

HOW THE NCAA WORKS:

Division II

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

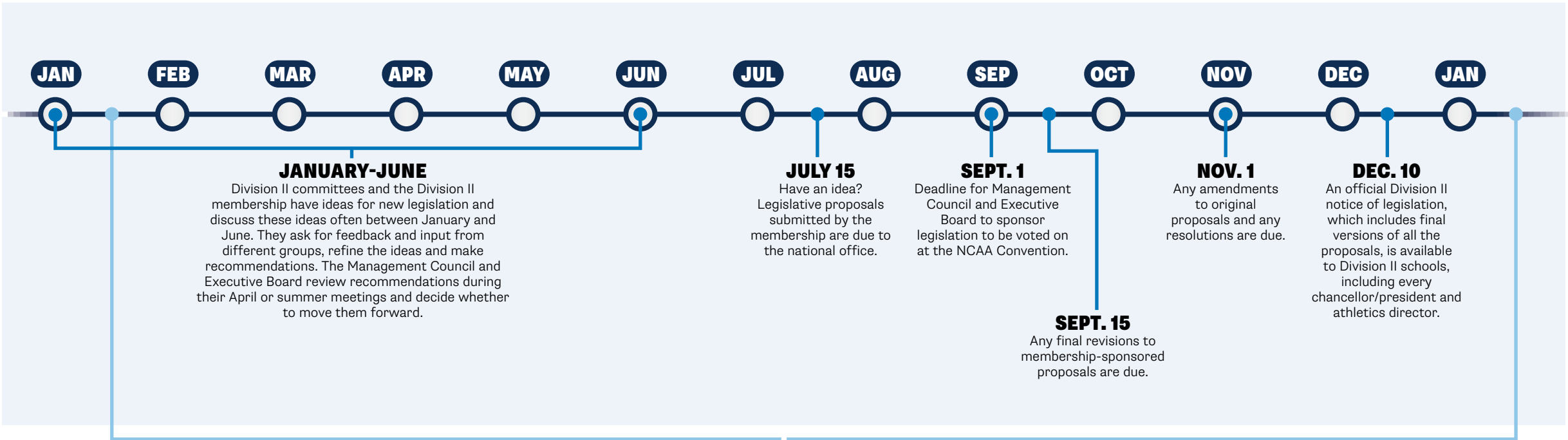
The 293 active member colleges and universities in Division II share a commitment to providing college athletes equal growth opportunities in academics, athletics, and campus and community engagement.

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 132,000 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 mixture 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.

DII Legislative Calendar and Convention Process

Legislative Calendar



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

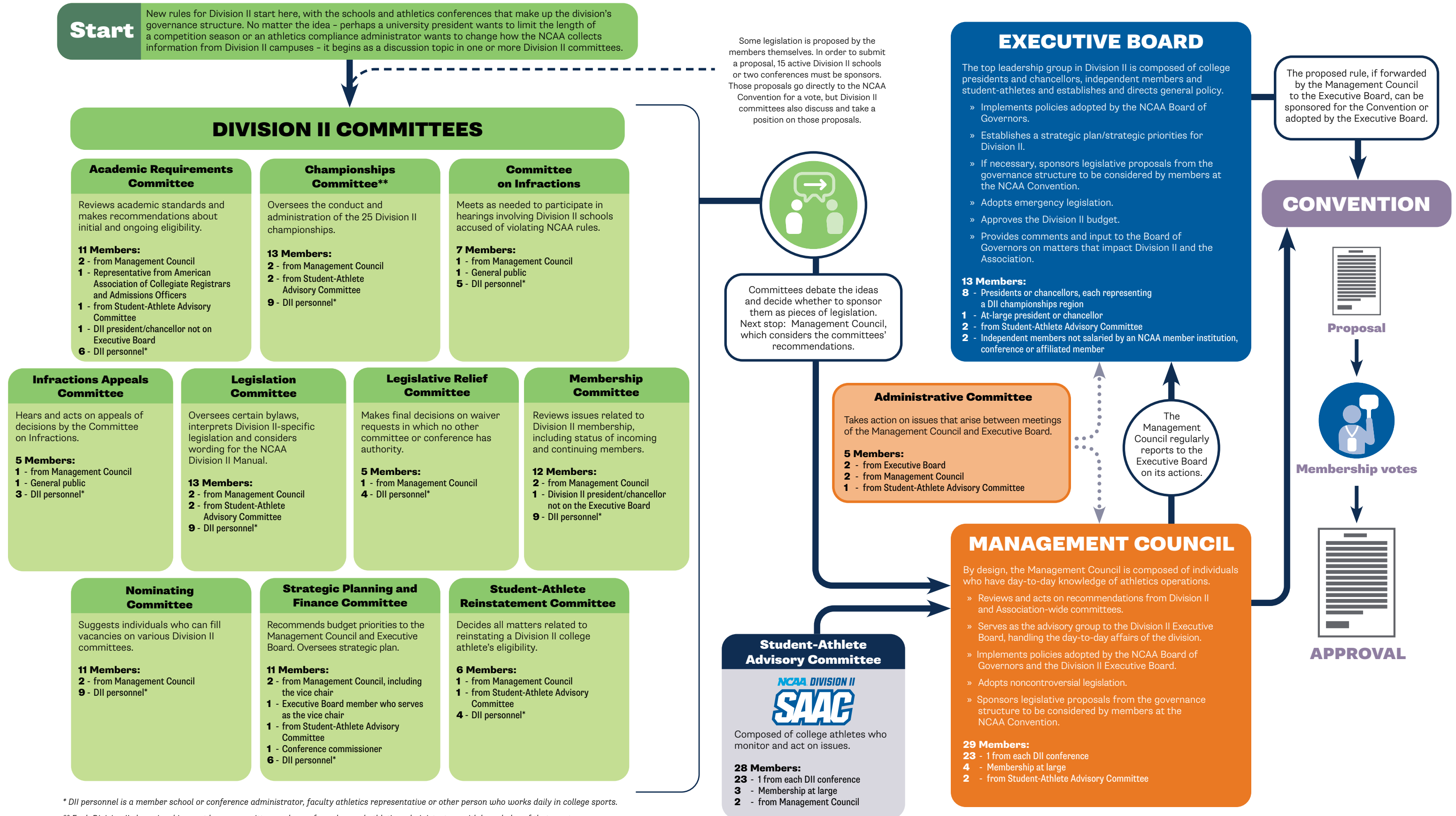
In most cases, Division II legislation requires only a simple majority vote of members present. Sometimes - such as in 2025, when the NCAA added women's wrestling as a championship sport - legislation applies to the entire Association, and each division must reach its own majority vote to pass.



Legislation approved

Approved proposal takes effect on the date specified in the legislation, usually Aug. 1 of that year.

NCAA Division II Governance and Legislative Process



* DII personnel is a member school or conference administrator, faculty athletics representative or other person who works daily in college sports.

*** Each Division II championship sport has a committee made up of coaches and athletics administrators with knowledge of that sport. These committees rank and select teams and individuals for championships competition, plus recommend championship sites and dates.*