



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
POLICY LIBRARY

Division I Revenue Distribution  
Governance Policy

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Policy: Division I Revenue Distribution Governance Policy Number: AS-03 Responsible Executive: Kathleen McNeely, SVP of Administration & CFO	Responsible Office: Administrative Services Originally approved: October 28, 2015 Revised: October 26, 2020 Reviewed: October 26, 2020
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## I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to document the intent, scope, funding, calculation methodology and distribution methodology of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I revenue distribution program. The NCAA distributes a significant portion of its annual revenue, generated by events featuring our student-athletes and member institutions, back to Division I members in the form of revenue distributions. Detailed summaries of each NCAA Division I revenue distribution are included below. The NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee is the administrating authority to address items not presented or clearly stated within this policy and will approve the policy annually.

## II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Division I revenue distribution formula provides a mechanism for sharing the revenue equitably, though not equally, among all Division I member institutions to ensure the distribution benefits the broadest possible segment of the membership. Division I revenue distributions and expenses are based on the following values:

- Academic achievement;
- Athletic excellence;
- Diversity and inclusion;
- Fairness and integrity;
- Health and safety; and
- Student-athlete support and broad-based opportunities.

### Budgeting

The annual increase of all revenue distributions typically mirrors the rate of increase per the NCAA 10-year Financial Model approved by the Board of Governors. The amounts allocated to broad-based and performance-based distributions are always equal. Two-thirds of the broad-based funds are allocated to Grants-in-Aid, while one-third is allocated to Sport Sponsorship. Funding allocations for the remaining funds are not specific other than following the inflationary increases in accordance with the NCAA 10-year Financial Model, with the exception of the Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund which includes the Division I Committee on Infraction fines collected from the prior year. Dollar amounts for each fund are approved annually by the NCAA Board of Governors as part of the Association-wide budget. The Board of Governors may establish or otherwise change distributions from time to time. Amendments to the calculation methodology and/or distribution methodology will also require approval from the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee.

### Disbursements

- Distributions are paid to either individual institutions or conferences as noted in the “Distribution Payee” section in each of the distribution summaries below. In the case of the Sport Sponsorship and Grants-in-Aid, the NCAA will defer to conference by-laws when processing the distributions. By the end of February, conferences are required annually to confirm in writing to the national office if it desires to have its conference distribution(s) sent directly to the conference office, substantiated by its by-laws. If a conference does not confirm in writing, with a copy of its relevant by-law, the national office will disburse the funds directly to the respective institutions.
- Additionally, funds will be sent to the conference of which the institution is a member of at the time of the distribution. The conference is responsible for disbursing the funds appropriately.

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- An institution that is in the one-year membership probation period is eligible for revenue distribution. An institution that is beyond the one-year membership probation period and/or has been placed in restricted membership is not eligible for revenue distribution.
- For-profit institutions are not eligible for the direct disbursement of NCAA revenue distributions, grants or scholarships.
- In the event of a data error submitted by an institution, which results in an under payment, the NCAA will not release additional funds. If a data error results in an over payment, the NCAA will request the funds be returned. Returned funds will be put into the following year's revenue distribution.

## National Office Data Review

NCAA finance staff is not permitted to change submitted data on behalf of institutions or conferences. An evaluation of variances is performed by NCAA finance staff to determine if explanations are reasonable considering the data provided by the institution or conference. If necessary, the institution or conference is contacted for additional explanations. Those organizations are provided an opportunity to adjust the data and re-submit to ensure the integrity of the distributions.

## National Office Communication

In an effort to ensure an effective flow of communication on matters impacting revenue distributions, Finance and Academic and Membership Affairs will meet as a regular step in the annual distribution calculation process to discuss and gain clarification on updates, waivers and clarifications to effectively and efficiently determine impact on the calculations. Academic and Membership Affairs will also provide both approved and declined requests related to sport sponsorship or grants-in-aid to support the impact to an institution's distribution.

## Scope of Distribution Funds

Following is the list of annual distributions that are made to Division I members.

- Basketball Performance Fund.
- Grants-in-Aid Fund (GiA).
- Sport Sponsorship Fund.
- Conference Grants Fund.
- Equal Conference Distribution.
- Special Assistance Fund (SAF).
- Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund (SAOF).
- Academic Enhancement Fund.
- Academic Performance Fund.
- Supplemental Distribution Fund, (when approved annually).

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## Athletic Excellence

### Basketball Performance Fund

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Distribute the financial benefit of the Division I Men's Basketball Championship with the conferences and their respective institutions participating in the Championship. The fund will be awarded for competing in and progressing in the Division I Men's Basketball Championship.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	One unit is awarded to each institution participating in each game of the prior year tournament, except the first unit earned by automatic qualifiers and the championship game. Units earned by each conference within a six-year rolling period are included in the distribution calculation.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	April.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Conference in which units were earned.
<b>Data Set</b>	Applicable years' Division I Men's Basketball Championship completed bracket.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior six years.
<b>Data Source</b>	The NCAA bracketing system will provide the distinction of participants as automatic qualifier or at-large and conference alignment based on the NCAA Membership Database. The NCAA stats system will provide results data to calculate units.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	Finance will request the final bracket from the Championships' stats system and import into the revenue distribution system.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	Automatic qualifying and at-large institutions.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Conference Distribution Calculation: Conference accumulated units multiplied by unit value. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit Value Calculation: Total available funds divided by total accumulated units for the previous six-year period.</li> <li>Accumulated Units: One unit for each institution participating in each game, except the first unit earned by automatic qualifiers and the championship game, for the previous six years.</li> </ul>
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None.

#### Basketball Performance Fund Additional Details:

- A multisport conference is defined as an entity that is comprised of at least seven-member institutions that are classified as active Division I for eight preceding academic years.
- Units are retained by the conference in which they are earned.
- Independent institutions earn unit(s) based on its tournament participation within a six-year rolling period.
- Conference realignment:
  - a. If an institution leaves a conference to join another conference or becomes independent, while the former conference remains in operation, the units previously earned by the institution remain with the former conference.
  - b. If an independent institution joins a conference, it retains the units it earned as an independent prior to the date it elected to join the conference; any units the institution earns after that date accrue to the conference.
  - c. If a conference notifies the NCAA that it has ceased operations each institution retains the units it earned in the basketball performance fund.

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- d. Impact of Division I multi-sport conference status (Bylaw 20.02.5):
- i. During the two-year grace period, a conference will still accrue units and receive revenue distribution.
  - ii. By the end of the two-year grace period, if the conference meets the active Division I multi-sport conference requirements, it will maintain all the unit(s) earned by its member institutions over the six-year rolling period.
  - iii. After the two-year grace period, if the conference still does not meet the active Division I multi-sport conference requirements, the remaining member institutions will retain the unit(s) they have earned. Unit(s) earned by an institution which had previously left the conference will revert to that institution, if it is an Independent, or its new conference.
    - a) In the rare case that such a conference subsequently reconstitutes and meets the Division I multi-sport conference requirements, sometime after the two-year grace period, it will be treated as a new conference, for the purposes of unit accrual and revenue distribution.

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## Student Athlete Support and Opportunity

### Grants-in-Aid

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Provide a financial reward for an institution's investment in athletic aid provided to student-athletes.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	Distribution based on the number of athletic grants awarded (based on full-time equivalencies) in the prior academic year for each active Division I institution. Unit value is determined by the total number of athletic grants awarded by all active Division I institutions as of September 1 of prior year with an escalating multiplier which favors schools that provide more athletic grants.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	May.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Institution.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Current year.
<b>Data Set</b>	Revenue Distribution Equivalencies for each student-athlete as documented on each sport's squad list or its equivalent.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior year.
<b>Data Source</b>	Division I Grants-in-Aid Form as submitted by the institution in the Membership Financial Reporting System. Division I Grants-in-Aid Form can be populated electronically via Compliance Assistant or manually completed from the squad list data or its equivalent. Both methods allow for the institution to review the data prior to submission.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	Prior to submission the Division I Grants-in-Aid Form requires an explanation if the year over year change is greater than or less than four percent. NCAA finance staff evaluates variances to determine if explanations are reasonable considering the data and contacts the institution as appropriate.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	A newly active Division I institution shall qualify to begin receiving revenue distributions related to Grants-in-Aid after its third academic year as an active Division I member (Bylaw 20.5.3). The broad-based calculations are based on prior year information, which, in this case, would be the institution's second active year as a Division I institution.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	GiA Calculations (see example chart below): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Point Value - Escalating grant multiplier for GiA Revenue Distribution multiplied by the grant equivalencies for the institution.</li> <li>• Unit Value – total amount of fund divided by the total point value for all Division I institutions.</li> <li>• GiA Distribution per Institution – institution's total point value multiplied by the unit value.</li> </ul>
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None.

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## Grants-in-Aid Additional Details:

- The unit value will be determined by the total number of athletic grant equivalencies awarded by all Division I institutions.

### EXAMPLE:

Grant Multiplier			Grant Equivalents	Total Point Value	Unit Value	GiA Distribution per Institution
1-50		1	50	50	\$300.00	\$ 15,000
51-100		2	50	100	\$300.00	\$ 30,000
101-150		10	50	500	\$300.00	\$150,000
150+		20	40	800	\$300.00	\$240,000
			<b>190</b>	<b>1,450</b>		<b>\$435,000</b>

- Data Set:
  - a. The Grants-in-Aid data is based on prior academic year and drawn from the Membership Financial Reporting System (FRS) submitted by each institution. Grants-in-Aid is calculated by using the revenue distribution equivalencies by sport and in aggregate. (Athletic Grant Amount divided by the Full Grant Amount).
  - b. Other Expenses Related to Attendance (also known as cost of attendance) should not be included in the Grants-in-Aid Revenue Distribution equivalencies. Only tuition, fees, room, board and required course related books are countable for Grants-in-Aid Revenue Distribution per Bylaw 20.02.7.
  - c. Full grant amount should be entered as a full year of tuition, not semester or quarter.
  - d. Student-athletes are to be counted once and should not receive a revenue distribution equivalency greater than 1.00.
  - e. Athletic grants are valid for revenue distribution purposes only in sports in which the NCAA conducts championships competition, emerging sports for women and bowl subdivision football.
  - f. Grants-in-Aid are valid for revenue distribution purposes in NCAA sports that do not meet the minimum contests and participants' requirement of Bylaw 20.9.6.3.
  - g. Institutions providing grants to student-athletes listed on the squad list or its equivalent as "Exhausted eligibility (fifth-year)" or "Medical" receive credit in the Grants-in-Aid component.
  - h. The athletic aid equivalency cannot exceed maximum equivalency limits. However, the total revenue distribution equivalency can exceed maximum equivalency limits due to the additional Exhausted Eligibility and Medical equivalencies (reference Bylaw 15.5.3.1).
  - i. If a sport is discontinued and the athletic grant(s) are still being honored by the institution, the grant(s) should be included in student-athlete aid for revenue distribution purposes.

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## Sport Sponsorship

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Financial reward for each active Division I institution based on the number of sports sponsored, beginning with the 14th sport (minimum requirement for membership in Division I).
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	Unit value is determined by the total number of sports sponsored beginning with the 14th sport by all active Division I institutions as of September 1 of prior year.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	May.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Institution.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Current year.
<b>Data Set</b>	Number of sports sponsored from the prior academic year by an institution that meet the NCAA minimum contest and participant requirements.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior year.
<b>Data Source</b>	Revenue Distribution Form for Division I Sport Sponsorship as submitted by the institution in the Membership Financial Reporting System.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	The sport sponsorship data submitted is compared to the Membership Database; any variances are then compared to the sport sponsorship demographic form. NCAA finance staff evaluates variances to determine if explanations are reasonable considering the data and contacts the institution as appropriate.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	A newly active Division I institution shall qualify to begin receiving revenue distributions related to Sport Sponsorship after its third academic year as an active Division I member (Bylaw 20.5.3). The broad-based calculations are based on prior year information, which, in this case, would be the institution's second active year as a Division I institution.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Total available funds divided by total number of sports sponsored beginning with the 14th sport for all Division I institutions (for example: an institution sponsoring 15 sports will receive 2 units).
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None.

### Sports Sponsorship Additional Details:

- Only sports in which the NCAA conducts championships competition, bowl subdivision football and emerging sports for women, which meet the minimum contests and participant requirements of Bylaw 20.9.6.3, are valid for revenue distribution purposes.
- An institution that does not meet NCAA Division I sports-sponsorship minimum requirements will not receive Sports Sponsorship funds even if the institution receives a waiver of the sports sponsorship requirements. Waivers of the sports sponsorship requirements in NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3.10 were established to provide relief for institutions that do not meet the Division I requirements due to extenuating circumstances. Revenue distribution is based on sports sponsorship to reward institutions for sponsoring a higher number of varsity sports.

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## Conference Grants

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Maintain, enhance or implement programs and services related to officiating for all sports and other identified initiatives.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	Equally among active Division I conferences as of September 1 of the prior year, less an agreed upon amount that will be allocated to the regional officiating advisors program.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	June.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	N/A.
<b>Data Set</b>	Active Division I conferences per the NCAA Membership Database.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Current year.
<b>Data Source</b>	NCAA Membership Database.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	Total conference count is compared to Membership Status Reports prepared by NCAA Research staff, located on the NCAA intranet.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	Division I men's and women's basketball-playing conferences that employ a full-time administrator and are eligible for automatic qualification into the Division I men's and women's basketball championships.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Total available funds minus Regional Officiating Advisory Program funding divided by eligible Division I conferences as of September 1 of prior year.
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	Must be spent within the identified categories and proportionally on men's and women's programs annually.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	NCAA Revenue Distribution Report of Uses Form (in Revenue Distribution System) - Annual report of uses form from conference identifying expenditures in each of the identified initiative areas. Conferences are also required to complete an Officiating Certification Form.

### Conference Grants Additional Details:

- The funds should be used to maintain programs and services in the following categories (detailed outline of each is attached):
  - Men's and women's officiating improvement;
  - Gambling education and compliance;
  - Drug education;
  - Enhancement of opportunities for ethnic minorities;
  - Enhancement of opportunities for women;
  - Enhance diversity and inclusion efforts; and
  - Enhance health and safety of student-athletes, coaches and administrators (including mental health).
- Independent institutions are not eligible for distributions from the Conference Grant fund.

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## Equal Conference Distribution

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Distribute the financial benefit of the Division I Men's Basketball Championship with the conferences and their respective institutions participating in the championship. An equal distribution for each of the 32 conferences with automatic qualifier status will be awarded for competing in the Division I Men's Basketball Championship.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	One unit is awarded equally to each active basketball-playing conference for automatically qualifying for the Division I Men's Basketball Championship within a six-year rolling period.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	April.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	NA
<b>Data Set</b>	Active Division I conferences per the NCAA Membership Database.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior academic year.
<b>Data Source</b>	The NCAA bracketing system will provide the automatic qualifying participants and conference alignment.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	The import from the NCAA bracketing system is compared to documents provided by NCAA statistics staff to verify the automatic qualifying participants and conference alignment.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	Active Division I men's basketball-playing conferences.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Total available funds divided by eligible automatic qualifying Division I conferences participating in the last six tournaments.
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None.

### Equal Conference Additional Details:

- A multisport conference is defined as an entity that is comprised of at least seven-member institutions that are classified as active Division I for eight preceding academic years.
- Automatic qualifier status for basketball is determined by Bylaw 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.5.
- Independent institutions are not eligible for distributions from the Equal Conference Distribution fund.
- Conference realignment:
  - a. A new Division I multi-sport conference in year one would receive one-sixth of the amount of the distribution; in year two one third; in year three half, and so forth until the full value of the conference distribution is provided in year six and beyond.
  - b. If a conference notifies the NCAA that it has ceased operations no revenue will be distributed to that entity.
  - c. Impact of Division I multi-sport conference status (Bylaw 20.02.5):
    - i. During the two-year grace period, a conference will still accrue units and receive revenue distribution.
    - ii. By the end of the two-year grace period, if the conference meets the active Division I multi-sport conference requirements, it will maintain all the unit(s) earned by its member institutions over the six-year rolling period.
    - iii. After the two-year grace period, if the conference still does not meet the active Division I multi-sport conference requirements, units previously earned over the six-year rolling period by the automatic qualifier(s) for conference will be transferred to the Basketball Performance Fund as at-large units and be distributed to the institution that earned the unit(s).

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- a) In the rare case that such a conference subsequently reconstitutes and meets the Division I multi-sport conference requirements, sometime after the two-year grace period, it will be treated as a new conference, for the purposes of unit accrual and revenue distribution.

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## Special Assistance Fund (SAF)

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Offer direct benefits to student-athletes and their families at the conference's discretion.															
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	Student-athlete Pell grant portion based on prior academic year submitted data and current year’s submissions related to Grants-in-Aid and Sport Sponsorship.															
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	June.															
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.															
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Current year.															
<b>Data Set</b>	Number of Pell grants awarded to all student-athletes and data previously received from the institution related to Grants-in-Aid and Sport Sponsorship.															
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior year.															
<b>Data Source</b>	Revenue Distribution Form for Division I Pell Grants as submitted by the institution in the Membership Financial Reporting System.															
<b>Data Review Process</b>	The Pell grant data submitted is compared to prior year Pell grant data; any variances greater than or less than 25 are researched by following-up with the institution and conference. Grants-in-Aid and Sport Sponsorship submissions are previously reviewed through the specified revenue distribution.															
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	A newly active Division I institution will receive the student-athlete Pell grant portion in its first academic year. Newly active Division I institutions shall qualify to begin receiving revenue distributions related to Grants-in-Aid and Sports Sponsorship after its third academic year as an active Division I member (Bylaw 20.5.3). The broad-based calculations are based on prior year information, which, in this case, would be the institution’s second active year as a Division I institution.															
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	<table><tr><td></td><td><u>Year of data:</u></td><td><u>% of allocation:</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Three components of the calculation:</u></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>1. Number of Pell grants by institution</td><td>prior year</td><td>70%</td></tr><tr><td>2. Number of sports sponsored by institution</td><td>prior year</td><td>15%</td></tr><tr><td>3. Number of GiA equivalencies by institution</td><td>prior year</td><td>15%</td></tr></table>		<u>Year of data:</u>	<u>% of allocation:</u>	<u>Three components of the calculation:</u>			1. Number of Pell grants by institution	prior year	70%	2. Number of sports sponsored by institution	prior year	15%	3. Number of GiA equivalencies by institution	prior year	15%
	<u>Year of data:</u>	<u>% of allocation:</u>														
<u>Three components of the calculation:</u>																
1. Number of Pell grants by institution	prior year	70%														
2. Number of sports sponsored by institution	prior year	15%														
3. Number of GiA equivalencies by institution	prior year	15%														
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	See Special Assistance Fund Additional Details.															
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	NCAA Revenue Distribution Report of Uses Form (in Revenue Distribution System) - Annual report from institution to conference and conference will submit to the NCAA on how the funds are used to offer direct benefits to student-athletes and their families.															

### Special Assistance Fund (SAF) Additional Details:

- SAF has three components to the calculation; student-athlete Pell grants, Grants-in-Aid equivalencies and total number of sports sponsored which are based on current year submissions capturing prior academic year data.
- The guiding principles of the fund are to meet the student-athletes' needs of an emergency or essential nature for which financial assistance otherwise is not available in conjunction with participation in intercollegiate athletics, enrollment in an academic curriculum or to recognize academic

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achievement. Accordingly, the receipt of SAF shall not be included in determining the permissible amount of financial aid that a member institution may award to a student-athlete. Further, the fund should not be used to replace existing budget items.

- Division I student-athletes are eligible to receive SAF benefits, including international, regardless of whether they are Grant-in-Aid recipients, have demonstrated need, have either exhausted eligibility or no longer participate due to medical reasons. However, no prospective student-athlete shall be eligible to receive SAF funds.
- Only sports in which the NCAA conducts championships competition, bowl subdivision football and emerging sports for women, which meet the minimum contests and participant requirements of Bylaw 20.9.6.3, are valid for revenue distribution purposes.
- Only student-athletes are countable for the Pell Grant submission (omit practice players).
- Student-athletes should only be counted once on the Pell Grant submission.
- Only Pell Grants that have been awarded are countable for the Pell Grant submission (full, semester, summer).
- Pursuant to NCAA Bylaw 15.01.6.1, member institutions and conferences shall not use SAF for the following:
  - a. Salaries and Benefits;
  - b. Tuition and fees, room and board, and required course-related books during a regular term (other than summer school) for student-athletes with remaining eligibility;
  - c. Capital improvements;
  - d. Stipends;
  - e. Competition related travel expenses for an ineligible student-athlete; and
  - f. Outside athletic development opportunities for current student-athletes with remaining eligibility, such as:
    - i. Fees and other expenses associated with participation in a sports camp or clinic;
    - ii. Fees and other expenses associated with private sports-related instruction;
    - iii. Fees for other athletic development experiences (e.g., greens fees, batting cage rental); or
    - iv. Expenses associated participation in a foreign tour.
- The responsibility for oversight and administration of the fund, including interpretations, rests solely with the conferences. The Division I Board of Directors establishes the guiding principles of the fund.
- A conference may accumulate no more than the total allocation received over the previous two years. The succeeding allocation will be forfeited if that amount is exceeded. Independent institution's funds have been assigned to a conference office for administration based on the same assignment made for administration of the National Letter of Intent in coordination with the conference confirmations received by the NCAA regarding conference alignment for the current academic year.
- Conferences will be required to report annually, to the NCAA national office, the dollars spent from this fund in accordance with conference guidelines.
- Institutions are required to report Pell grant information for the prior academic year which will be used in the calculation of the SAF distribution.
- An institution that does not meet legislated (Bylaw 20.9.6.3) NCAA Division I sports-sponsorship minimum requirements will not receive SAF attributable to the Sports Sponsorship component of the distribution even if the institution received a waiver of the sports-sponsorship requirements. Regardless of the number of sports sponsored, an institution will receive a value of zero when minimum sports sponsorship requirements are not met. This exclusion does not impact the Grants-in-Aid portion of the SAF.
- Independent institutions are eligible to receive the SAF and are responsible to submit a report of uses to the national office.

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*Confidential and proprietary – not to be distributed without written NCAA authority.*

## Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund (SAOF)

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Offer direct benefits to student-athletes and their families at the conference's discretion.									
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	Grants-in-Aid and Sport Sponsorship (broad-based distributions) portion based on the current year’s submission and methodology.									
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	June.									
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.									
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Current year.									
<b>Data Set</b>	Data previously received from the institution related to GiA and Sport Sponsorship.									
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior year (GiA and Sport Sponsorship).									
<b>Data Source</b>	GiA and Sport Sponsorship data from the most recent distribution of those funds.									
<b>Data Review Process</b>	GiA and Sport Sponsorship submissions are previously reviewed through the specified revenue distribution.									
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	A newly active Division I institution shall qualify to begin receiving revenue distributions related to Grants-in-Aid and Sports Sponsorship after its third academic year as an active Division I member (Bylaw 20.5.3). The broad-based calculations are based on prior year information, which, in this case, would be the institution’s second active year as a Division I institution.									
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	<table><tr><td><u>Two components of the calculation:</u></td><td><u>Year of data:</u></td><td><u>% of allocation:</u></td></tr><tr><td>Number of Grant-in-Aid points</td><td>prior year</td><td>66.6%</td></tr><tr><td>Number of sports sponsored in excess of 13</td><td>prior year</td><td>33.3%</td></tr></table>	<u>Two components of the calculation:</u>	<u>Year of data:</u>	<u>% of allocation:</u>	Number of Grant-in-Aid points	prior year	66.6%	Number of sports sponsored in excess of 13	prior year	33.3%
<u>Two components of the calculation:</u>	<u>Year of data:</u>	<u>% of allocation:</u>								
Number of Grant-in-Aid points	prior year	66.6%								
Number of sports sponsored in excess of 13	prior year	33.3%								
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	See Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund Additional Details.									
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	NCAA Revenue Distribution Report of Uses Form (in Revenue Distribution System) - Annual report from institution to conference on how the funds are used to offer direct benefits to student-athletes and their families.									

### Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund (SAOF) Additional Details:

- SAOF has two components to the calculation the Grants-in-Aid and Sport Sponsorship (broad-based distributions), which are based on the current year's submission and methodology.
- The guiding principles of the fund are to meet the student-athletes' needs of an emergency or essential nature for which financial assistance otherwise is not available in conjunction with participation in intercollegiate athletics, enrollment in an academic curriculum or to recognize academic achievement. Accordingly, the receipt of SAOF shall not be included in determining the permissible amount of financial aid that a member institution may award to a student-athlete. Further, the fund should not be used to replace existing budget items.
- Division I student-athletes are eligible to receive SAOF benefits, including international, regardless of whether they are Grant-in-Aid recipients, have demonstrated need, have either exhausted eligibility or no longer participate due to medical reasons. However, no prospective student-athlete shall be eligible to receive SAOF funds.

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- Pursuant to NCAA Bylaw 15.01.6.1, member institutions and conferences shall not use SAOF for the following:
  - a. Salaries and Benefits;
  - b. Tuition and fees, room and board, and required course-related books during a regular term (other than summer school) for student-athletes with remaining eligibility;
  - c. Capital improvements;
  - d. Stipends;
  - e. Competition related travel expenses for an ineligible student-athlete; and
  - f. Outside athletic development opportunities for current student-athletes with remaining eligibility, such as:
    - i. Fees and other expenses associated with participation in a sports camp or clinic;
    - ii. Fees and other expenses associated with private sports-related instruction;
    - iii. Fees for other athletic development experiences (e.g., greens fees, batting cage rental); or
    - iv. Expenses associated participation in a foreign tour.
- The responsibility for oversight and administration of the fund, including interpretations, rests solely with the conferences. The Division I Board of Directors establishes the guiding principles of the fund.
- A conference may accumulate no more than the total allocation received over the previous two years. The succeeding allocation will be forfeited if that amount is exceeded. Independent institution's funds have been assigned to a conference office for administration based on the same assignment made for administration of the National Letter of Intent in coordination with the conference confirmations received by the NCAA regarding conference alignment for the current academic year.
- An institution that does not meet the legislated (Bylaw 20.9.6.3) NCAA Division I sports-sponsorship minimum requirements will not receive SAOF attributable to the Sports Sponsorship component of the distribution even if the institution received a waiver of the sports-sponsorship requirements. This is consistent with calculation methodology for the Sport Sponsorship Revenue Distribution. This exclusion does not impact the Grants-in-Aid portion of the SAOF.
- Independent institutions are eligible to receive the SAOF and are responsible to submit a report of uses to the national office.

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## Academic Achievement

### Academic Enhancement Fund

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Enhancement of academic support programs for student-athletes at Division I institutions.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	Equally among active Division I institutions as of September 1 of the prior calendar year.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	June.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Current year.
<b>Data Set</b>	Active Division I members as of September 1 of the prior calendar year.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Current year.
<b>Data Source</b>	NCAA Membership Database.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	Total institution count is compared to Membership Status Reports prepared by Academic and Membership Affairs staff, located on the NCAA intranet.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	Conferences will receive an equal allocation for any newly active Division I institution in the institution's first year of active status.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Total available funds divided by Division I institutions active as of September 1 of prior calendar year.
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	See list in Appendix.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	NCAA Revenue Distribution Report of Uses Form (in Revenue Distribution System) - Annual report from institution to conference on how the funds are used to enhance their academic programs and services for student-athletes from the prior academic year. Conference submits completed reports on behalf of its members.

#### Academic Enhancement Additional Details:

- An institution may accumulate no more than the total allocation received over the previous two years. The succeeding allocation will be forfeited if that amount is exceeded. Independent institution's funds have been assigned to a conference office for administration based on the same assignment made for administration of the National Letter of Intent.
- Academic Enhancements Funds are to be spent in the areas detailed below. Institutions are required to report to the conference on how the funds are used to enhance their academic programs and services for student-athletes. Once the data has been reviewed, the conference will submit the completed reports on behalf of its members.
- Independent institutions are eligible to receive the Academic Enhancement Fund and are responsible to submit a report of uses to the national office
- Allowable Uses for Academic Enhancement:
  - Summer school;
  - Fifth or sixth year aid;
  - Tutoring;
  - International student fees and taxes;
  - Professional program testing;
  - Supplies (expendable or educational);
  - Champs/Life skills/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;
  - Other educational expenses;

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- Insurance premiums for student-athletes;
- Medical, dental or vision expenses for student-athletes (not covered by another insurance program for student-athletes), including mental health;
- Other health and safety expenses, including fueling stations and nutritional education;
- Clothing;
- Travel;
- Other personal or family expenses;
- Other expenses related to attendance (e.g., cost of attendance);
- Academic achievement or graduation award;
- Academic support services;
- Academic personnel salaries and benefits;
- Capital improvements/equipment; and
- Other academic or programming expenses, including diversity and inclusion.

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## Academic Performance Fund

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Provide a financial incentive based on the academic success of an institution's athletics teams, measured by meeting one of three academic standards, Academic Progress Rate (APR), Graduation Success Rate (GSR) or Federal Graduation Rate (FGR).
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	One unit is awarded to a conference for each of its institutions that meet the established criteria.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	June.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Conference.
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Year of the distribution.
<b>Data Set</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCAA Division I APR;</li> <li>• GSR; and</li> <li>• FGR.</li> </ul>
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Most recently reported.
<b>Data Source</b>	Academic Portal.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	Based on the established academic criteria, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs staff, with the assistance from the research department will provide the list of qualifying institutions to the finance department. All data changes will be made in accordance with established Committee on Academics policies and procedures.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	<p>An institution must meet one of the following criteria to be eligible for a distribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institution's GSR for the most recently available year is equal to or greater than 90 percent;</li> <li>• Difference between the institution's student-athlete and student-body rates for the most recently published FGR is greater than or equal to 13 percentage points; or</li> <li>• Institution's NCAA Division I APR for the previous year is equal to or greater than 985.</li> </ul> <p>The Division I Committee on Academics maintains and reviews the eligibility criteria.</p>
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Total available funds divided by eligible Division I institutions active as of September 1 of prior calendar year.
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None.

### Academic Performance Fund Additional Details:

- The fund will be sent directly to the conference to be distributed according to each conference's bylaws and/or policies. Independent institutions will receive funds directly.
- A list of qualifying institutions will not be published.
- The Division I Committee on Academics will manage and the Division I Board of Directors will provide oversight of the academic metrics and benchmarks upon which the distribution eligibility is based.
- Finance staff will not accept changes to data submissions after June 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## Supplemental Distribution

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	Distribute a portion of the Association's fiscal year operating surplus in an equitable manner to active Division I institutions and conferences, if and as approved by the Board of Governors after the close of a fiscal year.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	One-half of the distribution is weighted in accordance with the broad-based revenue distribution formula, while the other half is based on the Basketball Performance Fund and the Equal Conference Fund allocated based on the number of units available in the two funds combined. The broad-based portion is allocated as follows: Two-thirds of the broad-based portion would be distributed based on the Grants-in-Aid distribution, while one-third would be distributed based on Sport Sponsorship for active Division I institutions.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	February. (if approval is obtained from the Board of Governors, per the review of the prior fiscal year financials).
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Institutions (Grants-in-Aid and Sport Sponsorship) and Conferences (Basketball Performance and Equal Conference).
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Current year.
<b>Data Set</b>	Prior year distributions for Grants-in-Aid, Sport Sponsorship and Basketball Performance and Equal Conference.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Prior year (Basketball Performance and Equal Conference) and two-prior years (GiA and Sport Sponsorship).
<b>Data Source</b>	NCAA Revenue Distribution System. See respective summary for Data Source for each Normal Distribution.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	Data previously reviewed through Normal Distribution.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	Prior year distribution for Grants-in-Aid, Sport Sponsorship and Basketball Performance and Equal Conference.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	<p>Two Equal Components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50% of the Total Available Funds: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basketball Performance Calculation: Conference accumulated units multiplied by unit value. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit Value Calculation: Total available funds divided by total accumulated units for the previous six-year period.</li> <li>Accumulated Units: One unit for each institution participating in each game, except the first unit earned by automatic qualifiers and the championship game, for the previous six years</li> </ul> </li> <li>Equal Conference Calculation: Total available funds divided by eligible automatic qualifying Division I conferences participating in the last six years.</li> </ol> </li> <li>50% of the Total Available Fund: <p>Two-thirds distributed based the Grants-in-Aid distribution and one-third distributed based Sport Sponsorship.</p> </li> </ol>
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	None.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None.

### Supplemental Distribution Additional Details:

- Funds for this distribution would be available only if revenues exceed expenses in the prior fiscal year for the NCAA.
- Supplemental distributions can vary from year to year and are not guaranteed.

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## IV. WEB ADDRESS FOR THIS POLICY

<https://ncaa.sharepoint.com/policies/Policies/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

## V. CONTACTS

Subject matter	Office name	Telephone number
Policy clarification and interpretation	Administrative Services	317/917-6508

## VI. DEFINITIONS

<b>Purpose of Distribution</b>	The objective or desired outcome of the funds being distributed.
<b>Basis of Distribution</b>	The basic unit of measure for the distribution.
<b>Distribution Timing</b>	When the distribution is sent.
<b>Distribution Payee</b>	Default recipient of distribution funds (either institution or conference).
<b>Conference Alignment</b>	Applicable year of conference membership used in the calculation or disbursement of funds.
<b>Data Set</b>	The data that will be used to calculate the distribution and how it is collected.
<b>Academic Year Data</b>	Applicable year for the corresponding Data Set.
<b>Data Source</b>	The source of data that the distribution is calculated.
<b>Data Review Process</b>	The extent to which the NCAA assesses reasonableness and consistency of the Data Set. The NCAA finance staff does not validate, audit or alter submissions from institutions or conferences.
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	Specific eligibility criteria for receiving distribution funds, as applicable.
<b>Calculation Specifics</b>	Formula for calculating distribution amounts.
<b>Restrictions on Fund Usage</b>	Any restrictions on how distributed dollars can be used.
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	Any reports required on how the funds are spent.
<b>Prior year</b>	The academic or fiscal year immediately previous to the academic or fiscal year currently in progress.
<b>Current year</b>	The academic or fiscal year currently in progress.
<b>Upcoming year</b>	The academic or fiscal year immediately following the academic or fiscal year currently in progress.
<b>Independent Institution</b>	An institution that does not have a multisport conference affiliation.

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