2026-27 TRAVEL POLICY CHANGES

DIVISION I AND NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Women's Beach Volleyball – add an opening round.
- Women's Soccer - championship will be conducted one week later than in prior years. Quarterfinal round will be played on Saturday Dec. 5
- WBIT- championship bracket decreases from 32 to 24 teams.
- NIT- championship bracket decreases from 32 to 24 teams. Semifinal games will take place on campus. Championship game will be played April 4, 2027, at Detroit Mercy in Detroit, Michigan, with per diem paid at the Division I men's basketball rate of $282.
- Women's Lacrosse - Division I, II and III will conduct a joint championship. First- and second-round games will be played Thursday and Saturday, and quarterfinal games will be played Wednesday and Thursday.
- Men's Basketball - championship bracket increase from 68 to 76 teams.
- Women's Basketball - championship bracket increase from 68 to 76 teams.
- Men's Soccer, Women's Field Hockey and Women's Lacrosse - 50 percent seeding.
- Men's and Women's Tennis, Women's Gymnastics - 50 percent seeding in rounds not paid/reimbursed by the NCAA.
- Skiing - adds Nordic sprint.
- NEW standard per diem - applies following the initial day(s) of competition through the remaining preliminary rounds, standard per diem will include up to two days prior to competition when travel occurs on or before those days. Refer to the NCAA Division I Championship Travel Policies appendix for sport-specific details.
- Preliminary rounds standard per diem for all championships - increase from $215 to $222 (from $315 to $325 in high-cost cities). NIT and WBIT increase from $160 to $222 ($230 to $325).
- NEW Final-site per diem for all championships - $262 ($375 in high-cost cities).
- DI Men's and Women's Basketball championship per diem –increase from $215 to $222 ($315 to $325 in high-cost cities) for the first week; NEW regional per diem rate $242 ($345 in high-cost cities), Final Four per diem rate increase from $255 to $282 ($365 to $395 in high-cost cities).
- NC Stunt, NC Acrobatics and Tumbling championships - addition of new championship in spring 2027.
- NC Bowling – all teams will compete at finals site.
- Women's Ice Hockey (Frozen Four) Sunday/Tuesday Format. Date changes to March 21st and 23rd. Currently for 2027, 2028 is pending.

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- NCAA Paid Travel-Party Increases:
    - Men's Championships: gymnastics, 17 to 21; volleyball, 21 to 24; water polo, 20 to 24; baseball, 35 to 37; cross country, 10 to 11; golf, 8 to 9; lacrosse, 40 to 42; soccer, 28 to 30; and tennis(team), 13 to 14.
    - Women's Championships: beach volleyball, 19 to 20; bowling, 13 to 14; gymnastics, 20 to 21; water polo, 20 to 24; cross country, 10 to 11; field hockey, 28 to 30; golf, 8 to 9; lacrosse, 40 to 42; soccer, 28 to 30; softball, 30 to 32; tennis(team), 13 to 14; and volleyball, 23 to 24 and 67 to 28 finals.

DIVISION II

- Increase per diem rate from $150 to $160 for NCAA paid travelers.
- Increase high-cost city per diem rate from $205 to $215 for NCAA paid travelers.
- Fall Festival - includes men's and women's soccer, men's and women's cross country, women's field hockey and women's volleyball. Teams must arrive Dec. 1 for the opening ceremonies. Per diem will be provided through the Dec. 5 closing ceremonies, with departure Dec. 6, for teams that elect to remain through closing ceremonies.
- Women's Lacrosse - joint championship with DI Women's Lacrosse. Quarterfinal and Semifinal rounds are combined. Only teams advancing to the championship game will travel to the final site in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Men's and Women's Soccer - third round and quarterfinals are combined. Championship schedule moves one week earlier to align with the Division II Fall Festival.
- Women's Volleyball - championship schedule moves one week earlier to align with the Division II Fall Festival.

DIVISION III

- Increase per diem rate from $150 to $160 for NCAA paid travelers.
- Per diem addition of 18 high-cost cities:

Anaheim (CA)	Boston	Chicago	Denver	Hartford
Honolulu	New York (all Boroughs)	Las Vegas	Los Angeles	Miami (FL)
Oakland (CA)	Portland	San Francisco	San Jose (CA)	Santa Barbara (CA)
Seattle	Washington DC	White Plains (NY)		

- Per diem rate for championships conducted in the above high-cost cities will be $205 for NCAA paid travelers.
- Men's Basketball - championship will be held on Friday, March 19, and Sunday, March 21.

- Women's Lacrosse - joint championship with DI women's lacrosse. Quarterfinal and Semifinal rounds are combined. Only teams advancing to the championship game will travel to the final site in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field - increase to 24 participants per event, excluding relays.
- Men's Swimming and Diving - increases from 260 to 290 student-athletes, adding 27 swimmers and 3 divers.

ALL DIVISIONS

If an institution travels with more individuals than permitted under NCAA policy, the institution is responsible for the cost of all passengers above the NCAA-funded travel-party limit. For commercial flights, the institution will pay the airline's actual charge. For charter flights, the institution will be charged $500 per additional passenger, each way.

To ensure timely travel arrangements, commercial flights, charter upgrades, and split travel party decisions must be confirmed and ticketed within two hours after the agent provides options. Institutional selections must be communicated to the agent within the same two-hour window. institutions must select and confirm commercial flights, charter upgrades, and split travel party decisions within two hours of receiving options from the travel agent. Options received after 10 p.m. must be selected by 9 a.m. ET the following day.

This document summarizes policy changes for convenience. Please refer to the official divisional travel policies for complete details and requirements.