



**NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT
AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION PROCESS GUIDELINES**

- Certification conditions are assessed for each violation that occurs, so if an individual is involved in multiple violations, certification conditions may be imposed for each violation.
- Prospective student-athlete includes any individual who is subject to review by the NCAA amateurism certification staff.
- The NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement noted that the NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff should continue to review factors that may increase or decrease the certification conditions.

Agent Violations

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. PSA signed an agreement with an agent or an agreement indicating that an individual will represent him or her.	Eligibility not reinstated. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (Affirmed May 2018), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>
2. PSA or family member accepted benefit(s) from an agent valued at \$100 or less.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of the impermissible benefit(s) received and a 10-percent withholding condition. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008)</i>
3. PSA or family member accepted benefit(s) from an agent greater than \$100 to \$300.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of the impermissible benefits received and a 20-percent withholding condition. <i>(December 2010)</i>
4. PSA or family member accepted benefit(s) from an agent greater than \$300 to \$500.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of the impermissible benefit(s) received and a 30-percent withholding condition. <i>(December 2010)</i>

Agent Violations, cont.

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
5. PSA or family member accepted benefit(s) from an agent greater than \$500 to \$1,000.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of the impermissible benefit(s) received and a 50-percent withholding condition. <i>(December 2010)</i>
6. PSA or family member accepted benefit(s) from an agent greater than \$1,000.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of the impermissible benefit(s) received, and a minimum withholding condition should be sit-a-season, charge-a-season up to permanent ineligibility. <i>(December 2010)</i>
7. PSA signed an agreement with a talent evaluation service or agent that is conditioned on the service or agent securing an athletics scholarship for the PSA. <i>*Effective for all PSAs enrolling full time prior to August 1, 2018.</i>	Eligibility reinstated based on a 10-percent withholding condition. <i>(December 2007), (December 2011)</i>
8. PSA signed an agreement with a talent evaluation service or agent which permits the talent evaluation service or agent to represent the PSA for placement in a collegiate institution as a recipient of institutional financial aid. <i>*Effective for all PSAs enrolling full time on or after August 1, 2018.</i>	Eligibility reinstated based on a 10-percent withholding condition. <i>(December 2007), (December 2011), (updated May 2017)</i>

Agreement/Contract Penalties

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
<p>1. PSA signed an agreement or contract to participate on a team where there is no indication in agreement that individual is a professional (word professional is not used in contract); and there is no indication PSA will be paid for his or her participation on the team. Contract may explicitly say individual is an amateur or may just not designate that PSA is professional or being paid. Further, signed agreement or contract was only while PSA was enrolled in high school and specifically identifies an educational nexus within the agreement or contract.</p>	<p>Eligibility reinstated based on a 20-percent withholding condition. *^{1, 2}</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(December 2011)</i></p>
<p>2. PSA signed an agreement or contract to participate on a team where there is no indication in agreement that individual is a professional (word professional is not used in contract); and there is no indication PSA will be paid for his or her participation on the team. Contract may explicitly say individual is an amateur or may just not designate that PSA is professional or being paid. PSA is under agreement or contract subsequent to high school expected graduation date or PSA is enrolled in high school, but the agreement or contract does not specifically identify an educational nexus.</p>	<p>Eligibility reinstated based on a sit-a-season, charge-a-season withholding condition. *^{1, 2, 3}</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2010), (December 2011)</i></p>

Agreement/Contract Penalties, cont.

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
3. PSA signed an agreement or contract to participate on a team where the contract indicates it is a professional contract (e.g., contract indicates team is professional or uses word professional).	Eligibility not reinstated. *1, 2, 3 <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (December 2011)</i>
4. PSA signed an agreement or contract that provides for the receipt of money above expenses (including, but not limited to salary, bonuses and stipends).	Eligibility not reinstated. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008)</i>
5. PSA participated in at least one event where he or she indicated he or she was competing as a professional (e.g., tennis event or golf event).	Eligibility reinstated based on a withholding condition of sit-a-season, charge-a-season up to eligibility not reinstated. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2012), (Updated May 2016)</i>

*12/1/11 – Certification condition will only be in effect for (1) men's and women's skiing PSAs; (2) men's ice hockey PSAs; and (3) transfer PSAs in any sport who initially enrolled at any non-NCAA collegiate institution during the 2010-11 academic year or thereafter; and participated in the violation subsequent to enrollment at the non-NCAA institution.

Competition With Professionals – Men's and Women's Skiing and Men's Ice Hockey

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. Prospective student-athlete competed on a team that met NCAA definition of professional while in high school (prior to first opportunity to enroll at a collegiate institution).	Eligibility reinstated based on a one-for-one contest withholding condition for every competition with professionals, not to exceed the equivalent of an NCAA season. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2010), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>
2. PSA competed on a team that met NCAA definition of professional after first opportunity to enroll at a collegiate institution.	Eligibility reinstated based on a two-for-one contest withholding condition for every competition with professionals. This penalty can exceed equivalent of an NCAA season. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2010), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>
3. PSA competed on a team that met NCAA definition of professional as a result of professional player "playing down" on an otherwise amateur team as determined by the NCAA Eligibility Center amateurism certification staff.	Eligibility reinstated based on a one-for-one contest withholding condition for every competition with professionals. This penalty can exceed equivalent of an NCAA season. <i>(December 2014), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>

Competition With Professionals – Sports Other Than Men's and Women's Skiing and Men's Ice Hockey

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. PSA competed on a team that met NCAA definition of professional during applicable sport's legislated delayed enrollment grace period. ¹	Eligibility reinstated. <i>(December 2016), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>
2. PSA competed on a team that met NCAA definition of professional subsequent to applicable sport's legislated delayed enrollment grace period. (This includes competition with professionals as a result of professional player "playing down" on an otherwise amateur team as determined by the NCAA Eligibility Center amateurism certification staff.).	Eligibility reinstated based on a one-for-one withholding condition for every competition with professionals. This penalty can exceed equivalent of an NCAA season. <i>(December 2016), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>

¹ Bylaw 12.8.3.2.1 (Sports Other Than Men's Ice Hockey, Skiing, and Tennis) and Bylaw 12.8.3.2.2 (Tennis).

Expenses From an Outside Sponsor

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. Prior to initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA institution PSA received impermissible actual and necessary expenses for an event(s) from an outside sponsor totaling \$3,500 or less.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of the impermissible expenses received. <i>(May 2008), (June 2009), (May 2013), (updated May 2016)</i>
2. Prior to initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA institution PSA received impermissible actual and necessary expenses for an event(s) from an outside sponsor totaling greater than \$3,500.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of the impermissible expenses received and case-by-case analysis to determine if a withholding condition is appropriate. <i>(May 2008), (June 2009), (May 2013), (updated May 2016)</i>

Prize Money Penalties

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. Prize money accepted by PSA above expenses for totality of career (i.e., profited from sport; accepted money above totality of all expenses).	Eligibility is not reinstated. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2013)</i>
2. Prior to initial-collegiate enrollment PSA received prize money that exceeds calendar year or season expenses by greater than \$300; however, career prize money received was less than career expenses.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of impermissible prize money received greater than \$300 above expenses and withholding based on that same dollar-value: \$500 or less = no withholding. Greater than \$500 to \$700 = 10 percent withholding. Greater than \$700 to \$1,000 = 20 percent withholding. Greater than \$1,000 = 30 percent withholding. <i>(May 2013), (May 2014)</i>
3. Prize money forwarded by PSA to federation or national team and PSA is able to demonstrate that money is not earmarked for PSA (i.e., money goes into general account). PSA must demonstrate that he or she did not receive permissible expenses from federation or national team contingent on or in any way connected to an obligation to forward prize money.	Eligibility reinstated. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008)</i>
4. Prize money forwarded by PSA to federation and earmarked for PSA; or if money is forwarded to another individual.	Eligibility not reinstated. If mitigation is present, amateurism certification staff can forward to student-athlete reinstatement staff to be considered. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008)</i>

Receipt of Money from Professional Team

Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. Money provided to PSA above the value of expenses (e.g., salary).	Eligibility not reinstated. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (Affirmed December 2018)</i>
2. PSA received expenses from professional team in the form of payments (e.g., stipend, bonus, incentive) and value did not exceed actual and necessary expenses associated with practice and competition.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of the impermissible expenses received and withholding based on the dollar amount. * ^{1, 2, 3} \$500 or less = no withholding. Greater than \$500 to \$700 = 10 percent withholding. Greater than \$700 to \$1,000 = 20 percent withholding. Greater than \$1,000 = 30 percent withholding. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2010), (May 2012)</i>
3. PSA received expenses from professional team not in form of payments (e.g., meals paid for, bus rides).	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of the impermissible expenses received. * ^{1, 2, 3} <i>(June 2006), (May 2008), (May 2010)</i>
4. Educational expenses received by PSA from professional team.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of the impermissible expenses received. <i>(June 2006), (May 2008)</i>

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Preferential Treatment

Guidelines for violations involving prospective student-athletes occurring April 14, 2017, through November 19, 2019	
Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. PSA received preferential treatment valued from \$200 to \$500.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s).
2. PSA received preferential treatment valued at greater than \$500 to \$700.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s) and a 10% withholding condition.
3. PSA received preferential treatment valued at greater than \$700 to \$1,000.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s) and a 20% withholding condition.
4. PSA received preferential treatment valued at greater than \$1,000.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s) and a 30% withholding condition.

Preferential Treatment, cont.

Guidelines for violations involving prospective student-athletes on or after November 20, 2019	
Description of Violation	Certification Condition
1. PSA received preferential treatment valued from \$200 to \$500.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s).
2. PSA received preferential treatment valued at greater than \$500 to \$800.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s) and a 10% withholding condition.
3. PSA received preferential treatment valued at greater than \$800 to \$1,100.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s) and a 20% withholding condition.
4. PSA received preferential treatment valued at greater than \$1,100.	Eligibility reinstated based on repayment of value of impermissible benefit(s) and a 30% withholding condition.

Other violations involving tangible benefits (except for benefits from an agent). The committee confirmed that the culpability of the prospective student-athlete should be assessed regardless of the bylaw in question (e.g., Bylaw 13). The same dollar-figure guidelines should be the starting point in these cases as well. *(April 2004)*

The committee noted the reinstatement staff should continue to review the factors that may increase or decrease the prospective student-athlete's culpability in these violations and indicated that in situations where a prospective student-athlete clearly has a responsibility for a violation and knowingly commits a violation of NCAA regulations, a significant withholding condition should be imposed. *(December 2000, updated May 2007)*