



NCAA OFFICIATING REFORM INITIATIVE Division I Conferences



The NCAA is supplementing each Division I conference's RQ+ invoice in each year of the initiative. The invoice credit will be in proportion to each conference's percentage of sponsored NCAA Central Hub sports that use RQ Assign and meet all other program requirements. Conferences will continue to be responsible for the cost of services (e.g., RQ Assign, RQ Pay, RQ Resource, RQ Collaboration), in excess of the conference's invoice credit.

Invoice Credit Requirements (for NCAA Central Hub sports beginning with the 2025-26 academic year):

1. Use RQ Pay for all payments to officials in sports that use RQ Assign.
2. Meet the percentage threshold of each sport's officials must be registered in their NCAA Central Hub (85% in 2025-26 and 90% 2026 – 2032).*
3. Pay officials a *minimum* of once per month via RQ Pay (either at conference, institutional or coordinator level)**.
4. Eliminate charging dues/fees to officials by the conference or coordinator to cover officiating platform fees.
5. Eliminate mandate that officials pay to attend camps as a requirement to be assigned.

**During the 2025-26 academic year, volleyball line judges will NOT be included in the registration threshold. Volleyball line judges WILL be included in the registration threshold beginning with the 2026-27 academic year.*

***Although not a requirement, it is recommended officials be paid directly by the conference office, and RQ+ would provide administrative support to ease the transition for those institutions.*

Conference Benefits:

- Provides immediate financial assistance and relief to conference offices annually by covering the costs associated with onboarding, transaction fees for payments and signature software.
- Increases level of accountability to directors of athletics and coaches by removing non-registered and uneducated officials from working regular season contests.
- Provides administrative consistency from sport to sport (one platform for all sports),
- Unifies oversight and management of officiating coordinators,
- Allows for streamlined tracking and management of eligibility items and background check status via the RQ+ Officiating Compliance Program (OCP).
- Enhances protections for all stakeholders with the use of NCAA background checks (e.g., student athletes, officials, institutions, conferences, NCAA).
- Signature software creates a vehicle for independent contractor agreements, gambling attestation documents, etc.

Officials' Benefits:

- Alleviates the financial burden from floating expenses for egregious and unreasonable periods of time.
- Eliminates unsubstantiated dues required by conferences and/or coordinators and eliminates "pay for play" camp mandates required by coordinators.
- Eases the administrative burden on tracking payments and filing taxes.
- Reduces the administrative burden of tracking availability, scheduling, and profile updates across different platforms for different coordinators.
- Makes it easier to be an official.

Benefits of Central Hub Registration (for officials):

- General and Professional Liability Insurance Coverage + Accident Medical Insurance Coverage.
- NCAA background check, which can be shared with conference offices,
- Welcome Packet (*varies by sport*), which includes NCAA rules book and mechanics manual (if applicable).
- Preseason rules test and in-season quizzes.
- Rules interpretations and clarifications.
- Sport leadership engagement (National Coordinator, Secretary-Rules Editor, etc.).
- Memos and other relevant news and announcements.

- Video content for teaching and training and group collaboration.
- Eligibility to work NCAA postseason contests.