Division II offers athletics scholarships and limits competitive and practice seasons to improve balance with student pursuits.

The 293 active member colleges and universities in Division II share a commitment to providing college athletes equal growth opportunities in academics, athletics, and campus and community engagement.

Division II schools generally spend less money on athletics than Division I schools and operate on a partial-scholarship model, in which more than 60% of the 126,000 Division II athletes receive some athletics-based financial aid. Full scholarships that cover all of a college athlete’s expenses are uncommon in the division; often college athletes, like the rest of the student body, use a mix of academic scholarships, student loans and employment earnings to fund their education.

Division II prides itself on creating unique championship opportunities. During these championships, teams participate in community engagement efforts; a key component of Division II. Division II is the only division to host championship festivals, where multiple championships are held in the same city over several days. Division II’s access ratio to championships is the best in the NCAA.

**How the NCAA Works:**

**Division II**

Legislative Calendar and Convention Process

### Legislative Calendar

**January-June**

Division II committees and the Division II membership have ideas for new legislation and discuss these ideas often between January and June. They ask for feedback and input from different groups, refine the ideas and make recommendations. The Management Council and Executive Board review recommendations during their April or summer meetings and decide whether to move them forward.

**July 15**

Have an idea? Legislative proposals submitted by the membership are due to the national office.

**September 1**

Deadline for Management Council and Executive Board to sponsor legislation to be voted on at the NCAA Convention.

**September 15**

Any final revisions to membership-sponsored proposals are due.

**November 1**

Any amendments to original proposals and any resolutions are due.

**December 10**

An official Division II notice of legislation, which includes final versions of all the proposals, is available to Division II schools, including every president and athletics director.

### Convention

The NCAA Convention, held each year in January, is the finish line for all sponsored proposals in Division II. Delegates from every school and conference gather during a Convention business session to vote on each proposal.

Since the division was established in 1973, it has operated under a "one institution, one vote" model. But in 2016, for the first time, college athletes were added to the mix, with the national Student-Athlete Advisory Committee casting one vote.

**Proposed Legislation**

New rules in Division II begin in one of two ways. Proposals can start in Division II committees and be sponsored by the governance structure. Proposals can also be sponsored by the Division II membership if 15 active member schools or two conferences sign on as a sponsor.

**Membership Votes**

In most cases, Division II legislation requires only a simple majority vote of members present. Sometimes — such as in 2015, when the NCAA added beach volleyball as a championship sport — legislation applies to the entire Association, and each division must reach its own majority vote to pass.

**Legislation approved**

Approved proposal takes effect on the date specified in the legislation, usually Aug. 1 of that year.
New rules for Division II start here, with the schools and athletics conferences that make up the division’s governance structure. No matter the idea — perhaps a university president wants to limit the length of a competition season or an athletics compliance administrator wants to change how the NCAA collects information from Division II campuses — it begins as a discussion topic in one or more Division II committees.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The top leadership group in Division II is composed of college presidents and chancellors, independent members and student-athletes and establishments and directs general policy.

- Implements policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors.
- Establishes a strategic plan/strategic priorities for Division II.
- If necessary, sponsors legislative proposals from the governance structure to be considered by members at the NCAA Convention.
- Approves the Division II budget.
- Provides comments and input to the Board of Governors on matters that impact Division II and the Association.

13 Members:
- 1 from each conference, each representing a DI championships region
- 1 at-large president or chancellor
- 2 from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- Independent members not elected by an NCAA member institution, conference or affiliated member

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

By design, the Management Council is composed of individuals who have day-to-day knowledge of athletics operations.

- Reviews and acts on recommendations from Division II and Association-wide committees.
- Serves as the advisory group to the Division II Executive Board, facilitating the day-to-day affairs of the division.
- Implements policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors and the Division II Executive Board.
- Adopts noncontroversial legislation.
- Sponsors legislative proposals from the governance structure to be considered by members at the NCAA Convention.

29 Members:
- 23 from each DI conference
- 4 membership package
- 2 from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

CONVENTION

The proposed rule, if forwarded by the Management Council to the Executive Board, can be sponsored for the Convention or adopted by the Executive Board.

APPROVAL

Membership votes

Proposal

The Management Council regularly reports to the Executive Board on its actions.