



**STRATEGIC REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS  
OCTOBER 12, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE  
FOR THE NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**KEY ITEMS.**

- 1. Update on the work of the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee.** The NCAA Division I Committee on Academics received an update on the current work of the Transformation Committee and the timeline for the completion of its work. Most recently, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors acted on several proposals originating from the Transformation Committee, including the adoption of legislation requiring the guarantee of financial aid at the next school for transfers through graduation and legislation creating notification-of-transfer windows. The committee was informed that the Transformation Committee plans to further evaluate membership standards, with a particular focus on enhancing the student-athlete experience. These standards include potential minimums for financial aid, attendance, and competition schedule. The committee has begun work on the referral from the board requesting the review of legislation that does not require a transfer student-athlete to be meeting percentage-of-degree at the departing institution and has identified data points to monitor the impact of transferring on student-athlete academics. The committee continued to offer its support and expertise as the Transformation Committee goes about its work.
- 2. Continued comprehensive review of the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program.** The committee received an update on the comprehensive review of the APP. At this point, it was noted that six videoconferences have been conducted with the subgroup tasked with this review. The subgroup has reviewed data and heard from important stakeholder groups to help answer the essential question, which is: Is the APP, in its entirety, facilitating academic success and addressing academic underperformance while considering the changing landscape of intercollegiate athletics? Initially, the subgroup has confirmed that the APP, in its entirety, has enhanced the academic success of student-athletes dramatically and has been successful in addressing academic underperformance. On future videoconferences, the subgroup plans to engage in an in-depth review of the penalty structure and filters. The subgroup will present its final recommendations in spring 2023.
- 3. Review of the two-year college transfer legislation.** The committee concluded its review of the current two-year college transfer requirements and did not recommend any changes to the legislation at this time but encouraged continued monitoring and additional evaluation of the requirements in the event that new data or information becomes available. The committee reviewed demographic data provided by the National Junior College Athletic Association, as well as data provided by the NCAA research staff related to first- and second-year academic outcomes for two-year college transfer student-athletes at Division I institutions. The data reflected increasingly positive academic outcomes for the impacted student-athlete (e.g., fewer lost NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate points, shorter time to graduation at the Division I institution). In addition, the committee did not identify any evidence that would indicate the two-year college transfer legislation that was initially adopted in 2012 has unreasonably impacted access for 2-4 transfer student-

athletes. Similarly, while recognizing the role of numerous other potential variables on the academic outcomes of student-athletes, the committee concluded that available data indicated that a positive correlation has existed between the two-year college transfer requirements and the academic outcomes of 2-4 transfer students-athletes. The committee will review the legislation in five years and evaluate its effectiveness.

4. **Update on the NCAA Accelerating Academic Success Program.** The committee received an update on the AASP. Thirteen institutions were awarded single-year grants averaging approximately \$86,743. Over \$1.1 million was awarded to colleges and universities with limited resources to help boost academic programs and initiatives, which tie to graduation and the overall success of its student-athletes. The AASP was established in 2012 by the former NCAA Executive Committee. AASP schools may request up to \$100,000 in single-year grants. Schools are required to match at least 20% of the funds and provide a detailed explanation of how the funds will be used. The grants can be used for progress toward the benchmarks in the Division I Academic Performance Program, which ensures a campus environment that supports education and raises the academic success level for student-athletes. The AASP awarded multiple-year grants in the past but has put that portion of the program on hold until further review. Schools have used the grants in a variety of ways, including the renovation of academic support areas, tutoring, training, technology support, summer school aid, professional development of the academic staff, student-athlete support and life skills development. Schools have also requested funds to aid with student-athlete mental health, which could correlate to their academic success. The NCAA also sponsors an AASP Student-Athlete Career Development Award honoring two student-athletes from AASP schools each year.
5. **Update on the NCAA degree completion program for basketball.** The committee received an update on the status of applications received for fall 2022 degree completion funding. Close to \$21,000 was distributed to three former men's basketball student-athletes to complete courses that will move them closer to graduation. Applications for spring 2023 funding closes October 15. The committee also granted the staff flexibility to award any unused funding to former student-athletes from limited-resource institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities who do not meet the funding criteria (e.g., outside of 10-year window, competed in a sport other than basketball). Funding would be prioritized for former men's and women's basketball student-athletes who meet all the funding criteria. The overall goal is to utilize the unused allocated funding to assist former student-athletes with completing their undergraduate degree. A yearly report will be generated for the committee of the flexibility that has been used. In addition, the committee charged the staff with evaluating the current legislation and determining if any changes are warranted in order to allow more former student-athletes to utilize this funding.

For additional detail, the committee's full report may be accessed on [ncaa.org](http://ncaa.org) by clicking [here](#).