

Application of the Division II Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment Legislation (NCAA Bylaw 14.2.4.2)

The NCAA Eligibility Center certifies the amateur status of individuals to verify their eligibility to compete at NCAA Division I and II institutions. Student-athletes are certified after high school graduation and before initial collegiate enrollment. Amateurism certification includes a review of organized-competition activities. This document is intended to assist you in understanding the application of Division II organized-competition legislation, which differs from Division I regulations. If you have questions about the application of the legislation, please contact the Division II institution that is recruiting you for more information.

General Rule for Division II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student immediately after his or her grace period (see definitions below) shall be charged with one season of competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which an individual participates in organized competition.
Grace Period	<p><u>“Grace period” is defined as follows:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Traditional Date of High School Graduation (for example, May/June):</u> Summer after high school graduation plus the next academic year until the first opportunity to enroll full time in a collegiate institution in the fall term; or <u>Nontraditional Date of High School Graduation (for example, November/December):</u> Day after high school graduation plus the following calendar year until the first opportunity to enroll in a collegiate institution in the winter/spring term.
High School Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An individual’s high school graduation date (or the international equivalent) is the graduation date of his or her final high school class. International equivalent graduation dates may be found in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility. If an individual graduates early from high school, he or she becomes a member of that class. The date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class and not the date of his or her original class. If an individual is required to repeat an entire year of high school for any reason, he or she becomes a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class. The academic authority is required to specify in writing to the NCAA Eligibility Center that the individual was required to repeat a year.
Definition of Organized Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletics competition is considered to be organized if any <u>one</u> of the following conditions exist: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competition is scheduled in advance; Official score is kept; Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained; Official timer or game officials are used; Admission is charged; Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined; Team uniforms are used; An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

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Year in Residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">An individual who uses a season of competition in a sport as determined by the organized-competition legislation shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution. During that year, that individual may practice and receive athletically related financial aid from the certifying institution, but he or she may not compete. <p><i>Exceptions exist for: (1) students who have attended a two- or four-year institution for a specified period and earned a specified number of transferable degree credit hours and (2) students who are enrolling in graduate program, professional school, or equivalent program. Please contact the Division II institution that is recruiting you for more information regarding exceptions if you are a transfer student.</i></p>
Exceptions/ Waivers	<p><i>Exceptions to the organized- competition legislation exist for the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Services Exception.National/International Competition Exception.Skiing Exception.Men's Ice Hockey Exception. <p><i>Please contact the Division II institution that is recruiting you for more information regarding the available exceptions.</i></p>