



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
OCTOBER 30-31, 2024, MEETING**

KEY ITEM.

- **Division I four-year college transfer activity.** The NCAA Division I Committee on Academics received an update on recent developments in the four-year college transfer landscape. The Committee on Academics will oversee and provide guidance as the Graduation Passport and the NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate for transfer student-athletes are being developed and operationalized. [Informational Item No. 1]

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ITEM.

- **Men's Wrestling – Non-Collegiate Amateur Competition – Out of Season – Exception – No Competition During First Term – Exception for International Events, National Team Tryouts, and National Team Competition**
 - (1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academics recommends the NCAA Division I Council introduce a proposal into the 2024-25 legislative cycle to permit a men's wrestling student-athlete to engage in international events, national team tryouts and national team competition [Bylaw 17.34.1-(f), (g) and (h)] during their first full-time term of collegiate enrollment.
 - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
 - (3) Rationale. The committee received a request from USA Wrestling to allow a student-athlete in their first term of collegiate enrollment to participate in outside competition individually, or as a member of an outside team. Current NCAA legislation prohibits wrestling student-athletes from engaging any outside competition during the first term of full-time enrollment. Previous waivers have been granted to allow for this limited participation in these elite level events. This request would codify actions taken via waiver and eliminate the need for institutions to submit a waiver.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. Potential for missed-class time for student-athletes engaged in these events.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Update on Division I four-year college transfer activity.** The Committee on Academics received an update on highlights and trends from the NCAA Transfer Portal. Student-athletes entering the transfer portal continued to rise with the largest increases observed in football. In addition, transfer window activity continued to demonstrate that the majority of student-athletes enter the transfer portal within the first four weeks of the window opening in their respective sport. Additionally, the committee received an update

on the recently adopted legislation regarding transfer windows. NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-46 Recruiting -- Notification of Transfer Windows -- Reduce from 45 to 30 Days -- Basketball and Football was adopted by the Division I Council for basketball and football and it reduced, from 45 to 30 days, the duration of the notification of transfer windows for undergraduate four-year college transfer student-athletes. In basketball, the 30-day transfer window begins the day after the last day of the second round of the NCAA Division I basketball championship (e.g., March 24-April 22, 2025, for men's basketball, March 25-April 23, 2025, for women's basketball). In football, the notification of transfer window would consist of two windows - a 20 consecutive-day window beginning the Monday after the first Saturday in December (December 9-28, 2024), with an exception for participants in postseason contests, and a 10-day window in the spring (April 16-25, 2025). The proposal is effective immediately. The NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee and NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee will revisit and potentially recommend changes to the football notification of transfer windows for the 2025-26 academic year. For sports other than basketball and football, the notification of transfer windows may be revisited based on additional data as it becomes available. Lastly, the committee also received an update on the development of the Transfer APR. The committee continued to discuss how the Transfer APR will be shared with institutions. The Transfer APR will not be released publicly but will be provided as an internal report to each institution. Also, there will be no penalties associated with the Transfer APR at this time.

2. **Update on name, image and likeness activity in Division I.** The committee received an update on recent NIL activity, including a demonstration of the NCAA NIL Assist platform. Finally, the committee received updates from the enforcement staff regarding NIL activity being reported by institutions.
3. **Report on the broad-based review of baseball legislation by the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Experience Committee.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the final report of the broad-based review of baseball legislation conducted by the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Experience Committee. The Committee on Academics reviewed the recommended changes to the baseball legislation, which included modifications to the playing and practice seasons, seasons of competition, professional tryouts, countable coaches and good academic standing. SAEC requested COA consider whether or not the current good academic standing legislation for baseball would be beneficial to other sports. Under the current legislation, baseball student-athletes must meet all progress-toward-degree requirements in the fall of each academic year in order to be eligible for spring competition. The Committee on Academics agreed to have the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics review the progress-toward-degree legislation for baseball student-athletes for consistency across sports in Division I.
4. **Update on sports wagering trends and initiatives.** The Committee on Academics received an update on current NCAA sports betting harm prevention efforts. The NCAA,

through a partnership with EPIC, provides sports gambling harm prevention education to student-athletes to highlight the potential dangers of sports wagering. EPIC provides free, in-person education to NCAA institutions to focus on sports wagering awareness, protecting the integrity of competition, gambling addiction and harm, and student-athlete well-being. The committee will monitor the impact of sports wagering on student-athlete academic performance.

5. **Update on the blanket waiver to permit a travel day to be used as a student-athlete's day off.** The Committee on Academics received an update on a blanket waiver that, under certain provisions, allows for a travel day to be counted as the required day off for student-athletes. The committee will work with other NCAA committees to gather feedback on the academic and student-athlete well-being effects of this waiver. Specifically, it will be important to gather feedback from student-athletes from conferences that have coast-to-coast travel.
6. **Update on the comprehensive student-athlete eligibility legislation review.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the comprehensive review of eligibility-impacting rules for student-athletes. The committee will have an opportunity to review and discuss any concepts with an academic nexus. Additional eligibility-related concepts will be reviewed on a rolling basis with anticipated completion of the review in October 2025.
7. **Update on the comprehensive review of Division I membership requirements by the NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the comprehensive review of Division I membership requirements. Further, the committee received an update on the proposed reclassification process for institutions moving from NCAA Divisions II or III to Division I that will be voted on in January 2025 by the Council. The committee will review and provide guidance on the components that have an academic nexus.
8. **NCAA Division I Graduation Success Rate data.** The Committee on Academics received a preview of the graduation rates data from the 2017-18 cohort. The public release of the data is expected to occur in early December.
9. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals.** At its October 30 in-person meeting, the subcommittee reviewed and discussed the APP access to postseason competition and penalty waiver directive. The subcommittee also reviewed schools that received conditional waiver approvals for the 2023-24 academic year. In addition, the subcommittee reviewed its policy for teams that did not meet conditions of previously approved waivers and their movement to the next penalty level. Finally, the subcommittee reviewed a request from two Division I conferences regarding a proposal to suspend APP penalties for limited resource institutions.

10. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Data.** At its October 30 in-person meeting, the subcommittee engaged in ongoing discussions regarding the APR and adjustment appeals. The subcommittee discussed that with the changing landscape of name, image, and likeness and student-athlete compensation, the cohort definition should be reviewed to determine if changes are appropriate.
11. **Report from the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Subcommittee on Student-Athlete Academics.** At its October 30 meeting, the subcommittee received an update on recent transfer data including the academic eligibility of transfers in relation to athletics financial aid. Additionally, the subcommittee received updates from the NCAA Eligibility Center and the enforcement staff on academic-related issues. Finally, the subcommittee received an update on progress-toward-degree waivers for the 2024-25 academic year processed thus far.
12. **Update on the NCAA degree completion program.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the degree completion assistance legislation. As a reminder, new legislation was effective August 1, 2024, to expand institutional degree completion to all sports, as part of the Division I Core Guarantees. Currently, there are two student-athletes in the application process. The program provided approximately \$20,000 for student-athletes in the 2023-24 academic year. Finally, the application process is being reviewed and updated to modernize the process.
13. **NCAA Accelerating Academic Success Program update.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the status of the 2024-25 Accelerating Academic Success Program grants. The program awarded 17 schools with grants that totaled over \$1.5 million for the 2024-25 academic year.
14. **National Association of Academic and Student-Athlete Development Professionals (N4A).** The Committee on Academics received an update from Ron Moses, president of N4A. The committee learned about the areas of focus for N4A and its ongoing work to assist academic and student-athlete development professionals in their support of student-athletes and their academic endeavors.
15. **NCAA legal update.** The Committee on Academics received an update from the NCAA office of legal affairs regarding new and ongoing litigation.
16. **NCAA enforcement update.** The Committee on Academics received an update from the enforcement staff on trends related to academics and tampering.
17. **NCAA research update.** The Committee on Academics received an update on key initiatives from the NCAA research staff. The NCAA partnered with Teamworks to pilot confidential surveys of Division I student-athletes in October. This may be a survey method the NCAA uses periodically to obtain feedback more quickly than a full survey. Also, it was

noted that the Sports Wagering and Social Environment Survey results will be available at the 2025 NCAA Convention. Additionally, the GOALS survey will be shipped to institutions in the near future to be administered and returned by late spring 2025.

18. **Update on educational outreach and initiatives.** The Committee on Academics received an update on staff educational initiatives and outreach designed to assist the membership in its understanding and application of academic legislation and policy. This included a brief overview of the new modules for coaches' education housed in the Learning Management System.
19. **Academic technology update.** The Committee on Academics received an update on the development of the NCAA Compliance Assistant 2.0. academic module, which includes the APR and Graduate Success Rate data collection. This module is expected to launch in late spring 2025.
20. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee report.** The Committee on Academics received an update from the most recent meetings of the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
21. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors report.** The Committee on Academics received a report from the most recent meetings of the board.
22. **NCAA Division I Council report.** The Committee on Academics received a report from the most recent council meetings.
23. **Faculty Athletic Representative Association update.** The Committee on Academics received a preview of the upcoming November 14-16 FARA Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas.
24. **Report of the Committee on Academics July 29 videoconference.** The Committee on Academics reviewed and approved the report from its July 29 videoconference.
25. **Other business.**
 - The committee received a request from a Division I conference with regard to updating the progress-toward-degree legislation for transfer student-athletes. Specifically, the conference requested transfer student-athletes be provided one term in residence prior to being required to meet the percentage-of-degree requirements. Current legislation requires transfer student-athletes to meet the percentage-of-degree requirements at the new institution at the time of transfer regardless of whether the student-athlete transfers in the fall or spring term. The Division I conference's request would allow institutions to delay certification of percentage-of-degree requirements by one term in order to allow the student-

athlete and institution to ensure the student-athlete is enrolled in their desired degree program. The committee referred the request to the Subcommittee for Student-Athlete Academics for further discussion.

26. Future meeting dates.

- 1 to 5 p.m. Eastern time, February 5, 2025; videoconference.
- May 20-21, 2025, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

NCAA Division I Committee on Academics October 30-31, 2024, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University.	
David Benedict, University of Connecticut.	
Jill Bodensteiner, Saint Joseph's University.	
Kevin Bostian, Northwestern State University.	
Lissa Broome, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.	
Rob Carson, Furman 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.	
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.	
John Volin, University of Maine.	
Susan Williams, University of Kansas. (via videoconference)	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Pam Bruzina, University of Missouri, Columbia.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Jennifer Henderson, Binh Nguyen and Quintin Wright.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Troy Arthur, Scott Bearby, Marcus Brown, Keisha Burnette, Derrick Coles, Amanda Conklin, Danielle Day, Judy Delp, Shelanda Duncan, Katie Ethridge, Clint Hangebrauck, Doug Healey, Leilani Hubbard, Matisen Ingle, Kevin Lennon, Tom Paskus, Lee Rathbun, Dave Schnase, Jen Smith, Kathy Sulentic, Sam Vermilion, DeAnna Wiley and Katy Yurk.	