

# REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 12, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

## ACTION ITEMS.

None.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Transition of Core Benefits of the National Letter of Intent Program into NCAA Legislation and Institutional Athletics Aid Agreements. The NCAA Division I Legislative Committee reviewed and clarified specific applications associated with the potential transition of the core benefits of the National Letter of Intent (NLI) program into NCAA legislation and institutional athletics aid agreements. The Legislative Committee previously recommended that the NCAA Division I Council adopt expedited legislation during its October meeting to effectuate the transition if the Division I Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) recommends the transition. The clarifications have been incorporated into the draft legislative proposal (Attachment A) and associated question and answer document (Attachment B), which will also be provided to the CCA for consideration during its September meeting.

Further, the Legislative Committee recommended that the CCA and the NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committees specifically discuss whether the NLI policy that currently renders a prospective student-athlete ineligible in football during the first year of enrollment if the individual signs an institutional financial aid agreement in a sport other than football prior to the initial football signing date should be transitioned into NCAA legislation.

Contingent on the CCA's action related to the NLI program during its September meeting, the Legislative Committee will review and finalize the recommended proposal and educational resources that will be made available to the membership to assist with the potential transition during its October 7-8 in-person meeting.

**2. Approval of Legislative Committee August 21 Report.** The Legislative Committee approved the report of its August 21 meeting.

Committee Chair: Doug Knuth, Southern Utah University

Staff Liaisons: Emily Capehart, Academic and Membership Affairs

Leeland Zeller, Division I Governance

NCAA Division I Legislative Committee
September 12, 2024, Videoconference

## **Attendees:**

Brady Barke, Southeast Missouri State University.

Stephanie Castera, Division I Interpretations Committee.

Brad Corbin, Washington State University.

Stephen Corder, University of Detroit Mercy.

Jon Fagg, Division I Committee on Academics.

Ellen Ferris, American Athletic Conference.

Doug Knuth, Southern Utah University.

Jessica Kumke, Division I Committee on Academics.

Julie Patridge, Southern Illinois University of Carbondale.

Braeden Pratt, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Amanda Gray Richardson, Division I Committee for Legislative Relief.

Thomas Samual, Southland Conference.

Malone Silver, Jackson State University.

Daryl Simpson, Middle Tennessee State University.

Kiley Strong, University of Washington.

Molly Sullivan, Butler University.

Marielle van Gelder, Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

#### Absentees:

Matt Boyer, Southeastern Conference.

## NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Emily Capehart and Leeland Zeller.

## Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Chris Johnson, Karen Metzger, Susan Peal, Shelby Sonnefeldt

Division:

Proposal Number: 2024-

**Title:** RECRUITING -- TRANSITION OF NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT PROGRAM TO NCAA LEGISLATION -- CONTACT PROHIBITION AFTER SIGNING FINANCIAL AID AGREEMENT

Status: Draft

**Intent:** To transition elements of the National Letter of Intent Program to NCAA legislation, as specified, and to specify that an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests of an institution that provides athletically related financial aid to its student-athletes shall not communicate or make contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of athletics aid with another NCAA Division I or Division II institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly.

Category: Amendment

A. Bylaws: Amend 12, as follows:

12 Amateurism and Athletics Eligibility

[12.01 through 12.1 unchanged.]

12.2 Involvement With Professional Teams.

[12.2.1 through 12.2.3 unchanged.]

12.2.4 Draft and Inquiry.

[12.2.4.1 unchanged.]

12.2.4.2 Draft List. After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual loses amateur status in a particular sport when the individual asks to be placed on the draft list or supplemental draft list of a professional league in that sport, even though:

[12.2.4.2-(a) through 12.2.4.2-(c) unchanged.]

12.2.4.2.1 Exception -- Men's Basketball -- Four-Year College Student-Athlete.

[12.2.4.2.1.1 unchanged.]

12.2.4.2.1.2 Professional League Other Than the National Basketball Association. In men's basketball, a student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft (other than the National Basketball Association's draft) each year during the student-athlete's four-year college participation without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided:

(a) The student-athlete requests to be removed from the draft list and declares the intent to resume intercollegiate participation not later than 10 days after the conclusion of the professional league's draft combine. If the professional league does not conduct a draft combine, the student-athlete must request to be removed from the draft list not later than the end of the day before the first day of the spring National Letter of Intent signing period for the applicable year;

[12.2.4.2.1.2-(b) through 12.2.4.2.1.2-(c) unchanged.]

[12.2.4.2.2 through 12.2.4.2.5 unchanged.]

[12.2.4.3 unchanged.]

[12.2.5 unchanged.]

[12.3 through 12.10 unchanged.]

12.11 Ineligibility.

[12.11.1 unchanged.]

12.11.2 Ineligibility Resulting From Recruiting Violation. An institution shall not enter a student-athlete (as an individual or as a member of a team) in any intercollegiate competition if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's infractions process that the institution or a representative of its athletics interests violated the Association's legislation in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility as provided in Bylaw 12.12 if it concludes that circumstances warrant restoration.

12.11.2.1 Payment of Legal Fees During Appeal. An institution may provide actual and necessary expenses for a prospective student-athlete to attend proceedings conducted by the institution, its athletics conference or the NCAA that relate to the prospective student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the prospective student-athlete either has signed a National Letter of Intent with the institution or (if the institution is not a subscribing member of the National Letter of Intent program) the prospective student-athlete has been accepted for enrollment by the institution and has provided written confirmation of intent to enroll at the institution the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received the individual's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. The cost of legal representation in such proceedings also may be provided by the institution (or a representative of its athletics interests).

[12.11.3 through 12.11.4 unchanged.]

[12.12 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 13, as follows:

13 Recruiting

[13.01 unchanged.]

13.02 Definitions and Applications.

[13.02.1 through 13.02.4 unchanged.]

13.02.5 Periods of Recruiting Activities.

[13.02.5.1 through 13.02.5.4 unchanged.]

13.02.5.5 Dead Period. A dead period is a period of time when it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospective student-athletes to the institution's campus. It remains permissible, however, for an institutional staff member to communicate with (other than in person) a prospective student-athlete during a dead period. [D]

13.02.5.5.1 Exception -- After Commitment. Except for the application of Bylaw 13.02.5.5.1.1, a prospective student-athlete is no longer subject to the application of a dead period after one of the following events occurs:

(a) The prospective student-athlete signs *a National Letter of Intent (NLI) or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid; or

[13.02.5.5.1-(b) unchanged.]

In basketball and football, for institutions that subscribe to the National Letter of Intent program, this exception does not apply to an individual who only signs an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid prior to the initial regular (as opposed to early) signing date of the National Letter of Intent program in the applicable sport. In sports other than basketball and football, for institutions that subscribe to the National Letter of Intent program, this exception does not apply to an individual who only signs an institution's written offer of admission prior to the initial signing date of the National Letter of Intent program in applicable sport.

13.02.5.5.1.1 November, December and January Dead Period -- Bowl Subdivision Football. In bowl subdivision football, it is not permissible for an institution to make an in-person, on- or off-campus contact with a prospective student-athlete during the November, December and January dead period, even if the prospective student-athlete has signed the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. However, it is permissible for the institution to make such contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a National Letter of Intent with the institution or has arrived in the locale of the institution for initial full-time enrollment. [D]

[13.02.5.6 unchanged.]

[13.02.6 through 13.02.8 unchanged.]

13.02.9 Recruiting-Person Days -- Men's Basketball. In men's basketball, a recruiting-person day is defined as one coach engaged in an off-campus recruiting activity of a men's basketball prospective student-athlete on one day (12:01 a.m. to midnight); two coaches engaged in recruiting activities on the same day shall use two recruiting-person days. Men's basketball staff members shall not exceed 100 recruiting-person days September 1 through April 30.

13.02.9.1 Exception -- After Commitment. Recruiting activity involving only a prospective student-athlete who has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or for whom the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission shall not be counted as a recruiting-person day.

[13.02.9.2 unchanged.]

13.02.10 Recruiting-Person Days -- Women's Basketball. In women's basketball, a recruiting-person day is defined as one coach engaged in an off-campus recruiting activity of a women's basketball prospective student-athlete on one day (12:01 a.m. to midnight); two coaches engaged in recruiting activities on the same day shall use two recruiting-person days. Women's basketball staff members shall not exceed 65 recruiting-person days each year (measured August 1 through July 31).

13.02.10.1 Exceptions.

(a) Recruiting activity involving only a prospective student-athlete who has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or from whom the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission does not count toward the recruiting-person day limitation.

[13.02.10.1-(b) through 13.02.10.1-(c) unchanged.]

[13.02.10.2 unchanged.]

13.02.11 Recruiting-Person Days -- Football. In football, a recruiting-person day is defined as one off-campus recruiter engaged in an off-campus recruiting activity of a football prospective student-athlete on one day (12:01 a.m. to midnight); two off-campus recruiters engaged in recruiting activities on the same day shall use two recruiting-person days. Football staff members shall not exceed 140 (180 for U.S. service academies) recruiting-person days during the spring contact period. [D]

13.02.11.1 Exception -- After Commitment. Recruiting activity involving only a prospective student-athlete who has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or for whom the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission shall not be counted as a recruiting-person day.

[13.02.12 unchanged.]

13.02.13 National Letter of Intent Financial Aid Agreement Signing Dates. The National Letter of Intent referred to in this bylaw is the official document administered by the Collegiate Commissioners Association and used by subscribing member institutions to establish the commitment of a prospective student-athlete to attend a particular institution.

- 13.02.13.1 High School, Preparatory School and Two-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. The following provisions set forth the dates when a high school, preparatory school or two-year college prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional financial aid agreement:
- (a) Basketball Early Signing Period. The second Wednesday (7 a.m.) in November through the following Wednesday.
- (b) First Date for Basketball Regular Signing. The Wednesday (7 a.m.) in April one week after the NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Championships.
- (c) Football Early Signing Period. The Wednesday (7 a.m.) following the final Football Bowl Subdivision regular-season contest through the immediately following Friday.
- (d) First Date for Football Midyear Two-Year College Transfers. The Wednesday (7 a.m.) following the final Football Bowl Subdivision regular-season contest.
- (e) First Date for Football Regular Signing. The first Wednesday (7 a.m.) in February.
- (f) First Date for All Other Sports. The second Wednesday (7 a.m.) in November.
- 13.02.13.2 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. A four-year college prospective student-athlete whose name has been entered into the national transfer database may sign an institutional financial aid agreement as of the following dates:
- (a) <u>Undergraduate Four-Year College Transfers.</u> The first day (7 a.m.) of the notification of transfer period in the applicable sport (see Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1).
- (b) Postgraduate Four-Year College Transfers. October 1 (7 a.m.).
  - 13.02.13.2.1 Exceptions. A four-year college prospective student-athlete whose name is in the national transfer database pursuant to an exception to the notification of transfer periods (see Bylaws 13.1.1.3.1.11 and 13.1.1.3.2) may sign an institutional financial aid agreement.
- 13.02.14 Prospective Student-Athlete. A prospective student-athlete is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's family members or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students generally. An individual remains a prospective student-athlete until:
- (a) The individual signs a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution receives the individual's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission, completes all high school graduation requirements or all transfer academic eligibility requirements and receives benefits or expenses from the institution that may be provided to a student-athlete (see Bylaw 16);

[13.02.14-(b) through 13.02.14-(d) unchanged.]

[13.02.14.1 unchanged.]

13.02.14.2 Exception -- After Commitment. After an individual has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or after the institution has received the individual's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission, the individual shall no longer be subject to the restrictions of Bylaw 13.1. The individual remains a prospective student-athlete for purposes of applying the remaining provisions of Bylaw 13 and other bylaws. In basketball and football, for institutions that subscribe to the National Letter of Intent program, this exception does not apply to an individual who only signs an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid prior to the initial regular (as opposed to early) signing date of the National Letter of Intent program in the applicable sport. In sports other than basketball and football, for institutions that subscribe to the National Letter of Intent program, this exception does not apply to an individual who only signs an institution's written offer of admission prior to the initial signing date of the National Letter of Intent program in the applicable sport.

13.02.15 Recruiting. Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospective student-athlete or a prospective student-athlete's family members by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics

interests for the purpose of securing the prospective student-athlete's enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program.

13.02.15.1 Recruited Prospective Student-Athlete. Actions by staff members or athletics representatives that cause a prospective student-athlete to become a recruited prospective student-athlete at that institution are:

[13.02.15.1-(a) through 13.02.15.1-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Issuing a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of athletically related financial aid to the prospective student-athlete. Issuing a written offer of athletically related financial aid to a prospective student-athlete to attend a summer session prior to full-time enrollment does not cause the prospective student-athlete to become recruited.

[13.02.16 through 13.02.21 unchanged.]

13.1 Contacts and Evaluations. Recruiting contacts (per Bylaw 13.02.4) and telephone calls by institutional staff members or representatives of the institution's athletics interests are subject to the provisions set forth in this bylaw. [D]

13.1.1 Contactable Individuals.

[13.1.1.1 unchanged.]

13.1.1.2 Signed Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests of an institution that provides athletically related financial aid to its student-athletes shall not communicate or make contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of athletics aid with another NCAA Division I or Division II institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly. [D]

- 13.1.1.2.1 <u>Duration of Contact Prohibition</u>. <u>Contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a financial aid agreement with another institution is prohibited unless and until:</u>
- (a) The prospective student-athlete requests and the institution grants a release from the contact prohibition;
- (b) The prospective student-athlete's financial aid is reduced or canceled pursuant to a condition set forth in Bylaw 15.3.4.1 or Bylaw 15.3.4.1.2;
- (c) The prospective student-athlete is rendered academically ineligible for intercollegiate competition and all opportunities for appeal have been exhausted; or
- (d) The prospective student-athlete does not attend class as a full-time student in a regular term of the academic year and is disenrolled pursuant to institutional policy.
  - 13.1.1.2.1.1 Release of Contact Prohibition. An institution shall respond to a prospective student-athlete's written request for release of the contact prohibition within two business days. If the release is granted, the institution shall update the prospective student-athlete's status in the applicable NCAA database within two business days of providing the release. If the institution fails to respond to the student-athlete's written request within two business days, the release shall be granted by default and the institution shall update the prospective student-athlete's status in the applicable NCAA database within two business days.

13.1.1.2.1.1.1 Hearing Opportunity. If the institution denies a prospective student-athlete's request for a release of the contact prohibition, the institution shall inform the prospective student-athlete in writing that a hearing may be requested. Such a hearing shall be conducted by an institutional entity or committee outside the athletics department (e.g., the office of student affairs; office of the dean of students; or a committee composed of the faculty athletics representative, student-athletes and nonathletics faculty/staff members). The institution shall conduct the hearing and provide written results of the hearing to the student-athlete within 15 business days of receipt of the prospective student-athlete's written request for a hearing. The

prospective student-athlete shall be provided the opportunity to actively participate (e.g., in person, via videoconference) in the hearing. If the institution fails to conduct the hearing or provide the written results to the prospective student-athlete within 15 business days, the release shall be granted by default and the institution shall update the prospective student-athlete's status in the applicable NCAA database within two business days.

[13.1.1.2 renumbered as 13.1.1.3, unchanged.]

13.1.1.34 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall not communicate or make contact with the student-athlete of another NCAA Division I institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete of an NCAA Division II or Division III institution, or an NAIA four-year collegiate institution, an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall comply with the rule of the applicable division or the NAIA rule for making contact with a student-athlete. [See Bylaw 19.1.3-(f).]

[13.1.1.3.1 through 13.1.1.3.3 renumbered as 13.1.1.4.1 through 13.1.1.4.3, unchanged.]

13.1.1.34.4 Student-Athlete Withdrawn From Four-Year College. An institution may contact a student-athlete who has withdrawn officially from a four-year collegiate institution without obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process only if at least one academic year has elapsed since the withdrawal.

13.1.1.34.4.1 Exception -- Official Religious Mission. An institution shall not contact a student-athlete who has begun service on an official religious mission without obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process if the student-athlete signed a *National Letter of Intent (NLI)* financial aid agreement and attended, as a full-time student, the institution with which the *NLI* agreement was signed. If such a student-athlete has completed the official religious mission and does not enroll full time in a collegiate institution within one calendar year of completion of the mission, an institution may contact the student-athlete without obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. [D]

[13.1.1.3.5 through 13.1.1.3.7 renumbered as 13.1.1.4.5 through 13.1.1.4.7, unchanged.]

13.1.2 Permissible Recruiters.

[13.1.2.1 through 13.1.2.5 unchanged.]

13.1.2.6 Head Coach Restrictions -- Football.

[13.1.2.6.1 through 13.1.2.6.2 unchanged.]

13.1.2.6.3 Spring Contact Period. In bowl subdivision football, during the spring contact period, the head coach (and any assistant coach who has been publicly designated by the institution to become the next head coach) shall not engage in off-campus recruiting activities, participate in an off-campus coaching clinic, visit a prospective student-athlete's educational institution for any reason, meet with a prospective student-athlete's coach at an off-campus location, or attend or speak at a banquet or meeting that is designed to recognize prospective student-athletes (e.g., high school awards banquet, high school all-star banquet). In addition, the head coach (or any assistant coach who has been publicly designated by the institution to become the next head coach) shall not make an in-person, off-campus contact with a prospective student-athlete during the spring contact period at any location, even if the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent of the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. [D]

[13.1.2.7 through 13.1.2.8 unchanged.]

[13.1.3 through 13.1.4 unchanged.]

13.1.5 Contacts.

[13.1.5.1 through 13.1.5.8 unchanged.]

13.1.5.9 Letter-of-Intent Contact on Day of Signing. Any in-person, on- or off-campus contact made with a prospective student-athlete for the purpose of signing a letter of intent or other on the day the prospective student-athlete signs a financial aid agreement or other commitment to attend the institution or attendance at activities related to the signing of a letter of intent or other commitment to attend the institution shall be prohibited. In football, such in person, on campus contact made with a prospective student-athlete for the purpose of signing a letter of intent or other commitment to attend the institution or attendance at activities related to the signing of a letter of intent or other commitment to attend the institution is also prohibited. [D]

13.1.5.9.1 Delivery of Letter of Intent. In-person, off-campus delivery of a letter of intent by an institutional staff member shall be prohibited. The letter may be delivered by express mail, courier service, regular mail, electronic mail or facsimile machine. [D]

[13.1.5.10 unchanged.]

[13.1.6 through 13.1.10 unchanged.]

13.2 Offers and Inducements.

[13.2.1 unchanged.]

13.2.2 Institutional Preenrollment Fees. An institution may waive, pay in advance or guarantee payment of any institutional preenrollment fee for a prospective student-athlete who has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or for whom the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. A preenrollment fee is one that is required by the institution for enrollment and includes the following:

[13.2.2-(a) through 13.2.2-(i) unchanged.]

[13.2.3 through 13.2.11 unchanged.]

13.4 Recruiting Materials.

13.4.1 Recruiting Materials and Electronic Correspondence -- General Rule. An institution shall not provide recruiting materials, including general correspondence related to athletics, or send electronic correspondence to an individual (or the individual's family members) until June 15 at the conclusion of the individual's sophomore year in high school. [D]

[13.4.1.1 through 13.4.1.9 unchanged.]

13.4.1.10 Recruiting Materials. As specified below, an institution may provide only the following materials to a prospective student-athlete, the prospective student-athlete's family members, coaches or any other individual responsible for teaching or directing an activity in which a prospective student-athlete is involved: [D]

[13.4.1.10-(a) through 13.4.1.10-(d) unchanged.]

(e) Preenrollment Information. An institution may provide any necessary preenrollment information regarding orientation, conditioning, academics and practice activities to a prospective student-athlete, provided prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or an institutional financial aid agreement, or has been officially accepted for enrollment.

[13.4.1.10-(f) unchanged.]

[13.4.2 unchanged.]

[13.5 unchanged.]

13.6 Official (Paid) Visit.

[13.6.1 unchanged.]

13.6.2 Limitations on Official Visits.

13.6.2.1 First Opportunity to Visit.

[13.6.2.1.1 through 13.6.2.1.3 unchanged.]

13.6.2.1.4 Women's Basketball. In women's basketball, a prospective student-athlete may not be provided an expense-paid visit earlier than January 1 of the prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school. [D]

13.6.2.1.4.1 July Evaluation Periods -- Women's Basketball. In women's basketball, an institution may not provide an expense-paid visit to a prospective student-athlete during the July evaluation periods (see Bylaw 13.1.5.5.2), unless the prospective student-athlete has signed  $\alpha$  *National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[13.6.2.1.5 through 13.6.2.1.6 unchanged.]

13.6.2.2 Number of Official Visits -- Institutional Limitations. An institution may finance one visit to its campus for a prospective student-athlete before October 15 following completion of high school and one visit beginning October 15 following completion of high school, including a visit related to a possible transfer. [D]

[13.6.2.2.1 unchanged.]

13.6.2.2.2 Football. In football, an institution may provide 70 official visits on an annual basis (April 1 through March 31). The institution must maintain a written record of the visits provided. [D]

13.6.2.2.2.1 National Service Academies and Institutions That Do Not Subscribe to the National Letter of Intent. A national service academy or an institution that does not subscribe to the National Letter of Intent may provide 84 official visits, 70 of which may be provided prior to the initial date of the regular signing period of the National Letter of Intent for signing an athletics aid agreement. An official visit provided to a senior prospective student-athlete April 1 through July 31 may count toward the previous year's limit.

[13.6.2.3 through 13.6.2.5 unchanged.]

[13.6.3 through 13.6.9 unchanged.]

13.7 Unofficial (Nonpaid) Visit.

[13.7.1 unchanged.]

13.7.2 Number Permitted. A prospective student-athlete may visit a member institution's campus at the prospective student-athlete's own expense an unlimited number of times.

13.7.2.1 Exception -- Men's Basketball. In men's basketball, a prospective student-athlete may not make an unofficial visit in July unless the prospective student-athlete has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received a financial deposit from the prospective student-athlete in response to an offer of admission. A high school or preparatory school prospective student-athlete may not make an unofficial visit during the NCAA College Basketball Academy.

13.7.2.2 Exception -- Women's Basketball. In women's basketball, a prospective student-athlete may not make an unofficial visit during the July evaluation periods (see Bylaw 13.1.5.5.2) unless the prospective student-athlete has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received a financial deposit from the prospective student-athlete in response to an offer of admission. A high school or preparatory school prospective student-athlete may not make an unofficial visit during the NCAA College Basketball Academy.

[13.7.3 through 13.7.5 unchanged.]

[13.8 unchanged.]

13.9 Letter-of-Intent Programs, Financial Aid Agreements and Offers.

[13.9.1 through 13.9.2 unchanged.]

13.9.3 Letter of Intent Restriction. An institution may not participate in an institutional or conference athletics letter-of-intent program or issue an institutional or conference financial aid agreement that involves a signing date that precedes the initial regular (as opposed to early) signing date for the National Letter of Intent program in the same sport other than those set forth in Bylaw 13.02.13. However, an institution may permit a prospective student-athlete to sign an institutional or conference letter of intent during the National Letter of Intent early signing period in the applicable sport. [D]

13.9.3.1 Mailing of Financial Aid Offer. An institutional or conference financial aid form may be included in the normal mailing of the National Letter of Intent, but none of the forms enclosed in the mailing may be signed by the prospective student-athlete prior to the initial signing date in that sport in the National Letter of Intent program. [D]

13.9.3.21 Written Offer of Aid Before Signing Date. Before August 1 of an individual's senior year in high school, an institution shall not, directly or indirectly, provide a written offer of athletically related financial aid or indicate in writing to the individual that an athletically related grant-in-aid will be offered by the institution. On or after August 1 of a prospective student-athlete's senior year in high school, an institution may indicate in writing to the prospective student-athlete that an athletically related grant-in-aid will be offered by the institution; however, the institution may not permit the prospective student-athlete to sign a form indicating acceptance of such an award before the initial other than during the early signing period or on or after the regular signing date in the applicable sport in the National Letter of Intent program (see Bylaw 13.02.13). [D]

13.9.3.21.1 Nontraditional Academic Calendars. If a prospective student-athlete attends an educational institution that uses a nontraditional academic calendar (e.g., Southern Hemisphere), an institution may indicate in writing on or after the opening day of classes of the prospective student-athlete's senior year in high school that an athletically related grant-in-aid will be offered by the institution; however, the institution may not permit the prospective student-athlete to sign a form indicating acceptance of such an award before the initial signing date in that sport in the National Letter of Intent program. [D]

13.9.3.2 Early Signing Period Penalty -- Football. A prospective student-athlete who signs an institutional financial aid agreement in a sport other than football prior to the initial signing date is ineligible for competition in football during the individual's first year of enrollment at the institution and shall be charged one season of competition in football.

13.10 Publicity.

[13.10.1 unchanged.]

13.10.1.1 Comments Before Commitment. Before the signing of a prospective student-athlete to a National Letter of Intent or an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or before the institution receives the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission, an institution may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming its recruitment of the prospective student-athlete. The institution may not comment generally about the prospective student-athlete's ability or the contribution that the prospective student-athlete might make to the institution's team; further, the institution is precluded from commenting in any manner as to the likelihood of the prospective student-athlete committing to or signing with that institution. [D]

[13.10.1.1.1 unchanged.]

[13.10.1.2 through 13.10.1.7 unchanged.]

13.10.1.8 Exception -- Telephone Call or Electronic Correspondence With Multiple Prospective Student-Athletes Before Commitment. An institution may conduct a telephone call (per Bylaw 13.1.3) with or send electronic correspondence (per Bylaw 13.4.1) to multiple prospective student-athletes who have not signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or from whom the institution has not received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[13.10.1.9 through 13.10.1.10 unchanged.]

13.10.2 Publicity After Commitment. There are no restrictions on publicity related to a prospective student-athlete after the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or after the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. In basketball and football, for institutions that subscribe to the National Letter of Intent program, this provision does not apply to a prospective student-athlete who only signs an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid prior to the initial regular (as opposed to early) signing date of the National Letter of Intent program in the applicable sport. In sports other than basketball and football, for institutions that subscribe to the National Letter of Intent program, this provision does not apply to an individual who only signs an institution's written offer of admission prior to the initial signing date of the National Letter of Intent program in the applicable sport. [D]

13.11 Tryouts.

[13.11.1 unchanged.]

13.11.2 Permissible Activities.

[13.11.2.1 through 13.11.2.3 unchanged.]

13.11.2.4 Recreational Activities. A prospective student-athlete visiting an institution may participate in physical workouts or other recreational activities during a visit to an institution's campus, provided such activities: [D]

[13.11.2.4-(a) through 13.11.2.4-(c) unchanged.]

13.11.2.4.1 Exception -- After *National Letter of Intent* Signing. A prospective student-athlete who has signed a *National Letter of Intent* (or a four-year college-transfer prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of financial aid and/or admission) may participate in voluntary weightlifting or conditioning activities (e.g., conditioning on the track) on the institution's campus in the presence of the institution's strength and conditioning coach, provided such activities are not prearranged, the strength and conditioning coach is performing normal duties and responsibilities in the supervision of the weight room or facility in use (e.g., track) and the strength and conditioning coach does not work directly with the prospective student-athlete. [D]

[13.11.2.5 through 13.11.2.6 unchanged.]

13.11.2.7 Medical Examinations.

[13.11.2.7.1 unchanged.]

13.11.2.7.2 After Signing or Acceptance for Enrollment. It shall be permissible to administer a medical examination at any time to a prospective student-athlete who either has signed the National Letter of Intent with the involved institution or has been accepted for enrollment in a regular full-time program of studies at the institution, provided the examination occurs during an official paid visit or a visit to the institution at the prospective student-athlete's own expense for any purpose. Such an examination may take place before or after, but not during, a prospective student-athlete's visit to the campus to attend a general orientation session pursuant to Bylaw 13.15.2.3. [D]

[13.11.3 unchanged.]

13.11.3.8 Voluntary Summer Conditioning -- Football.

13.11.3.8.1 Voluntary Summer Conditioning -- Bowl Subdivision Football. In bowl subdivision football, a prospective student-athlete may engage in voluntary summer workouts conducted by an institution's strength and conditioning coach and may receive workout apparel (on an issuance and retrieval basis), provided the prospective student-athlete has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. [D]

13.11.3.8.2 Voluntary Summer Conditioning -- Championship Subdivision Football. In championship subdivision football, a prospective student-athlete may engage in voluntary summer workouts conducted by an institution's strength and conditioning coach or a coach who is a certified strength and conditioning coach, and may receive workout apparel (on an issuance and retrieval basis),

provided the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. [D]

[13.11.3.8.3 through 13.11.3.8.4 unchanged.]

13.11.3.9 Voluntary Summer Conditioning -- Sports Other Than Football. In sports other than football, a prospective student-athlete may engage in voluntary summer workouts conducted by an institution's strength and conditioning coach who is not a countable coach in any sport and may receive workout apparel (on an issuance and retrieval basis), provided the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. [D]

[13.11.3.9.1 through 13.11.3.9.2 unchanged.]

13.11.3.10 Required Summer Athletic Activities -- Basketball.

[13.11.3.10.1 unchanged.]

13.11.3.10.2 Institutions That Do Not Offer Summer School Courses -- Basketball. In basketball, an institution that does not offer summer school courses may designate eight weeks of the summer during which a prospective student-athlete may participate in required summer athletic activities (pursuant to Bylaw 17.1.7.2.1.6.1), provided the prospective student-athlete has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[13.11.3.10.3 unchanged.]

13.11.3.11 Required Summer Athletic Activities -- Football.

[13.11.3.11.1 unchanged.]

13.11.3.11.2 Institutions That Do Not Offer Summer School Courses -- Championship Subdivision Football. In championship subdivision football, an institution that does not offer summer school courses may designate eight weeks of the summer during which a prospective student-athlete may participate in required summer athletic activities (pursuant to Bylaw 17.1.7.2.1.6.2), provided the prospective student-athlete has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid, or the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[13.11.3.11.3 unchanged.]

13.12 Sports Camps and Clinics.

13.12.1 Institution's Sports Camps and Clinics.

[13.12.1.1 through 13.12.1.6 unchanged.]

13.12.1.7 Employment of Prospective Student-Athletes/No Free or Reduced Admission Privileges.

13.12.1.7.1 General Rule. An institution, members of its staff or representatives of its athletics interests shall not employ or give free or reduced admission privileges to a prospective student-athlete who is an athletics award winner or any individual being recruited by the institution per Bylaw 13.02.15.1. An institution may offer discounted admission to its camps and clinics based on objective criteria unrelated to athletics abilities (e.g., registration prior to a specific date, online registration, attendance at multiple sessions, group discounts), provided such discounts are published and available on an equal basis to all who qualify. [R]

13.12.1.7.1.1 Exception -- Employment After Commitment. An institution may employ a prospective student-athlete in a camp or clinic, provided the prospective student-athlete has signed *a National Letter of Intent or* the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received the prospective student-athlete's financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. Compensation may be paid only for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in the locality for similar services. Such compensation may

not include any remuneration for value or utility that the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame or personal following obtained because of athletics ability. A prospective student-athlete who only lectures or demonstrates at a camp/clinic may not receive compensation for an appearance at the camp/clinic.

[13.12.1.7.2 through 13.12.1.7.4 unchanged.]

[13.12.2 through 13.12.4 unchanged.]

[13.13 through 13.14 unchanged.]

13.15 Precollege Expenses.

13.15.1 Prohibited Expenses. An institution or a representative of its athletics interests shall not offer, provide or arrange financial assistance, directly or indirectly, to pay (in whole or in part) the costs of the prospective student-athlete's educational or other expenses for any period prior to the prospective student-athlete's enrollment or so the prospective student-athlete can obtain a postgraduate education. [R]

13.15.1.1 Extent of Prohibition. The provisions of Bylaw 13.15.1 apply to all prospective student-athletes, including those who have signed *a National Letter of Intent or* an institutional offer of admission or financial aid.

[13.15.1.2 through 13.15.1.11 unchanged.]

13.15.2 Permissible Expenses.

13.15.2.1 Expenses Related to Academic Evaluations and Test Scores. An institution may pay fees or provide expenses in the following situations related to a prospective student-athlete's academic evaluation or test scores:

[13.15.2.1-(a) through 13.15.2.1-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Expenses (e.g., transcript fee, express delivery charges) for a prospective student-athlete's institution to send an academic transcript to the Eligibility Center, provided the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[13.15.2.2 through 13.15.2.5 unchanged.]

13.16 U.S. Service Academy Exceptions and Waivers.

13.16.1 Contacts.

[13.16.1.1 unchanged.]

13.16.1.2 After *National Letter of Intent* Signing Date. There shall be no limit on the number of recruiting contacts with the prospective student-athlete, the prospective student-athlete's family members made by a national service academy to which the prospective student-athlete has applied for admission after the *National Letter of Intent* signing date in the sport.

[13.16.1.3 unchanged.]

[13.16.2 through 13.16.4 unchanged.]

13.17 Recruiting Calendars.

[13.17.1 through 13.17.13 unchanged.]

13.17.14 Contact Period Exception. An institution that does not subscribe to the National Letter of Intent in a particular sport and has an official admissions notification date (the date when all applicants are notified whether they are admitted) that occurs after the end of the final contact period of the academic year through 30 days after the institution's official admissions notification date. The institution remains subject to all dead periods that occur during the extended contact period and may not exceed the maximum number of contacts permitted in the particular sport.

13.17.1514 Recruiting Periods -- Other Sports. There are no specified recruiting periods in sports for which no recruiting calendars have been established, except for the following recruiting shutdowns, dead periods and quiet periods.

[13.17.15.1 renumbered as 13.17.14.1, unchanged.]

13.17.1514.2 Dead Periods.

13.17.1514.2.1 National Letter of Intent Signing Date. Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the fall or spring signing of the National Letter of Intent date in the applicable sport.

13.17.1514.2.1.1 Exception -- North American Cup Fencing Championship. During a year in which the *National Letter of Intent* signing date dead period occurs during the North American Cup Fencing Championship, it shall be permissible for authorized coaching staff members to observe prospective student-athletes participating in that event.

13.17.1514.2.1.2 Exception -- Junior Olympic Rifle Championships. During a year in which the *National Letter of Intent* signing date dead period occurs during the Junior Olympic Rifle Championships, it shall be permissible for authorized coaching staff members to observe prospective student-athletes participating in that event.

[13.17.15.2.2 through 13.17.15.2.9 renumbered as 13.17.14.2.2 through 13.17.14.2.9, unchanged.]

[13.17.15.3 renumbered as 13.17.14.3, unchanged.]

[13.18 unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 14.2, as follows:

14.2 Full-Time Enrollment.

14.2.1 Requirement for Practice. To be eligible to participate in organized practice sessions, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies leading to a baccalaureate or equivalent degree as defined by the regulations of the certifying institution. (See Bylaw 12.8.2.5.) [D]

14.2.1.1 Practice Prior to Initial Enrollment. A student-athlete may practice during the official vacation period immediately preceding initial enrollment, provided the student has been accepted by the institution for enrollment in a regular, full-time program of studies at the time of the individual's initial participation; is no longer enrolled in the previous educational institution; and is eligible under all institutional and NCAA requirements.

14.2.1.1.1 Prohibited Practice Activities -- General Rule. A prospective student-athlete shall not engage in any practice activities (e.g., review of playbook, chalk talk, film review) with a coaching staff member prior to enrollment. A prospective student-athlete may observe an institution's practice session, including a session that is closed to the general public.

14.2.1.1.1 Exception -- Women's Basketball. A prospective student-athlete who signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or for whom the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission may participate in virtual team activities (e.g., team meetings, film review) during an institution's summer vacation period, provided the prospective student-athlete has completed all academic requirements for high school graduation or all transfer academic requirements.

[14.2.1.2 through 14.2.1.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.2 through 14.2.3 unchanged.]

D. Bylaws: Amend 15.02, as follows:

15.02 Definitions and Applications.

[15.02.1 through 15.02.8 unchanged.]

15.02.9 Recruited Student-Athlete. For purposes of Bylaw 15, a recruited student-athlete is a student-athlete who, as a prospective student-athlete:

[15.02.9-(a) through 15.02.9-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Was issued a National Letter of Intent or a written offer of athletically related financial aid by the institution for a regular academic term.

[15.02.10 unchanged.]

E. Bylaws: Amend 17.1.7, as follows:

17.1.7 Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities. In all sports, the following time limitations shall apply:

[17.1.7.1 unchanged.]

17.1.7.2 Weekly Hour Limitations -- Outside of the Playing Season.

[17.1.7.2-(a) through 17.1.7.2-(c) unchanged.]

17.1.7.2.1 Institutional Vacation Period and Summer. A student-athlete may not participate in any countable athletically related activities outside the playing season during any institutional vacation period and/or summer. Strength and conditioning coaches who are not countable coaches in the student-athlete's sport may design and conduct specific workout programs for a student-athlete, provided such workouts are voluntary and conducted at the request of the student-athlete.

[17.1.7.2.1.1 through 17.1.7.2.1.4 unchanged.]

17.1.7.2.1.5 Exception -- Participation in Virtual Team Activities -- Women's Basketball. In women's basketball, a student-athlete may engage in virtual team activities (virtual nonphysical countable athletically related activities) during an institution's summer vacation period subject to the following limitations:

[17.1.7.2.1.5-(a) unchanged.]

(b) During Summer Athletic Activities Period. If a student-athlete (or prospective student-athlete who signed a National Letter of Intent or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or for whom the institution has received a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission) is not participating in required summer athletics activities (per Bylaw 17.1.7.2.1.6.1), they may participate in a maximum of eight hours per week of virtual team activities for up to eight weeks.

[17.1.7.2.1.6 unchanged.]

[17.1.7.2.2 through 17.1.7.2.4 unchanged.]

[17.1.7.3 through 17.1.7.12 unchanged.]

F. Bylaws: Amend 19.1, as follows:

19.1 Violation Structure.

[19.1.1 through 19.1.2 unchanged.]

19.1.3 Level II Violation. A Level II violation is a violation that provides or is intended to provide more than a minimal but less than a substantial or extensive recruiting, competitive or other advantage; includes more than a minimal but less than a substantial or extensive impermissible benefit; or involves conduct that may compromise the integrity of the NCAA Collegiate Model as set forth in the bylaws. Among other examples, the following may constitute a Level II violation:

[19.1.3-(a) through 19.1.3-(e) unchanged.]

(f) A violation of Bylaw 13.1.1.2 (Signed Prospective Student-Athletes) as it relates to contact with a prospective student-athlete;

(f g) A violation of Bylaw 13.1.1.34 (Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes) as it relates to contact with a prospective student-athlete; or

[19.1.3-(g) relettered as 19.1.3-(h), unchanged.]

[19.1.4 unchanged.]

G. Bylaws: Amend 20.2.4, as follows:

20.2.4 Conditions and Obligations of Membership.

[20.2.4.1 through 20.2.4.9 unchanged.]

20.2.4.10 Certification of Insurance Coverage. An active member institution must certify insurance coverage for medical expenses resulting from athletically related injuries sustained by the following individuals while participating in a covered event: [D]

[20.2.4.10-(a) unchanged.]

(b) A prospective student-athlete participating in a covered event who has graduated from high school and signed *a National Letter of Intent or* an institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid to participate in an intercollegiate sport at a participating institution.

[20.2.4.10.1 through 20.2.4.10.3 unchanged.]

[20.2.4.11 through 20.2.4.32 unchanged.]

Source:

**Effective Date:** Immediate

Topical Area: Recruiting

Rationale: Currently, the National Letter of Intent program and the benefits and implications for a prospective student-athlete who chooses to sign an NLI are set by policy determined by the Collegiate Commissioners Association. In June, the CCA's NLI Policy and Review Committee recommended the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee develop a legislative framework that could transition the core benefits of the NLI (e.g., celebratory signing, signing periods, recruiting ban) into NCAA legislation before the NLI signing periods begin in November 2024. Incorporating the benefits of the NLI program into legislative implications of signing an institutional financial aid agreement is intended to add more clarity and efficiency to the commitment process for all prospective student-athletes, including those from other four-year institutions. The recommended legislative framework would not incorporate NLI penalties, including the basic that applies if an individual who signs an NLI enrolls at another institution that participates in the NLI program.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

# Transition of Elements of the National Letter of Intent Program to NCAA Legislation – Contact Prohibition After Signing Financial Aid Agreement Question and Answer Document

This document contains questions and answers designed to assist the membership in understanding the application of the legislation that, if adopted, would transition elements of the National Letter of Intent Program to NCAA legislation, as specified, and would specify that an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests of an institution that provides athletically related financial aid to its student-athletes shall not communicate or make contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of athletics aid with another NCAA Division I or Division II institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly. The proposal's effective date is immediate.

# **CELEBRATORY SIGNING**

<u>Question No. 1</u>: Does the contact on the day of signing prohibition prohibit phone calls, text messages, DMs, emails or virtual attendance (e.g., streaming) at activities related to the prospective student-athlete's signing of a commitment?

<u>Answer:</u> No. The contact prohibition is limited to in-person contact that occurs on or off campus on the day of signing. A coach may virtually attend an activity related to a prospective student-athlete's signing of a commitment.

**Question No. 2:** Does the in-person contact on the day of signing prohibition apply to four-year college prospective student-athletes as well as high school, preparatory school and two-year college prospective student-athletes?

Answer: Yes.

<u>Question No. 3</u>: Is it permissible for a coach to hand deliver the athletics aid agreement to the prospective student-athlete on or off campus, such as during a campus visit, if the prospective student-athlete will not sign the agreement on that day?

<u>Answer</u>: Yes. The delivery of the athletics aid agreement by a coach is permissible provided the agreement is not signed on the same day.

<u>Question No. 4</u>: Is it permissible for a coach to attend, in person, an activity related to the prospective student-athlete's commitment if the prospective student-athlete previously signed the athletics aid agreement?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes, provided the prospective student-athlete previously signed an institutional financial aid agreement during the appropriate signing period and the coach observes other recruiting rules as they apply to the signed prospective student-athlete and other prospective student-athletes.

Question No. 5: Do dead periods during the Monday through Thursday of the initial signing date still apply?

<u>Answer</u>: If a dead period previously applied to the signing dates of the National Letter of Intent, it will continue to apply to initial signing dates for an athletics aid agreement. The legislation for each applicable sport should be reviewed to determine whether a dead period applies.

### **SIGNING PERIODS**

**Question No. 6**: Is it permissible to provide an athletics aid agreement to a prospective student-athlete prior to the initial signing date?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. The signing date restriction only applies to when the athletics aid agreement may be signed. NCAA Bylaw 13.9.3.1 permits an institution to provide a written offer of athletics aid or indicate in writing that the offer will be provided on or after August 1 of the prospective student-athlete's senior year in high school.

<u>Question No. 7</u>: Is a prospective student-athlete precluded from signing the athletics aid agreement prior to the initial signing date?

<u>Answer</u>: Yes. Bylaw 13.9.3.1 prohibits the signing of an athletics aid agreement prior to the initial signing date for the sport.

<u>Question No. 8</u>: Which time zone applies to when a prospective student-athlete may first sign an institutional athletics aid agreement on the first day of the applicable signing date period?

<u>Answer:</u> A prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional athletics aid agreement at or after 7 a.m. in the time zone in which the prospective student-athlete is located when signing the aid agreement. If the prospective student-athlete will be signing the aid agreement in a time zone that is later than that of the institution (for example, the prospective student-athlete lives in the Pacific time zone and the institution is located in the Eastern time zone), the prospective student-athlete must wait until 7 a.m. in the prospective student-athlete's time zone to sign the athletics aid agreement on the first day of the applicable signing period.

**Question No. 9:** Do the early and regular signing periods in basketball and football apply to high school, preparatory school and two-year college prospective student-athletes?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. Division I basketball and football retain the early and regular signing periods in the new signing model.

**Question No. 10:** Are there end dates to the regular signing periods?

<u>Answer</u>: No. There is not a legislated end date for a regular signing period. The end date is based on an institution's policy. There are end dates associated with the early signing periods in basketball and football.

Question No. 11: When may a four-year college prospective student-athlete sign an athletics aid agreement?

Answer: A four-year college prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional athletics aid agreement, provided the individual's name has been permissibly entered into the NCAA Transfer Portal consistent with Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1 (sport-specific periods) and any applicable exceptions (e.g., head coach departure). A four-year college prospective student-athlete may sign an athletics aid agreement after the notification of transfer window closes, provided the individual's record remains active in the Transfer Portal.

<u>Question No. 12</u>: May a four-year college prospective student-athlete who uses a legislated exception to enter the Transfer Portal (e.g., head coach departure) sign an athletics aid agreement prior to the student-athlete's sport specific notification of transfer window first opening for the year?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. A four-year college prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional athletics aid agreement, provided the prospective student-athlete's name is permissibly entered and active in the NCAA Transfer Portal consistent with Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1 (sport-specific periods) and any applicable exceptions (e.g., head coach departure).

Question No. 13: When may a midyear enrollee sign an athletics aid agreement?

<u>Answer</u>: A football midyear two-year college prospective student-athlete is subject to the applicable midyear signing period. A four-year college transfer prospective student-athlete's name must be entered in the Transfer Portal. Other bona fide midyear enrollees may sign an athletics aid agreement, provided the individual may receive a written offer of aid pursuant to Bylaw 13.9.3.1 (written offer of aid before signing date).

<u>Question No. 14</u>: When may a prospective student-athlete sign an athletics aid agreement if the prospective student-athlete intends to participate in football and in a sport that has an initial signing date that precedes the football early signing period?

<u>Answer:</u> Whether the early signing policy for football will be transitioned to the legislation is under review. The policy is currently included in the draft proposal. Football Oversight Committees and the Division I Collegiate Commissioners Association to review.

### PROHIBITION ON CONTACT AFTER SIGNING

<u>Question No. 15</u>: Will the prohibition on contact after signing an athletics aid agreement apply to prospective student-athletes who have signed institutional financial aid before the legislation is adopted?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. If the legislation is adopted, the prohibition on contact will apply to a prospective student-athlete (e.g., four-year college prospective student-athlete, midyear enrollee) who previously signed an athletics aid agreement.

<u>Question No. 16</u>: Does the prohibition on contact after signing an athletics aid agreement prohibit athletics staff and boosters from communicating with a prospective student-athlete's family members or other individuals associated the prospective student-athlete?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. The contact prohibition extends to any direct or indirect communication with any individual associated with the prospective student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor).

<u>Question No. 17</u>: How will an institution know that a prospective student-athlete has signed an athletics aid agreement with another institution?

<u>Answer</u>: The institution with which the prospective student-athlete signs the athletics aid agreement will designate the prospective student-athlete's record as signed on the IRL for high school, preparatory school and two-year college transfer prospective student-athlete and in the NCAA Transfer Portal for four-year college prospective student-athletes.

Question No. 18: Is there a deadline for the signed status designation to be entered in the NCAA portals?

<u>Answer</u>: No; however, as a best practice, an institution should enter a prospective student-athlete's signed status in the appropriate NCAA application as soon as possible so other institutions have notice the contact prohibition applies.

<u>Question No. 19</u>: Is an institution also responsible to remove the signed status designation and is there a deadline for this action?

<u>Answer</u>: Yes. An institution will have two business days to remove the prospective student-athlete's signed status when an event occurs that lifts the contact prohibition.

<u>Question No. 20</u>: Will the prospective student-athlete receive an email when the signed status is entered or removed?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. The prospective student-athlete will receive an email when the record is updated. The email will also include links to educational materials.

<u>Question No. 21</u>: Will compliance administrators and coaches receive an email for a prospective student-athlete on their IRL or transfer portal watch list who signs with another institution?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. An email will be sent to all compliance administrators for whom the prospective student-athlete is on their institutions' IRLs when the status changes to signed. The compliance administrator may forward the message to the institution's coaches. For four-year college transfers, the email will be sent to all users (e.g., coaches) if the student-athlete is on their transfer watch lists.

**Question No. 22:** May a prospective student-athlete sign athletics aid agreements with multiple institutions at any one time?

<u>Answer:</u> If another institution attempts to sign a PSA who is actively indicated as signed on another institution's IRL or within the Transfer Portal, an impermissible contact violation would occur, with penalties determined through the NCAA infractions program. Contact (including providing an athletics aid agreement) with a signed prospective student-athlete would not be permissible until action is taken to lift the contact prohibition associated with the athletics aid agreement the individual previously signed. As a best practice, institutions should use the online workflows that identify the date and time of a prospective student-athlete's signature.

<u>Question No. 23</u>: Are institutions that do not provide athletics aid prohibited from communicating with a prospective student-athlete who signs with another institution?

<u>Answer</u>: No. The contact prohibition does not apply to an institution that does not offer athletically related financial aid to any student-athlete. [Note: Legislative Committee will review whether the exception could be applied on a sport-by-sport basis, provided the institution is a member of a conference in the specific sport that does not allow its members to provide athletically related financial aid.]

**Question No. 24:** Does the contact prohibition apply if a prospective student-athlete signs an athletics aid agreement but wants to speak to coaches at another institution for a different sport?

<u>Answer</u>: Yes. Once a prospective student-athlete has signed an athletics aid agreement, the contact prohibition applies to coaches of other institutions in all sports.

<u>Question No. 25</u>: Does a signed prospective student-athlete become subject to the contact prohibition on four-year college prospective student-athletes (Bylaw 13.1.1.3) once the individual triggers student-athlete status per Bylaw 13.02.14 at the institution with which the individual signed an athletics aid agreement?

Answer: Yes.

<u>Question No. 26</u>: Is a parent or legal guardian's signature required on the athletics aid agreement if a prospective student-athlete is under a specified age?

<u>Answer</u>: Although NCAA legislation would not prescribe that a parent or legal guardian's signature be included on the athletics aid agreement, an institution should determine whether such a signature is required based on state law and/or institutional policy.

**Question No. 27:** Is there a legislated deadline for a prospective student-athlete to sign the athletics aid agreement for the offer to remain valid?

<u>Answer:</u> No. There is not a deadline for signing the athletic aid agreement prescribed by the legislation. Institutional policy would apply.

**Question No. 28:** Is the contact prohibition required to be included in the institution's athletics aid agreement?

<u>Answer:</u> No. Other than the requirement to give the recipient a written statement of the amount, duration, conditions and terms of the award, there is no NCAA prescribed language to be included in an athletics aid agreement. However, it may be beneficial to include NCAA rules as references in athletics aid agreements. For example, an institution may include nonathletically related conditions that may result in canceling the athletics aid agreement. It may be appropriate to include conditions related to the application of the contact prohibition when the athletics aid agreement is signed.

Question No. 29: Is the conference office involved in monitoring member institutions' athletics aid agreements?

<u>Answer</u>: The conference office's involvement is not prescribed by NCAA legislation. A conference may institute its own rules or policies.

**Question No. 30:** Should a potential violation of the contact prohibition after signing be reported to NCAA enforcement staff?

Answer: Yes. Any potential violations of the contact prohibition should be reported to NCAA enforcement staff.

**Question No. 31:** Is a signed prospective student-athlete's eligibility impacted if the individual attends another Division I institution without any communication with coaches or athletics staff prior to attendance?

<u>Answer:</u> No. If a prospective student-athlete does not communicate with coaches or athletics staff before enrolling and attending classes or reporting for an intercollegiate squad at another institution, the individual's eligibility would not be impacted.

## REMOVAL OF THE CONTACT PROHIBITION - CANCELLATION OF ATHLETICS AID

**Question No. 32:** May a signed prospective student-athlete, prior to triggering student-athlete status, request to have the contact prohibition lifted in order to have permissible recruiting contact with other institutions' athletics staff?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes, a signed prospective student-athlete may request in writing to be released from the contact prohibition. If the institution grants the request and once the release noted in the appropriate NCAA application, other institutions would be permitted to have recruiting contact the prospective student-athlete. Note: Granting a signed prospective student-athlete's request for a release only lifts the contact prohibition. In order to also cancel the prospective student-athlete's athletics aid agreement, the institution must still comply with Bylaw 15.3.4.1 or 15.3.4.1.2.

**Question No. 33:** Is the institution required to cancel the athletics aid if the prospective student-athlete indicates they will not attend the institution and requests a release from the contact prohibition?

<u>Answer</u>: No. The institution may determine whether to cancel the athletics aid, provided a condition of Bylaw 15.3.4.1 or 15.3.4.1.2 is met.

<u>Question No. 34</u>: If an institution chooses to cancel a prospective student-athlete's athletics aid agreement, does the hearing opportunity requirement apply?

<u>Answer</u>: Yes. Bylaw 15.3.2.3 requires that the prospective student-athlete be notified in writing of the opportunity for a hearing.

Question No. 35: Does the removal of the contact prohibition also apply if the athletics aid is reduced?

<u>Answer:</u> Yes. If the athletics aid is reduced from the original amount for which the agreement was signed, the contact prohibition no longer applies.

**Ouestion No. 36:** Are the rules for the cancellation of athletics aid the same for all prospective student-athletes?

<u>Answer</u>: No. The rules related to cancellation of athletics aid for high school, preparatory school and two-year college prospective student-athletes are set forth in Bylaw 15.3.4.1. The standards for cancellation of athletics aid for undergraduate four-year college prospective student-athletes is set forth in Bylaw 15.3.4.1.2.

**Question No. 37:** Is the contact prohibition automatically removed if the head coach departs after the prospective student-athlete signs?

<u>Answer:</u> No. However, a signed prospective student-athlete may request in writing that the institution lift the contact prohibition after a head coach's departure is announced. If the release is granted, other institutions may contact the prospective student-athlete.

<u>Question No. 38</u>: Is the contact prohibition removed if the prospective student-athlete does not attend the institution or delays enrollment?

<u>Answer</u>: The contact prohibition is removed if the prospective student-athlete does not attend class as a full-time student during a regular term of the academic year and is disenrolled pursuant to institutional policy.

<u>Question No. 39</u>: May an institution cancel a prospective student-athlete's athletics aid agreement if it is discovered that the prospective student-athlete signed athletics aid agreements with other institutions?

<u>Answer:</u> The institution may determine whether to cancel athletics aid, provided a condition of Bylaw 15.3.4.1 or 15.3.4.1.2 is met, which, in the case of a high school, preparatory school or two-year college prospective student-athlete, may include voluntary withdrawal from a sport for personal reasons or the violation of a nonathletically related condition outlined in in the financial aid agreement.