NCAA Division I Previously Approved Waivers Checklist
Updated September 9, 2026

The previously approved waiver process was approved with an immediate effective date by the NCAA Division I Legislative Council during its April 2009 meeting. The intent behind this process is to reduce bureaucracy and permit the membership and NCAA staff to work more efficiently in limited circumstances. Waivers outlined in this document have been approved by the committee with authority over legislative relief waivers of the underlying legislation (e.g., NCAA Division I Cabinet, Men's Basketball Oversight Committee).

Institutions may self-apply, on campus, any previously approved waiver specifically listed below without filing a formal Legislative Relief waiver request to the NCAA national office. An institution is only permitted to self-apply relief (approve a waiver request) if the institution's circumstances appear on the list of designated previously approved waivers and the circumstances satisfy the specified criteria established for the particular previously approved waiver. If an institution's circumstances do not appear on the list of previously approved waivers, or if the circumstances do not satisfy all of the established criteria for a particular previously approved waiver, the institution must submit a formal legislative relief waiver application to the national office for consideration.

An institution that grants relief of NCAA legislation based on the specific previously approved waiver circumstances listed below must submit a report to its conference office on a quarterly basis each year. The list of previously approved waivers will be updated by NCAA staff.

NCAA Bylaw 11.02.5: Student Manager Enrolled in Less Than Full Time Due to Educational-Impacting Disabilities.

1. The institution would like to employ a student as a manager to a sport team.
2. The student is enrolled in less than full time academic course load due to an educational-impacting disability.
3. The appropriate institutional authority (outside of athletics) provided written documentation that the institution recommends the student be enrolled in less than 12 hours to accommodate for the education-impacting disability.
4. An academic recovery plan demonstrating that the course load reduction will not create a future academic deficiency.

Bylaws 11.02.2, 11.02.2.1, 11.7.7 and 13.1.2.1: Replacement of Departing Coaching Staff Member(s) Prior to Conclusion of Postseason Competition.

1. Institution would like to replace a departing coaching staff member(s) (e.g., head coach, assistant coach, entire staff) with a new coaching staff member(s) prior to the conclusion of the institution's postseason (e.g., bowl competition).
2. Institution would like the departing coaching staff member to participate in on-field coaching activities through the conclusion of the institution's postseason competition while allowing the incoming coaching staff member(s) to participate in recruiting activities.
3. Departing coaching staff member(s) will immediately cease all recruiting activity.
4. While exceeding the number of permissible countable coaches, the institution will not exceed the number of permissible coaches participating in recruiting or on-field coaching activities at any given time.
5. Relief is effective through the conclusion of the institution's postseason competition.

Bylaws 11.02.2, 11.02.2.2 and 11.7.7: Limited Recruiting Activities for a Coach Involved With National Team, Olympic and Paralympic Teams.

1. Institution's head or assistant coach has been selected to serve as a coach for a National Team, Olympic or Paralympic Team by the national governing body.
2. Institution's coach would like to continue to engage in phone calls, electronic correspondence and off-campus recruiting on a limited basis while also fulfilling responsibilities with National Team, Olympic or Paralympic Team.
3. Institution may not exceed the permissible number of coaches permitted to contact or evaluate prospective student-athletes off campus at any one time. When institution's coach is engaging in off-campus recruitment during their involvement with the National Team, Olympic or Paralympic Team, the replacement coach may not engage in off-campus recruiting at the same time.
4. Relief is effective through the conclusion of the coach's involvement with the National Team, Olympic or Paralympic Team.

Bylaws 12.02.1.1, 12.2.1.2, 12.2.1.2.2, 12.2.3.1 and 16.02.4: Institutional Expenses for Exhausted Student-Athlete Participation in the Women's National Basketball Association Combine.

1. Institution would like to provide actual and necessary expenses (e.g., travel, lodging, board) to a women's basketball student-athlete who was invited to the Women's National Basketball Association combine.
2. The WNBA and its affiliates will not provide actual and necessary expenses for the student-athlete to attend the combine.
3. The institution's women's basketball team completed its final competition (e.g., competition of NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship) for the academic year.
4. The student-athlete will have exhausted her eligibility in the sport of women's basketball prior to the first day of the combine.

Bylaws 13.02.5.4 and 13.02.5.5: Coaching Staff Member's Involvement in Coaching Activities With a Student-Athlete in Elite-Level Competition During a Quiet or Dead Period.

1. Institution would like a coaching staff member to be permitted to coach a student-athlete who is engaging in elite-level competition pursuant to Bylaw 16.8.1.2.2. The competition occurs during a quiet or dead period and prospective student-athletes will be present.
2. Coaching staff member may only attend the event during the day(s) when the student-athlete is engaging in competition.
3. Coaching staff member may not engage in any in-person, off-campus recruiting contact with prospective student-athletes or their family members attending the competition.

Bylaws 13.02.5.5, 13.1.2.3 and 13.1.8.1: Noncoaching Staff Member Attending and/or Speaking at a High School or Two-Year College Award Ceremony.

1. Institution would like its noncoaching staff member to be permitted to attend or speak at a high school or two-year college award ceremony at any time.
2. Institution's noncoaching staff member is being honored at the ceremony, or noncoaching staff member's former team or student-athlete is being honored at the ceremony. Noncoaching staff member may not make a recruiting presentation and may not engage in any recruiting contacts beyond the exchange of a greeting with any prospective student-athlete, or family members of prospective student-athletes in attendance at the event.

Bylaws 13.02.13, 13.2.1, 13.2.7, 13.2.8.1, 13.2.8.2, 13.2.9, 16.4 and 16.6.1.3: Medical Expenses for Committed Prospective Student-Athletes Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment.

1. Institution is seeking to provide medical expenses for a prospective student-athlete who has committed to the institution (i.e., signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid or submitted a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission) prior to initial full-time enrollment.
2. Prospective student-athlete has been admitted to the institution.
3. The institution may pay transportation, housing and meal expenses for a student-athlete's family members to be present in situations in which a committed prospective student-athlete undergoes a medical procedure.
4. Prospective student-athlete's injury occurred after his or her written commitment to the institution.

Bylaws 13.02.14, 17.5.8.1 and 17.36.1: Participation in High School All-Star Contests in the Summer Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment. [Basketball]

1. Institution would like an incoming student-athlete who is no longer considered a prospective student-athlete as a result of attending classes during the summer term or participating in required summer athletics activities to participate in a high school or two-year college all-star contest.
2. All-star contest must occur during the summer prior to initial full-time enrollment.

Bylaw 13.2.1: Institutional Recognition of a Former Student-Athlete Who Has Prospective Student-Athlete-Aged Children.

1. Institution is recognizing a former student-athlete for his or her outstanding achievements (e.g., hall of fame induction, member of a national championship team, distinguished alumni award).
2. Institution would like to provide actual and necessary expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, hotel accommodations) and other reasonable benefits (e.g., tickets to an athletics contest, special seating at the contest) to the former student-athlete's family but one or more of the former student-athlete's children are prospective student-athlete age.
3. Institution provides same or similar expenses/benefits to any former student-athlete who is being recognized for a special achievement.
4. Institution is not recruiting the former student-athlete's prospective student-athlete-aged child/children at the time of the recognition.

Bylaws 13.2.1, 13.5.1 and 13.5.2.6: Reimbursement of Prospective Student-Athlete's Family Members' Official Visit Travel Expenses When Institution Is Responsible for Cancelling Visit.

1. Institution must have formally scheduled the official visit with prospective student-athlete and his or her family.
2. Prospective student-athlete's family members must have purchased travel accommodations based on the agreed date for the visit.
3. Institution must have been responsible for the cancellation of prospective student-athlete's visit (e.g., coaching staff change, illness of coaching staff member, institution ceased recruiting prospective student-athlete).
4. In cases in which the visit is cancelled and will not be rescheduled, the institution is permitted to reimburse prospective student-athlete's family members the actual original cost of the travel expense.
5. In cases in which the visit is cancelled and will be rescheduled, the institution is permitted to reimburse prospective student-athlete's family members the cost to change the travel accommodations to the rescheduled date (e.g., flight change fees) but not the original cost of the travel expense.

Bylaws 13.02.4, 13.5.1, 13.5.3, 13.6.2.4 and 13.7.3.2: Contact With a Prospective Student-Athlete at an Off-Campus Facility Being Used to Host Home Contests.

1. Institution would like to provide prospective student-athletes with transportation and complimentary tickets to an off-campus home contest and would like the recruiting contact with the prospective student-athletes considered on-campus contacts.
2. Institution's regular or future home facility is under construction at the time of the prospective student-athlete's visit.
3. The alternative off-campus facility is being used as the institution's home facility until the construction of the regular home facility is available.
4. The alternative off-campus facility is the nearest facility with comparable accommodations (e.g., seating, press boxes, locker rooms).

Bylaws 13.5.2.6: Permit an Institution to Provide Official Visit Transportation Expenses for Up to Four Parents of a Prospective Student-Athlete.

1. An institution may pay the actual round-trip costs for up to four parents (i.e., biological, adoptive, foster and stepparents) to accompany the prospective student-athlete on an official visit.
2. An institution may provide lodging, meals and entertainment for up to four family members accompanying the prospective student-athlete. (See Bylaws 13.6.4.1.2, 13.6.7.1 and 13.6.7.8.) The prospective student-athlete will be responsible for any lodging, entertainment or meal expenses for any additional family members over the permissible four.

Bylaws 13.5.2, 13.6.6 and 13.6.7: Official Visit Expenses to a Prospective Student-Athlete's Minor-Aged Sibling(s).

1. Institution would like to provide official visit expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, lodging, entertainment) to prospective student-athlete's sibling(s) in addition to the prospective student-athlete's two permissible family members.
2. Prospective student-athlete's sibling(s) are legal minors (i.e., under 18 years old).
3. Prospective student-athlete's family does not have childcare available for prospective student-athlete's sibling(s) during the prospective student-athlete's official visit.
4. Prospective student-athlete's family has demonstrated they do not have the financial means (e.g., Pell eligible, receives free or reduced lunch, ACT/SAT fee waiver recipient, NCAA Eligibility Center fee waiver recipient) to provide official visit expenses.
5. Institution may not engage in any recruiting conversations with the prospective student-athlete's sibling(s).
6. Institution may provide official visit expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, lodging, entertainment) to a prospective student-athlete's sibling(s).

Bylaws 13.5.2 and 13.8.1: Official Visit Transportation to Prospective Student-Athlete's Scholastic Coach.

1. Institution would like to provide transportation expenses for prospective student-athlete's scholastic coach.
2. The prospective student-athlete's family members are not involved in the prospective student-athlete's life or are unable to accompany the prospective student-athlete on his or her official visit. Please note if one of the prospective student-athlete's family members is accompanying the prospective student-athlete, the previously approved waiver may not be applied.
3. Institution's coaching staff may not engage in any recruiting conversations with the scholastic coach about other prospective student-athletes during the official visit.

Bylaws 13.5.4 [A]: Transportation Expenses for Committed Prospective Student-Athletes Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment.

1. Institution is seeking to provide transportation expenses for a prospective student-athlete who has committed to the institution (i.e., signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid or submitted a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission) prior to initial full-time enrollment.
2. Prospective student-athlete has been admitted to the institution.
3. The institution may pay transportation, housing and meal expenses for a committed prospective student-athlete to arrive one day prior to the start of initial full-time enrollment or the start of the legislated preseason practice.
4. Prospective student-athlete has demonstrated they do not have the financial means (e.g., Pell eligible, receives free or reduced lunch, ACT/SAT fee waiver recipient, NCAA Eligibility Center fee waiver recipient) to travel to the institution for initial full-time enrollment.
5. In basketball and football, the prospective student-athlete may not participate in summer athletics activities with the applicant institution until the legislated permissible timeframe.

Bylaws 13.6.6.1, 13.6.7.1, 13.6.7.7 and 13.8.1: Providing Meals, Lodging and Entertainment to Prospective Student-Athlete's Scholastic Coach.

1. Institution would like to provide meals, lodging and entertainment for prospective student-athlete's scholastic coach.
2. Both prospective student-athlete's family members are not involved in the prospective student-athlete's life or are unable to accompany the prospective student-athlete on his or her official visit. Please note if one or both prospective student-athlete's family members is accompanying the prospective student-athlete, the previously approved waiver may not be applied.
3. Institution's coaching staff may not engage in any recruiting conversations with the scholastic coach about other prospective student-athletes during the official visit.

Bylaws 13.7.3.1 and 13.7.3.1.1: Providing Complimentary Admission to a Neutral-Site Contest in Locale of the Institution.

1. Institution wishes to provide complimentary admissions to prospective student-athletes for an away contest held at a neutral site that is within 30 miles of institution's campus.
2. Both institutions are in the locale of the neutral facility.
3. The contest between both institutions is played on an annual basis and the designation of the home and away team alternates from year to year.
4. Both institutions support the waiver.

Bylaw 13.8.1: Providing Entertainment to a High School, Preparatory School or Two-Year College Coach.

1. Institution would like to provide entertainment to a former student-athlete who is a high school, preparatory school or two-year college coach.
2. Entertainment provided to the individual is in conjunction with a celebratory event (e.g., honoring a championship team, introduction into institution's hall of fame).
3. Entertainment provided to the individual is consistent with the entertainment provided to all honorees.

Bylaw 13.8.2: Death or Severe or Life-Threatening Injury or Illness Involving a High School, Preparatory School or Two-Year College Coach.

1. Institution would like to provide flowers, a donation (e.g., monetary, memorabilia) or a reasonable token of support to benefit a high school, preparatory school or two-year college coach and/or coach's family due to extreme circumstances (e.g., death, life-threatening injury or illness).
2. The high school, preparatory school or two-year college coach lives in the locale of the institution, and the institution does not receive publicity for making the donation.
3. Flowers, donation or token of support may not exceed $100 in value.
4. Institution may not receive publicity if a financial donation is made.

Bylaw 13.11.2.4: Involvement With a Local Sports Club.

1. Institution would like to permit a newly hired coaching staff member or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities to continue his/her involvement with a local sports club team that includes a prospective student-athlete(s) that resides outside a 50-mile radius of the institution.
2. Newly hired coach or noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities may continue coaching his/her club team through the conclusion of the current club season.
3. Newly hired coach or noncoaching staff member may not engage in any recruiting conversations and/or recruiting activities during involvement with local sports club team.

Bylaw 13.15.1.6: Donation of Equipment and/or Apparel to a High School That Has Suffered a Catastrophic Incident.

1. Institution would like to donate equipment and/or apparel from its inventory to a high school.
2. The high school suffered a catastrophic incident (e.g., flood, fire, tornado).
3. The equipment or apparel do not contain the institution's name, logo or other identifiable markings.
4. Institution may not publicize the donation.

Bylaw 15.01.1.1: Receipt of Financial Aid for Study-Abroad Program.

1. Institution would like to provide athletics aid to a student-athlete who is enrolled in a study-abroad program through his or her institution.
2. If the study-abroad program occurs during the regular academic year, the institution must consider the student-athlete enrolled full time.
3. Student-athlete may use institutional financial aid to participate in the study-abroad program.

4. Study-abroad program is affiliated with the institution.

Bylaw 15.01.1.1: Receipt of Financial Aid to Attend Another Institution.

1. Institution would like to provide athletics aid to a student-athlete to attend another institution.
2. Student-athlete needs a course offered at another institution to satisfy a required prerequisite for course in the student-athlete's designated major or to remain on track to graduate on time, and the course is not offered at the applicant institution in the semester the student-athlete is seeking to take the course.
3. Student-athlete would otherwise be able to use financial aid for the course had the student-athlete taken it at the applicant institution.
4. Institution's registrar has approved the course at the other institution to be used to fulfill the prerequisite requirement or to remain on track to graduate on time.

Bylaws 16.2.1.1, 16.2.1.2, 16.2.1.2.2 and 16.13.1.7: Complimentary Admissions to Home Contest in Another Sport After Celebratory Event.

1. An institution would like to provide complimentary admissions to the family members of student-athletes to a home contest involving a team on which the student-athlete does not participate; and
2. The home contest follows a celebratory event (e.g., awards dinner or brunch for scholar student-athletes).

Bylaws 16.6.1 [A] and 16.11.2.2 [A]: Family Member(s) Attendance at Senior Night.

1. Institution would like to provide actual and necessary expenses for the student-athlete's family member(s) to attend senior night activities.
2. Student-athlete's family member(s) are unable to attend the event due to documented financial constraints.

Bylaws 17.02.1, 17.1.7.2 and 17.1.7.2.1: Permit a Coach to Be Present During Rehabilitation Activities.

1. Institution would like to permit a coach to be present during rehabilitation sessions held during the academic year or a vacation period.
2. If conducted during the playing and practice season, the hours do not need to be considered countable athletically related activity.
3. All rehabilitation activities are being conducted by a certified athletic trainer or other member of the medical staff.
4. The coach may provide safety-related instruction only.
5. The medical staff has documented specifically when the coach should be present to provide safety-related instruction.
6. Institution's coach may be present only when the student-athlete is engaged in the sport-specific portion of the rehabilitation session.

Bylaw 17.02.21: Use of Noninstitutional Facilities for Voluntary Summer Athletically Related Activities While Institutional Facilities Are Undergoing Maintenance or Construction.

1. The institution would like to provide student-athletes with a noninstitutional facility for voluntary athletically related activities during the summer because the institutional facility is under construction or undergoing maintenance.
2. The institution's facilities are undergoing construction or maintenance that renders the facilities unavailable for use by the student-athletes.
3. The request to rent a noninstitutional facility was initiated by the student-athletes.
4. The student-athletes are not required to report back to a coach any information (e.g., attendance) related to the athletics activity. However, an athletics department staff member (e.g., trainer, manager) may be present for the activity for administrative or medical purposes provided they do not report any information related to the activity back to a coach.
5. The student-athletes' attendance or participation (or lack thereof) is not recorded for the purposes of reporting such information to coaching staff members.
6. The student-athletes are not subject to penalties if he or she do not participate in the activity. In addition, recognition

may not be provided to student-athletes who participate in the voluntary activity. The noninstitutional facility must be within the locale of the institution.

Bylaw 17.1.7.12.7 [A]: Pause the Seven-Day Discretionary Period for Day(s) Football Student-Athlete(s) Will Serve as a Student-Host for a Prospective Student-Athlete's Official Visit.

1. Institution would like to pause the seven-day discretionary period for the day(s) the student-athlete(s) will serve as a student-host for official visit(s) and resume the seven-day discretionary period for the student-host(s) upon the conclusion of their hosting duties.
2. The request is limited to football student-athlete(s) who will be serving as student-host(s) for prospective student-athlete(s) on an official visit.
3. Student-hosts will not participate in any countable athletically related activities or any other required athletically related activities other than their hosting duties during this period.
4. Relief may only be provided outside of a recruiting dead period following the conclusion of the championship segment.

Bylaws 17.1.7.7 and 17.1.7.7.1 [A]: Permit a Travel Day to Be Considered a Day Off Due to Travel Complications Caused by Inclement Weather.

1. Institution will no longer be able to utilize the scheduled weekly day off because inclement weather impacted the travel arrangements to/from an away-from-home competition.
2. The institution is competing in an away-from-home competition outside of the locale of the institution.
3. The institution previously scheduled a day off, but inclement weather caused the institution to travel on the originally scheduled designated off day.
4. Student-athletes do not engage in any countable or required athletically related activities other than the travel arrangements.
5. Student-athlete representative(s) and faculty athletics representative approve of the travel day as an off day for the designated week.
6. The institution must provide one additional required day off (e.g., 15 instead of 14).

Bylaws 17.1.7.2.1.6.1 and 17.1.7.2.1.6.1.1: Required Summer Athletically Related Activities. [Basketball]

1. Institution would like a student-athlete to participate in required summer athletically related activities; however, he or she is not enrolled in summer school and does not meet the legislated academic exception.
2. Student-athlete has completed eight semesters of full-time enrollment and has less than nine credit hours remaining to meet undergraduate degree requirements.
3. Student-athlete has at least a cumulative grade-point average of 2.200.
4. Institution is able to document student-athlete is enrolled in all remaining degree applicable hours in the subsequent fall term.

Bylaws 17.1.7.2.1.6.1, 17.1.7.2.1.6.2, 13.11.3.10 and 13.11.3.11: Exception for Summer School Enrollment for Prospective Student-Athlete in Basketball and Football.

1. Institution would like to permit a basketball or football prospective student-athlete to engage in required summer activities the summer before initial full-time enrollment.
2. Institution does not offer any summer school courses.
3. Prospective student-athlete has signed a revenue share or a financial aid agreement to attend applicant institution. Prospective student-athlete must meet all Division I initial-eligibility requirements for competition in the upcoming fall term.
4. Prospective student-athlete is responsible for his/her own housing, meals and transportation during the summer.

Bylaw 17.1.7.7 [A]: Required Day Off While Away From Campus for Seven or More Days.

1. Institution would like to permit student-athletes to take their required days off while away from campus (e.g., training trip, travel for competition).
2. Institution's team will be away from campus for at least seven consecutive days.
3. Institution's classes are not in session (e.g., spring/winter break, summer, other vacation period) during the team's trip.
4. Time away from campus spans institution's entire declared playing week (e.g., seven-day trip is Monday-Sunday and declared playing week is Monday-Sunday).
5. While away from campus, institution must provide student-athletes with a day off from all required and countable athletically related activities for each week the team is away.
6. Institution must include the trip and day(s) off while away from campus in its student-athlete time management plan.

Bylaw 17.36: Outside Competition During Study-Abroad Program.

1. Student-athlete is enrolled in a study-abroad program through his or her institution and would like to participate on a team in outside competition that is normally precluded under Bylaw 17.36.
2. Institution must verify that the competition does not impact the student-athlete's athletics eligibility (see Bylaw 12). Institution must certify that the purpose of the study-abroad program is unrelated to athletics participation.

Bylaw 17.36: Wheelchair Contests for Fundraiser Events.

1. Members of an institution's athletics team (any sport) may participate in competition involving an organized wheelchair sporting event provided:

    - The wheelchair contest is designated as a charity fundraiser event.
    - Participation by student-athletes must be on a volunteer basis. Student-athletes may not be required to participate.

    Note: Per Bylaw 17.02.16, participation in promotional activities must be counted as required athletically related activities and this previously approved waiver does not waive that requirement.

Bylaws 17.5.8.1.5, 17.13.9.1.3, 17.36.1 and 17.33.5: All-Star Contests.

1. Institution would like to permit a student-athlete to participate in one all-star contest during the first regular term of full-time collegiate enrollment or during a vacation period that falls within the playing and practice season immediately prior to the first regular term of full-time collegiate enrollment.
2. The student-athlete was selected to participate in the all-star contest due to their success as a high school student-athlete.
3. The institution's faculty athletics representative supports the request.
4. Institution has obtained written permission from each professor of the classes that the student-athlete will miss due to the activity.
5. Institution may not provide any expenses associated with the student-athlete's participation in the all-star contest.