

NCAA Division I Working Group on Transfers

NCAA Division I Working Group on Transfers - Update

Charge and Timeline.

This group's charge is to fulfill the parameters of the resolution adopted by the NCAA Division I Council in May to develop a comprehensive proposal regarding transfer eligibility to be voted on not later than January 2021 and effective not later than for eligibility to compete during the 2021-22 academic year.

The resolution articulates a framework to achieve a uniform and equitable approach to transfer eligibility, while acknowledging ancillary items that may need adjustment with such changes (e.g., transfer notification date, roster considerations, informed transfer decision-making).

Background: [Working Group on Transfers Background Information](#)

Transfer Eligibility Standards – Areas of Agreement

The following are the Division I Working Group on Transfers' current areas of agreement on a uniform transfer eligibility rule.

- A uniform transfer eligibility exception providing immediate eligibility:
 - should only be available one time during a student-athlete's eligibility (i.e., undergraduate *or* preserved until postgraduate transfer);
 - should be available any time during the student-athlete's eligibility;
 - should require the student-athlete leave the previous institution academically eligible (percentage-of-degree exception) and maintain academic progress at new institution to be eligible to compete;

Transfer Eligibility Standards – Areas of Agreement, continued.

- **should** require that the receiving institution guarantee financial aid through completion of the student-athlete's undergraduate degree (i.e., tuition, fees and textbooks);
- **should not** provide immediate eligibility if used at midyear allowing for representation of multiple institutions in athletics competition in the same academic year that contributes toward winter or spring championships;
- **should not** include a provision allowing the previous institution to object to the student-athlete being immediately eligible;
- **should not** limit the number of transfer student-athletes that an institution may accept on a team in a given year(s);

Transfer Eligibility Standards – Areas of Agreement, continued.

- **should** require education for the student-athlete to encourage informed decision-making regarding the impacts and implications of transferring (e.g., financial aid, graduation); and
- **should** require the student-athlete and the head coach at the new institution to certify in writing that impermissible recruiting contact did **not** occur prior to student-athlete's entry into NCAA Transfer Portal.

Notification of Transfer Date – Draft Concept

- Draft Concept:
 - Fall/winter sports: June 1 or the end of the departing institution's academic year, whichever is later.
 - *Rationale:*
 - Spring semesters have ended (student-athletes will know their grades/progress toward degree).
 - Season-of-competition is completed (natural cooling off period, time for proper decision-making process to take place).
 - Majority of head coaching changes have taken place.
 - *Exceptions:*
 - Head coaching change prior to July 1.
 - Financial aid is nonrenewed prior to July 1.

Next Steps

The Working Group on Transfers will:

- Continue to finalize the components of the uniform transfer eligibility proposal and begin to seek membership and stakeholder feedback.
- Develop educational materials including a question and answer document for the proposal.
- Recommend a final comprehensive uniform transfer eligibility proposal no later than the October Council meeting.