



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS  
JULY 23, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Update on NCAA Graduation Passport.** The NCAA Division I Committee on Academics received an update on the Graduation Passport, including the goals of modernizing the way student-athlete graduation is tracked, the ability to develop new graduation metrics, observing how transferring affects graduation and informing future policy and legislative changes. Previously, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors directed the committee to create the Graduation Passport to help inform future academic metrics. The committee received an update on the efforts to merge and to reconcile data with a small sample provided by the National Student Clearinghouse. The committee will continue to receive updates on the design and development of the Graduation Passport as it moves forward.
2. **Two-year college athletics associations discussion.** The committee continued its discussion on the May 21 in-person presentations from the leadership of the National Junior College Athletic Association, Northwest Athletic Conference and California Community College Athletic Association. The two-year college athletics associations are focused on equal academic and athletics eligibility access to four-year institutions for two-year college transfers comparable to four-year transfers and non-transfers. Their recommendations included changes to the 2.5 transferable GPA requirement for a two-year college transfer for immediate eligibility at the Division I institution and the 3.3 GPA NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate adjustment criteria for a four-year college student-athlete who transfers to a two-year college. The committee received an update on the data available currently to the NCAA research staff and what would be needed to update that data to determine if, based on the outcomes of two-year college transfers, the legislation and policy should be updated. Since the adoption of the GPA requirements, the number of two-year college transfers into Division I has remained relatively stable and first-year outcomes have continued to improve since the change. The committee did not support any changes at this time and agreed to continue discussions on possible changes to the two-year college transfer legislation once additional data is available. The committee also agreed to strengthening its relationship with the two-year college athletics community.
3. **Update on the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Working Group on Education and Engagement.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the work of the Education and Engagement Working Group, including an update on the NCAA Accelerating Academic Success Program grant program. The committee received requests from 21 schools this year, which is an increase from 17 last year. The requests ranged from \$19,784 to \$100,000. This is the first time the requests for grant dollars

exceeded the available budget since 2019. The committee was reminded that the AASP Summit will be held September 28 through October 1 in Indianapolis.

4. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics.** The Committee on Academics reviewed the reports from the recent Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics videoconferences. The Committee on Academics will review the following documents via email for approval by August 1, 2025:

- 2025-26 Two-Year College Transfer Directive.
- 2025-26 Progress-Toward-Degree Waiver Directive.
- 2025-26 Progress-Toward-Degree Previously Approved Waiver Checklist.
- 2025-26 Progress-Toward-Degree Waiver Committee Policies and Procedures.
- 2025-26 High School Review Committee Policies and Procedures.
- 2025-26 Initial-Eligibility Waiver Directive.
- 2025-26 Initial-Eligibility Waivers Policies and Procedures.
- 2025-26 International Student Records Committee Policies and Procedures.

5. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Data.** The Committee on Academics reviewed the reports from the recent Subcommittee on Data videoconferences.

- a. Discussion of 3.3 GPA standard for adjustments for a transfer to a two-year college. The Subcommittee on Data again reviewed the 3.3 GPA requirement for an adjustment to a lost retention point due to transfer to a two-year institution. At this time, there is a lack of data to support changing the required GPA. The Committee on Academics will continue to discuss this adjustment standard at future meetings.
- b. NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program Data Reviews. The Subcommittee on Data acted on two data reviews.
- c. NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate Adjustment Directive. The Subcommittee on Data reviewed and approved the NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate Adjustment Directive with updates specific to requests submitted after an institution's data is finalized and delayed transfer adjustments for student-athletes who did not qualify for an automatic adjustment at the time of transfer. The Committee on Academics will review the updated 2025-26 APR adjustment directive via email for an electronic vote by August 1, 2025.
- d. NCAA Division I Graduation Success Rate correction request. The subcommittee reviewed a request from an institution for a correction to its Graduation Success Rate based on a transfer student-athlete who graduated from their previous school.

- e. Collection of APR data for emerging sports for women. The subcommittee was supportive of allowing data to be collected for emerging sports for women beginning fall 2026. However, it did not support releasing the data publicly or using it toward the NCAA Division I Academic Unit eligibility or any penalties. It would be informational data for the institution only.
  - f. Data-related updates to the 2025-26 Committee on Academics Policies and Procedures. The subcommittee provided feedback on several policy changes including the APR and Graduation Success Rate cohort definitions, designated student-athletes in the cohort, reporting data on multisport student-athletes, and the reporting of track and field data. These updates will be incorporated into the 2025-26 policies and procedures.
6. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals.** The Committee on Academics reviewed the report from the recent Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals videoconference. The Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals completed its review and forwarded the final waiver directive used to consider the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program waiver requests for loss of access to postseason and APP penalties to the Committee on Academics for approval. The Committee on Academics reviewed and approved the updated 2025-26 Access to Postseason and Penalty Waiver Directive. Additionally, the Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals reviewed and approved Chapter Four of the Committee on Academics Policies and Procedures manual.
  7. **NCAA legal update.** The Committee on Academics received an update from the NCAA office of legal affairs regarding new and ongoing litigation.
  8. **NCAA enforcement update.** The committee received an update from the enforcement staff on the increase in academic enforcement cases, which included both academic mis-certification and academic misconduct issues.
  9. **NCAA research update.** The Committee on Academics received an update on key initiatives from the NCAA research staff. The NCAA has partnered with Teamworks to pilot confidential surveys of Division I student-athletes. An initial survey will be distributed this fall. This is not intended to replace formal longitudinal studies but will provide a way to collect student-athlete feedback quickly. Also, GOALS data is currently being reviewed and will be previewed at the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association annual meeting and the 2026 NCAA Convention. Finally, research is partnering with FARA to conduct a survey of the faculty athletics representative position for the first time since 2011.
  10. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee report.** The Committee on Academics received an update from the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

11. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors report.** The Committee on Academics received a report from the most recent meetings of the board.
12. **NCAA Division I Council report.** The Committee on Academics received a report from the most recent council meetings.
13. **FARA update.** The Committee on Academics received an update from the FARA president. FARA had expressed its concern about the role of academics and ultimate graduation remaining at the forefront of collegiate athletics as the landscape evolves. Additionally, FARA leadership recently issued letters regarding its position on the recent NCAA sports wagering proposal and the NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group's proposed governance structure.
14. **Report of the Committee on Academics May 20-21 meeting.** The Committee on Academics reviewed and approved the report from its May 20-21 meeting.
15. **Updates to the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved its policies and procedures.
16. **Future meeting dates.**
  - To be determined.

*Committee Chair:*

*Robert Davies, Central Michigan University*

*Staff Liaisons:*

*Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs*

*Binh T. Nguyen, Academic and Membership Affairs*

*Quintin Wright, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division I Committee on Academics July 23, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University.	
Kevin Bostian, Northwestern State University.	
Lissa Broome, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.	
Rick Cottle, Middle Tennessee State University.	
Robert Davies, Central Michigan University.	
Lindsey Ekwerekwu, University of Nebraska, Omaha.	
Jon Fagg, University of Texas at Arlington.	
Scott Fuess, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.	
Taryn Gall, Lehigh University.	
Colleen Heimstead, North Dakota State University.	
Daniel Jekov, Saint Louis University.	
Robert Kelly, University of Portland.	

Jessica Kumke, Horizon League.
Genese Lavalais, Alabama State University.
Marion McClary, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus.
Ron Moses, Old Dominion University.
Susan Williams, University of Kansas.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.
David Benedict, University of Connecticut.
John Volin, University of Maine.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Pam Bruzina, Faculty Athletics Representative Association.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Jennifer Henderson, Binh Nguyen and Quintin Wright.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Lydia Bell, Keisha Burnette, Amanda Conklin, Gary deCastro, Judy Delp, Shelanda Duncan, Katie Ethridge, Michele Forte-Osborne, Doug Healey, Scott McDonald, Russell Register, Jen Smith, Anthony Taylor, DeAnna Wiley and Katy Yurk.