



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE
JUNE 13, 2019, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Item.

- **Noncontroversial Legislation – NCAA Bylaw 14.3.1.6.4 – Eligibility – Freshman Academic Requirements – Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition – Nonqualifier – Seasons of Competition.**
 - (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to eliminate Bylaw 14.3.1.6.4 (season of competition – nonqualifier).
 - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2019, for student-athletes enrolling in an NCAA Division II institution on or after August 1, 2019.
 - (3) Rationale. Current legislation stipulates that a student-athlete who is a nonqualifier and who has exhausted three seasons of competition at an NCAA Division I institution shall be eligible for a fourth season following a transfer to a Division II institution, provided the student-athlete has completed the Division I progress-toward-degree requirements to earn a fourth season of competition. Because such student-athletes must meet the Division I requirements, as well as the additional Division II requirements under Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception) for a student-athlete with only one season remaining, Bylaw 14.3.1.6.4 (seasons of competition – nonqualifier) is unnecessary.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **Degree-Completion Program Requirements – Number of Credit Hours Remaining for Completion of Undergraduate Degree.**
 - a. Recommendation. Increase the maximum number of credit hours that a student-athlete may have remaining to complete an undergraduate degree and be eligible for a degree-completion award from 32 semester hours (48 quarter hours) to 36 semester hours (54 quarter hours).
 - b. Effective Date. September 1, 2019.

- c. Rationale. At most institutions if a student-athlete is enrolled in 12 to 18 credit hours, the student-athlete would pay for full-time tuition. If a student enrolls in any additional credits, then the student-athlete pays for the additional credit hours. By increasing the maximum amount of credits that a student-athlete may have remaining to complete an undergraduate degree from 32 to 36 semester hours, the student could still complete his or her degree within two semesters without paying for any additional credit hours. This change would also increase the pool of nominees for the award.
- d. Estimated Budget Impact. None
- e. Student-Athlete Impact. Potentially more student-athletes would be able to qualify for the degree-completion award, without increasing the funding per recipient

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Referral from NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.** The NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee considered a legislative referral recommended by the NCAA Division II Culture of Compliance Think Tank regarding whether Bylaw 14.3.1.6.4 (seasons of competition – nonqualifier) should be eliminated. The committee agreed that the bylaw is unnecessary and recommended a noncontroversial legislative change. [See Legislative Action Item.]
2. **Review of May 2019 NCAA Division II Degree Completion Award Committee Report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report of the Division II Degree Completion Award Committee’s May 2019 meeting. The committee recommended that the Management Council increase the maximum number of credit hours that a student-athlete may have remaining to complete an undergraduate degree and be eligible for a degree-completion award from 32 semester hours (48 quarter hours) to 36 semester hours (54 quarter hours). [See Nonlegislative Action Item.]
3. **Discussion Regarding NCAA Division II Academic Performance Census Reporting.** Staff reviewed the committee’s discussion of Academic Performance Census reporting requirements during its February 2019 in-person meeting, during which committee members agreed to test on their campuses the concept of reporting data for all student-athletes, rather than only those who meet the current cohort definition. Staff informed the committee that technical requirements prohibit setting up different reporting criteria for a subset of Division II institutions. The committee agreed to seek feedback on the concept from colleagues over the summer and directed the staff to conduct a survey of NCAA Academic Portal users about the feasibility of reporting all student-athletes. The committee will review the feedback and survey results at its September 2019 in-person meeting.

4. **Update on Funding for Academic Advising Initiatives in Division II.** Staff reviewed the NCAA Division II Planning and Finance Committee's April decision to allocate \$150,000 annually through the NCAA Division II Strategic Alliance Matching Grant program to support funding of new or enhanced academic advising positions on Division II campuses. The Planning and Finance Committee cited the desire to create a direct and lasting impact on campuses and agreed to monitor ongoing interest to determine if changes need to be made in the future.
5. **Update on Division II Education Initiatives.** Staff reviewed ongoing and future educational initiatives for Division II institutions related to rules compliance. Staff noted that one Regional Compliance Seminar will be held in the East region during the 2019-20 academic year, in addition to two NCAA Regional Rules Seminars.
6. **Update on NCAA Division II Culture of Compliance Review.** Staff reviewed legislation and initiatives that resulted from the Culture of Compliance Review, noting that while the review has concluded, themes discussed throughout the process will continue to be present in the legislative process.
7. **Update on ACT/SAT Validity Study.** Staff provided an update on the timetable for research related to use of the ACT and SAT in initial-eligibility scales. It is anticipated that the committee will review study results and potential options for using ACT/SAT scores in initial eligibility in summer or fall 2020.
8. **Update on Division I Academic Misconduct Interpretive Issues.** Staff provided an update regarding a Division I working group's review of academic misconduct legislation and interpretations. The committee will continue to receive updates and review any need for change in the future.
9. **Review of NCAA Division II Presidents Council and NCAA Division II Management Council April/May 2019 Summary of Actions.** The committee reviewed the summary of actions from the April/May 2019 meetings of the Presidents Council and the Management Council.
10. **Review of February 2019 and March 2019 NCAA Academic Requirements Committee Reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the reports from its February 2019 in-person meeting and March 2019 teleconference.
11. **Review of 2019-20 Division II Two-Year College Transfer and Progress-Toward-Degree Waiver Directives.** The committee reviewed and approved the documents that outline the standards of review for two-year college transfer and progress-toward-degree waivers for the 2019-20 academic year.

12. **Review of 2019-20 Previously Approved Waiver Checklist.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2019-20 waiver checklist.
13. **Review of 2019-20 NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee Subcommittee on Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the Subcommittee on Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers' policies and procedures for the 2019-20 academic year.
14. **Update on NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee Subcommittee on Initial-Eligibility Waivers Statistics for 2018-19.** The committee was provided an update on initial-eligibility waiver statistics for the 2018-19 academic year.
15. **Review of 2019-20 Division II Initial-Eligibility Waiver Directive.** The committee reviewed and approved the document that outlines the standards of review for initial-eligibility waivers for 2019-20.
16. **Review of 2019-20 NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee Subcommittee on Initial-Eligibility Waivers Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the Subcommittee on Initial-Eligibility Waivers' policies and procedures for 2019-20.
17. **Review of Prospective Student-Athlete Review Statistics for 2018-19.** The committee was provided an update on prospective student-athlete review statistics for the 2018-19 academic year.
18. **Review of April 2019 NCAA Student Records Review Committee Report.** The committee reviewed the report of the Student Records Review Committee's April 2019 in-person meeting.
19. **Review of 2019-20 Student Records Review Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the Student Records Review Committee's policies and procedures for 2019-20.
20. **Review of April 2019 NCAA International Student Records Committee Report.** The committee reviewed the report of the International Student Records Committee's April 2019 teleconference.
21. **Review of 2019-20 International Student Records Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the International Student Records Committee's policies and procedures for 2019-20.
22. **Review of April 2019 NCAA High School Review Committee Reports.** The committee

reviewed the reports of the High School Review Committee's April 2019 videoconference and electronic vote.

- 23. Review of 2019-20 High School Review Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the High School Review Committee's policies and procedures for 2019-20.
- 24. Review of Committee Roster.** The committee appointed Timothy Briles, faculty athletics representative, Georgian Court University, to the Subcommittee on Initial-Eligibility Waivers and the Academic Interpretations Subcommittee, effective September 1, 2019. The committee appointed Tim Ladd, faculty athletics representative, Palm Beach Atlantic University, to the Academic Interpretations Subcommittee, effective September 1, 2019. The committee appointed Kelli Peterson, records manager, Cameron University, to the Student Records Review Committee and the Subcommittee on Initial-Eligibility Waivers, effective September 1, 2019.
- 25. Future Scheduled Meetings.**
- a. September 12-13, 2019, in-person meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
 - b. February 10-11, 2020; in-person meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.

Committee Chair: Christina Whetsel, Augusta University

Staff Liaisons: Susan Britsch, Academic and Membership Affairs
Markie Cook, Research
Gregg Summers, Research

NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee June 13, 2019, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Olivia Fought, Southern Arkansas University.	
Jennifer Heimstead, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.	
Tim Ladd, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Eric Schoh, Winona State University.	
Shawn Ward, Le Moyne College.	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University, chair.	
Absentees:	
Felicia Johnson, Virginia Union University.	
Laura Liesman, Georgian Court University.	
Travis Smith, University of Indianapolis.	
Jessica Swiney, King University.	
Patrick Wempe, Henderson State University.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Susan Britsch, Markie Cook and Gregg Summers.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Emily Capehart, Allie Grady, Terri Steeb Gronau, Doug Healey, Maritza Jones, Sarah Overpeck, Zach Romash and Karen Wolf.	