student-athlete may become eligible to compete at the start of the subsequent academic year following transfer (e.g., fall term).

**Question No. 2:** Does the proposal apply to midyear transfer student-athletes from Division II or Division III institutions?

**Answer:** Yes, the proposal applies to a midyear transfer departing any NCAA institution.

**Question No. 3:** Does the proposal apply to midyear transfer student-athletes from non-NCAA institutions (e.g., 2-year, NAIA)?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2017-53 - Financial Aid -- General Principles -- Financial Aid to Attend Another Institution -- Exception for Summer Enrollment**

**Question No. 1:** Prior to the start of their third year of collegiate enrollment, what type of credit hours must a student-athlete enroll in to use the exception??

**Answer:** A student-athlete must be enrolled in a minimum of three credits of coursework that apply towards any of the certifying institution's degree programs [per Bylaw 14.4.3.1.7-(a)].

**Question No. 2:** Does a student-athlete who receives financial aid to attend another institution meet the enrollment requirement to participate in summer athletic activities at the certifying institution?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 3:** May the certifying institution provide financial aid for a student-athlete's room and board expenses at another institution?

**Answer:** No, the certifying institution may not provide financial aid to cover the student-athlete's cost of room and board at another institution. However, an institution may work with its conference to determine if providing room and board expenses through the NCAA Student Assistance Fund would be appropriate in these circumstances.

**Proposal No. 2017-54 Maximum Institutional Grant-In-Aid Limitations by Sport – Exception – Receipt of Institutional Academic Aid Only**

**Question No. 1:** Does Proposal No. 2017-54 apply retroactively?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 2:** Does the elimination of the 3.00 cumulative grade-point-average requirement apply to all institutional scholarships?

**Answer:** No. An institutional academic honor award must be based solely on the student's academic record to be exempt from counting in the institution's financial aid team limits. Secondary factors, such as a student's residency, financial need, and major may be considered.

**Question No. 3:** Are requirements for academic honor awards based on high school academic record affected?

**Answer:** No. The requirements to exempt academic honor awards based on a high school record remain unchanged. However, if such an award is renewed in subsequent academic years, such aid may be exempted provided the recipient meets all NCAA, conference, and institutional progress-toward-

degree requirements and the aid was renewed in a manner consistent with institutional policies for all recipients.

**Question No. 4:** If an institution renews academic awards on a term-by-term basis, can an academic award be exempted at midyear?

**Answer:** Yes, if the institution renews the award on a term-by-term basis for all recipients. Certification of athletics aid must be done at the beginning of each academic year, but it may be done on a term-by-term basis if recertification at midyear will benefit the aid recipient.

**Question No. 5:** Are head count sports other than football and basketball (e.g., women's volleyball) affected?

**Answer:** No. Generally, student-athletes must trigger counter status (i.e., receive athletics aid) before an institution must determine what athletics aid is countable towards team limits. However, in football and basketball, a recruited student-athlete receiving only institutional academic aid is considered a counter on participation in varsity competition unless his or her grade-point-average is a 3.00 or higher and the student is beyond his or her initial year of enrollment at the certifying institution. The proposed legislative changes to Bylaw 15.5.1.1.1 eliminate the grade-point-average requirement but leave in place the requirement that the recipient is beyond initial year of enrollment at the certifying institution. This requirement is unique to football and basketball, so other head count sports will be unaffected.

**Proposal No. 2017-55 Financial Aid -- Maximum Institutional Grant-in-Aid Limitations by Sport -- Counters -- Men's Basketball -- Graduate Transfer**

**Question No. 1:** Does the proposal apply to men's basketball players pursuing one-year graduate degree programs?

**Answer:** Yes; however, if a student-athlete successfully earns his graduate degree program in one-year, then he may be removed from the counter limitations for the subsequent academic year.

**Question No. 2:** Does the proposal apply to a walk-on, graduate transfer who is not receiving athletically related financial aid?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 3:** If the institution provides a graduate transfer with athletically related financial aid in year one of his graduate degree, must the institution continue to provide him aid for year two?

**Answer:** No. However, the student-athlete would continue to be considered a counter in year two, even if he does not receive athletically related financial aid.

**Proposal No. 2017-59 Financial Aid -- Maximum Institutional Grant-in-Aid Limitations By Sport -- Football Limitations -- Initial Counters -- Aid After First Year**

**Question No. 1:** Does the proposal apply to both recruited and nonrecruited student-athletes?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 2:** After a mid-year enrollee has been in residence for two terms of enrollment at the certifying institution, may an institution provide the student-athlete retroactive aid to the fall term without such aid counting as an initial award?

**Answer:** No. The proposal requires that a student-athlete be in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year prior to receiving financial aid. If financial aid is retroactively awarded to a midyear enrollee for the fall term, the student-athlete would no longer meet the requirements of the proposal because the retroactive financial aid would be provided for a term prior to the student-athlete being in residence for one academic year. Thus, financial aid may only be awarded to a mid-year enrollee for the remainder of the academic year.

**Proposal No. 2017-63 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Weekly Hour Limitations -- Outside the Playing Season -- Skill Instruction -- Sports Other Than Football -- Publicity**

**Question No. 1:** Is it permissible for an institution to conduct skill instruction in front of an audience and/or live-stream skill instruction?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 2:** In basketball, if a prospective student-athlete is participating in an on-campus evaluation as part of skill instruction with the team, may the session be publicized?

**Answer:** No. Bylaw 13.10.2.4 specifies that an institution shall not publicize (or arrange for publicity of) a prospective student-athlete's visit to the

institution's campus. Therefore, the institution could not arrange to have a prospective student-athlete's on-campus evaluation as part of skill instruction with the team in a facility or at a time in which the institution has reason to believe that the skill instruction session would be conducted in view of a general public audience.

**Question No. 3:** If a former student-athlete is participating in skill instruction with the team, may the session be publicized?

**Answer:** No. Given that the institution may not publicize the participation of the former student, the institution could not arrange to hold skill instruction in a facility or at a time in which the institution has reason to believe that the skill instruction session would be conducted in view of a general public audience.

**Question No. 4:** May prospective student-athletes and individuals accompanying prospective student-athletes on official or unofficial visits (e.g., parent, sibling, coach) view skill-related instruction while on official or unofficial visits?

**Answer:** Yes. However, all recruiting and publicity legislation remains applicable.

**Question No. 5:** May an institution invite individuals (e.g., boosters, high school coaches) to watch a team's skill-related instruction?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 6:** Are institutions allowed to create special activities or events in conjunction with or surrounding skill-instruction sessions?

**Answer:** Yes. However, if prospective student-athletes are on unofficial or official visits, all recruiting and publicity legislation remains applicable.

**Question No. 7:** May an institution publicize skill instruction that occurs during summer athletic activities?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 8:** May an institution publicize voluntary workouts?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2017-65 Playing and Practice Season -- Individual Sports -- Vacation-Period Workout Sessions Initiated By Student-Athlete**

**Question No. 1:** What constitutes “initiated by the student-athlete”?

**Answer:** The activity must be requested solely by the student-athlete and neither the institution nor any athletics department staff member may require the student-athlete to participate in the activity at any time.

**Question No. 2:** May a coach inform a student-athlete of times which he or she will be available for individual workout sessions?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 3:** May an institution pay facility usage fees associated with the use of institutional or regularly used practice facilities for vacation-period workout sessions?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the activity is initiated and requested by each student-athlete.

**Question No. 4:** May the coach and student-athlete use noninstitutional practice and competition facilities for vacation-period workout sessions?

**Answer:** Yes. It is permissible for a coach to participate in vacation-period workout sessions with student-athletes from the coach's team in any location provided the activity is initiated and requested by the student-athlete. However, it is not permissible for the institution to pay fees associated with a noninstitutional facility during a vacation-period.

**Question No. 5:** If a student-athlete’s final exams are completed prior to the start of the official vacation period posted in the institutional catalog, may a student-athlete engage in a vacation-period workout session with the coach?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2016-71 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Baseball -- Varsity Squad Size Limitation -- Replacements -- Voluntary Withdrawal**

**Question No. 1:** Does the phrase “voluntarily (on his own initiative) withdraws” exist elsewhere in the legislation?

**Answer:** Yes, the phrase intentionally reflects the language in Bylaw 15.3.4.2(d) to create a common application. The language permits institutions to use existing monitoring procedures for financial aid reductions, cancellations, and counter replacements and apply them to squad member replacement in baseball.

**Proposal No. 2017-76 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Men's Basketball -- Number of Contests -- Annual Exemptions -- Conference Challenge Event**

**Question No. 1:** Is there a minimum number of games that are required for an event to be considered a conference challenge event?

**Answer:** Yes. There must be at least two contests for the event to be considered a conference challenge event.

**Question No. 2:** Can a contest be considered a conference challenge event if only one school from each conference participates?

**Answer:** No. The event must include multiple games between multiple institutions from the entered conferences.

**Question No. 3:** May an institution exclude more than one game from a conference challenge event per season?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** Are there any limitations on the time period in which the conference challenge event must be completed?

**Answer:** No. The organizing conferences have the authority to determine the time period over which the contests will be played.

**Question No. 5:** Must all teams from a particular conference participate in an event in order for the event to be considered a conference challenge event?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 6:** Is there a minimum number of teams from a conference that must participate in the conference challenge event?

**Answer:** Yes. At least two teams from each conference must participate in the conference challenge event.

**Question No. 7:** Can institutions in the same conference compete against one another in a conference challenge event and exempt the contests?

**Answer:** No. The exempted contests must be against out-of-conference opponents.

**Question No. 8:** Is it permissible for institutions that are not a member of a conference to participate in a conference challenge event (e.g., independent institutions)?

**Answer:** No. Contests must occur between institutions that are members of a conference.

**Question No. 9:** May a conference challenge event be conducted at more than one site?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 10:** Are there any promotional or publicity requirements to consider an event a conference challenge event?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2017-87 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Swimming and Diving -- Outside Competition Exception -- Conference All-Star Contest Against U.S. National Team**

**Question No. 1:** In swimming and diving, what is the definition of a conference all-star team?

**Answer:** A team approved by an institution's conference office and comprised of student-athletes from multiple institutions within the conference.