



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Various Bylaws -- Incorporating NCAA Division II Bylaw 12 into Division II Bylaws 7 and 14.**
 - (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to rename Bylaw 14 as Eligibility: academic and general requirements; further, to incorporate Bylaw 12 (amateurism) into Bylaws 7 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control) and 14, as specified. [Attachment]
 - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.
 - (3) Rationale. Following the adoption of the new constitution at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council established an Implementation Committee that included 28 voting members who were charged with starting and leading the division's work. The Implementation Committee reviewed the division's rules and policies and made recommendations to ensure that changes were consistent with the principles agreed upon in the new constitution. The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee was tasked with reviewing various bylaws, which included Bylaw 12. Upon further review, the Legislation Committee determined incorporating Bylaw 12 into Bylaws 7 and 14 and renaming Bylaw 14 was appropriate due to the incorporation and reorganization of the bylaw.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Discussion regarding NCAA Division II Legislation Committee positions on 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Proposal Nos. 2024-1 and 2024-2.** During their summer meetings, the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council, referred the membership-sponsored proposals listed below to the Legislation Committee for review. The Legislation Committee agreed to take the following positions on the proposals:

- a. Proposal No. 2024 -1 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest. The Legislation Committee agreed to oppose the proposal. The Legislation Committee noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the Legislation Committee noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The Legislation Committee also noted the impact on the work-life balance of athletic administrators. Additionally, it was noted that this proposal may prompt other Division II sports to feel the need to begin their playing and practice season earlier. Finally, the committee noted that although the change may be permissive there is a potential competitive advantage since some Division II institutions may not be able to bring their student-athletes in earlier due to budget constraints.

[Note: Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo; Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo; Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University; Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University; and Melissa Thacker, Cameron University, recused themselves from the vote on this proposal.]

- b. Proposal No. 2024 -2 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests. The Legislation Committee agreed to oppose the proposal. The Legislation Committee noted that the change may result in some inequities between institutions who are able to participate in all contests (56 contests during the championship segment and eight during the nonchampionship segment) and those institutions unable to do so. The Legislation Committee also noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II since this may prompt more sports to increase the number of competitions or contests they participate in.

[Note: Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo; and Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo, recused themselves from the vote on this proposal.]

2. **Review of the educational resources regarding the 2024 Division II Convention proposals.** During its March 21-22, 2023, videoconference, the Legislation Committee discussed what educational resources and materials should be provided to the membership associated with governance-sponsored and membership-sponsored proposals. The Legislation Committee recommended providing an iteration of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee electronic legislative grid, along with the Convention voiceover video.

NCAA staff provided the Legislation Committee with a preview of the legislative grid that will be released to the Division II membership in preparation for the 2024 Convention. The

legislative grid will be released to the membership, along with the Convention voiceover video, by September 23, 2023.

3. **Review of the updated draft incorporation of Bylaw 12 (amateurism) into Bylaw 7 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control) and Bylaw 14 (eligibility: academic and general requirements).** The Legislation Committee reviewed an updated draft of the incorporation of Bylaw 12 into Bylaw 14 and recommended noncontroversial legislation to rename Bylaw 14, as well as to incorporate Bylaw 12 into Bylaw 7 and Bylaw 14, as specified. [See Legislative Action Item.]
4. **Update on the membership feedback survey related to Bylaws 13 (recruiting) and 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes).** Staff provided the Legislation Committee with a preview of the membership feedback survey that outlines the potential recommended concepts for Bylaws 13 and Bylaw 16. Staff also noted that the survey will be released to the Division II membership in late September/early October 2023. The Legislation Committee will review the survey results at its November 29-30, 2023, in-person meeting and determine whether any legislative changes are necessary.
5. **Discussion regarding a student-athlete serving with a Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative on the Division II Legislation Committee.** The Legislation Committee discussed and provided feedback on a referral from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). Specifically, the Legislation Committee was asked to provide feedback on whether it would be beneficial to add a current or former Division II student-athlete to its composition to serve alongside the Division II SAAC representative. The Legislation Committee agreed it would be beneficial to add another student-athlete representative; however, the Legislation Committee raised concerns about adding a non-National SAAC representative when there is an opportunity to utilize current student-athletes that are serving as a Division II National SAAC representative.
6. **Update on the National Letter of Intent policy.** The Legislation Committee received an update on the recent National Letter of Intent (NLI) policy change. Specifically, that the NLI program, which will expand to permit four-year college transfers from NCAA institutions to sign an NLI provided they have entered the NCAA Transfer Portal, will be effective for the 2024-25 NLI signing year.
7. **Update on the work of the NCAA Board of Governors.** The Legislation Committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors most recent meeting.
8. **Update on the NCAA Division I Council Working Group on Name, Image and Likeness.** The Legislation Committee received an update on the work of the Division I Council Working Group on Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) and their charge from the NCAA Division I Board of Directors to develop NIL proposal(s) intended to improve the NIL environment for Division I student-athletes. Staff also provided the Legislation Committee with an overview of a potential timeline for Division II's review of any proposal(s) introduced by the Division I Council Working Group on NIL. The Legislation Committee

will review the Division I proposal(s) and any initial feedback received from various internal and external groups during its November 29-30, 2023, in-person meeting.

9. **Review of the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee policies and procedures.** The Legislation Committee reviewed and approved updates to its policies and procedures.
10. **Approval of the April 19, 2023, electronic voting report and June 28-29, 2023, in-person meeting report of the Legislation Committee.** The Legislation Committee reviewed and approved its April 19, 2023, electronic voting report and its June 28-29, 2023, in-person meeting report.
11. **Review of the Summer 2023 Division II Presidents Council and Division II Management Council Summary of Actions.** The Legislation Committee received an update on the actions taken at the summer Management Council and Presidents Council quarterly meetings.
12. **Update on the Division II 50th Anniversary Celebration.** The Legislation Committee received an update regarding the celebration of the 50th anniversary in Division II.
13. **Subcommittee appointments.** The Legislation Committee appointed Kayla Lothian, compliance coordinator and associate director of athletics, Dominican University of California; and Melissa Thacker, faculty athletics representative, Cameron University, to the Interpretations Subcommittee, effective immediately. Additionally, the Legislation Committee appointed Dawn Makofski, senior woman administrator, University of Montevallo; Deborah Rodgers, senior woman administrator, Tuskegee University; and Suzanne Sanregret, director of athletics, Michigan Technological University, to the Legislative Review Subcommittee, effective immediately.
14. **Future Meeting Dates.**
 - a. November 29-30, 2023, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
 - b. March 26-27, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
 - c. June 25-26, 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.

Report of the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee

September 13, 2023, Videoconference

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Committee Chair: Audra Kedy, Great American Conference
Staff Liaisons: Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs
Megan McDonald, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislation Committee September 13, 2023, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive.	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Kayla Lothian, Dominican University of California.	
Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo.	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.	
Absentees:	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Rachel Denton, Chelsea Hooks and Megan McDonald.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Becca Burchette Medel, Robert Turick, Angela Red and Drea Rog.	

**Bylaw 7 -- NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control
and
Bylaw 14 -- Eligibility: Academic and Athletics Requirements**

Bylaw 7 – NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control

7.01 General Principles.

7.02 Definitions and Applications.

7.1 Eligibility for Division II Membership.

7.2 Establishment of and Compliance with Division Criteria.

7.3 Active Membership.

7.4 Financial Donations From Outside Organizations.

7.4.1 Professional Sports Organizations.

7.4.1.1 To Noncollegiate Amateur Team. A noncollegiate amateur team or playing league shall not be considered a professional team or league, even if it receives financial support from a national amateur sports administrative organization or its equivalent that in turn receives developmental funds from a professional team or professional sports organization.

7.4.1.2 To Intercollegiate Event. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an intercollegiate competition event, provided the organization is not publicly identified as such. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an activity or promotion that is ancillary to the competition event and may be publicly identified as such.

7.4.1.3 Developmental Funds to NCAA. A professional sports organization may provide funds for intercollegiate athletics developmental purposes in a particular sport (e.g., officiating expenses, research and educational projects, the conduct of summer leagues, purchase of equipment). However, such funds shall be provided in an unrestricted manner and administered through the Association's national office.

7.4.1.4 To Institution. A member institution may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the institution, including ancillary activities and promotions.

7.4.1.5 To Conference. A member conference may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the conference, including ancillary activities and promotions.

7.4.1.6 Revenues Derived from Pro-Am Events. The distribution of revenues from an event involving an intercollegiate athletics team and a professional sports team (e.g., a baseball game in which a member institution's team plays against a professional baseball team) or pro-am event (e.g., golf, tennis) that results in a member institution receiving a share of receipts from such a contest is permitted, provided the institution has a formal agreement with the professional sports team regarding the institution's guarantee or share of receipts and the contractual terms are consistent with agreements made by the professional team or individuals for similar intercollegiate or nonprofessional competition.

7.4.1.7 Promotion of Professional Athletics Contests. A member institution may host and promote an athletics contest between two professional teams from recognized professional sports leagues as a fundraising activity for the institution.

7.4.2 Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.

7.4.2.1 Individual Athletics Performance. A member institution shall not accept funds donated from a nonprofessional sports organization based on the place finish of a student-athlete or the number of student-athletes representing the institution in an event. However, the organization may donate an equal amount of funds to every institution with an athlete or team participating in a particular event.

7.4.2.2 Individual and Team Rankings. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's national or regional ranking.

7.4.2.3 Academic Performance. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's academic performance (e.g., the number of academic All-American award recipients).

7.5 Provisional Membership.

7.6 Active Division II Membership Following Reclassification.

7.7 Multidivision Classification.

7.8 Reclassification from Division II to Division I or Division III.

7.9 Institutional Eligibility.

Bylaw 14 – Eligibility: Academic and Athletics Requirements

14.01 General Principles

14.01.1 Clear Line of Demarcation. Member institutions' athletics programs are designed to be an integral part of the educational program. The student-athlete is considered an integral part of the student body, thus maintaining a clear line of demarcation between college athletics and professional sports.

14.01.2 Compliance with Other NCAA and Conference Legislation. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Association and all rules and regulations of the institution and the conference(s), if any, of which the institution is a member. A violation of this bylaw that relates only to a violation of a conference rule shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10 however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. Specific attention is called to legislation affecting eligibility in the following areas.

14.01.2.1 Impermissible Benefits. A student-athlete shall not be eligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if they receive impermissible awards, extra benefits, excessive or improper expenses not authorized by NCAA legislation (see Bylaw 16), takes or has taken pay, or accepts the promise of pay in any form for participation in that sport. A student-athlete who receives an institutional postgraduate scholarship as part of a senior scholar-athlete award as set forth in Bylaw 16.1.3.1.1 shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics participation in all sports, except that a student may complete the remainder of any season currently in progress at the time of the award (e.g., postseason competition in a spring sport which occurs after graduation).

14.01.2.2 Unethical Conduct. A prospective or enrolled student-athlete who is found to have engaged in unethical conduct (see Bylaw 10.1) shall be ineligible for intercollegiate competition in all sports.

14.01.2.3 Financial Aid. A student-athlete who receives financial assistance other than that authorized by the Association shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics competition (see Bylaw 15). A grant-in-aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association's membership.

14.01.2.4 Recruitment. Solicitation of a student-athlete's enrollment by the certifying institution or any representative of its athletics interests in violation of the Association's legislation shall render the student-athlete ineligible to represent that institution in intercollegiate athletics. A student-athlete is responsible during their recruitment for involvement in a violation of NCAA regulations, and the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may restore the eligibility of a student involved in such violation only when circumstances clearly warrant restoration. The eligibility of a student-athlete involved in a

major violation shall not be restored other than through an exception authorized by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement in a unique case on the basis of specifically stated reasons (see Bylaw 13).

14.01.3 Eligibility for Intercollegiate Athletics. Only a student-athlete who satisfies all eligibility requirements may participate in intercollegiate athletics in a particular sport.

14.01.4 Institutional Responsibility. An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless the student-athlete meets all applicable eligibility requirements and the institution has certified the student-athlete's eligibility. A violation of this bylaw in which the institution fails to certify the student-athlete's eligibility prior to allowing them to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility, provided all necessary information to certify the student-athlete's eligibility was available to the institution and the student-athlete otherwise would have been eligible for competition.

14.02 Definitions and Applications.

14.02.1 Academic Misconduct -- Post-Enrollment. All institutional staff members and student-athletes are expected to act with honesty and integrity in all academic matters. Post-enrollment academic misconduct includes any violation or breach of an institutional policy regarding academic honesty or integrity (e.g., academic offense, academic honor code violation, plagiarism, academic fraud).

14.02.2 Agent. An agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly:

- (a) Represents or attempts to represent an individual for the purpose of marketing their athletics ability or reputation for financial gain; or
- (b) Seeks to obtain any type of financial gain or benefit from securing a prospective student-athlete's enrollment at an educational institution or from a student-athlete's potential earnings as a professional athlete.

14.02.3 Agency Contract. An agency contract is an agreement in which a student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

14.02.4 Branch School. A branch school is an educational institution that usually offers two years of college work, does not award degrees independently, and is wholly controlled and operated by a four-year, degree-granting parent institution.

14.02.5 Collegiate Institution. A collegiate institution (for purposes of NCAA legislation) is an institution of higher education that:

- (a) Is accredited at the college level by an agency or association recognized by the Secretary of the Department of Education and legally authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree; (*Revised: 1/10/90*)
- (b) Conducts an intercollegiate athletics program, even though the institution is not accredited at the college level and authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree; or
- (c) Is located in a foreign country.

14.02.6 Criteria Governing Compensation to Student-Athletes. All compensation received by a student-athlete must be consistent with the limitations on financial aid set forth in Bylaw 15. Compensation may be paid to a student-athlete:

- (a) Only for work actually performed;
- (b) At a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services; and
- (c) In instances where the student-athlete does not have a contract or agreement (oral or written) for name, image and likeness activities, an employer shall not use the athletics reputation of a student-athlete employee to promote the sale of the employer's product or services.

14.02.7 Education-Impacting Disability. An education-impacting disability is a current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and requires accommodation.

14.02.8 Exception. An exception is the granting of relief from the application of a specific regulation (e.g., the residence requirement for a transfer student to become eligible for competition). Formal approval by the Management Council or an NCAA committee is not required. The action granting the exception may be taken solely by the certifying institution, based on evidence that the conditions on which the exception is authorized have been met (see Bylaw 14.02.27).

14.02.9 Good Academic Standing and Progress Toward Degree. The phrases "good academic standing" and "progress toward degree" are to be interpreted at each member institution by the academic officials who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students, subject to the controlling regulations of the institution; the conference(s) (or similar associations), if any, of which the institution is a member; and applicable NCAA legislation (see Bylaw 14.2.9). The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, be in good academic standing and maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.

14.02.10 Grade-Point Average. For purposes of calculating a grade-point average for NCAA eligibility (e.g., progress toward degree), a student must achieve a minimum grade-point average based on a maximum of 4.000 grading scale, unless otherwise specified in the legislation.

14.02.11 Impermissible Academic Assistance -- Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests. Impermissible academic assistance by a current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests includes, but is not limited to, the provision of or arrangement of:

- (a) Substantial assistance that is not generally available to an institution's students and is not otherwise expressly authorized in Bylaw 16.3, which results in the certification of a student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics or receive financial aid; or
- (b) An academic exception that results in a grade change, academic credit or fulfillment of a graduation requirement when such an exception is not generally available to the institution's students and the exception results in the certification of a student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics or receive financial aid.

14.02.12 Intercollegiate Competition. Intercollegiate competition occurs when a student-athlete in either a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution:

- (a) Represents the institution in any contest against outside competition, regardless of how the competition is classified (e.g., scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice session with another institution's team) or whether the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies;
- (b) Competes in the uniform of the institution or, during the academic year, uses any apparel (excluding apparel no longer used by the institution) received from the institution that includes institutional identification (see Bylaw 16.11.1.5 for regulations governing the use of equipment during the summer);
- (c) Competes and receives expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, room or entry fees) from the institution for the competition (See Bylaw 14.4.7.3.4 for an exception for medical services for a student-athlete competing unattached); or
- (d) Competes in outside competition as a member of a club team at a two-year or four-year collegiate institution, provided the institution sponsors the sport on the varsity level.

14.02.12.1 Exempted Events. Participation in events listed in Bylaws 16.8.1.2-(a), -(b) and -(c) is exempted from the application of this legislation.

14.02.12.2 Exemption -- Tryouts. The participation of student-athletes in contests against prospective student-athletes trying out at member institutions (in accordance with Bylaw 13.11.2.1) shall be exempted from the application of this legislation.

14.02.13 National Team. A national team is one selected, organized and sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport). The selection for such a team shall be made on a national qualification basis, either through a defined selective process or by actual tryouts, publicly announced in advance. In addition, the international competition in question shall require that the entrants officially represent their respective nations, although it is not necessary to require team scoring by nation.

14.02.14 Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics. Participation in intercollegiate athletics occurs when a student-athlete either practices in a sport (see Bylaw 17.02.1) or competes in a sport, as defined in Bylaw 14.02.12. Eligibility rules for competition may differ from those for practice.

14.02.15 Pay. Pay is the receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted by the governing legislation of the Association for participation in athletics.

14.02.16 Professional Athlete. A professional athlete is one who receives any kind of payment, directly or indirectly, for athletics participation except as permitted by the governing legislation of the Association.

14.02.17 Professional Athletics Team. A professional team is any organized team that:

- (a) Provides any of its players more than actual and necessary expenses for participation on the team, except as otherwise permitted by NCAA legislation. Actual and necessary expenses are limited to the following, provided the value of these items is commensurate with the fair market value in the locality of the player(s) and is not excessive in nature:
 - (1) Meals directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
 - (2) Lodging directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
 - (3) Apparel, equipment and supplies;
 - (4) Coaching and instruction;
 - (5) Health/medical insurance;
 - (6) Transportation (i.e., expenses to and from practice and competition, cost of transportation from home to training/practice site at the beginning of the season and from training/practice site to home at the end of season);
 - (7) Medical treatment and physical therapy;
 - (8) Facility usage;

- (9) Entry fees; and
 - (10) Other reasonable expenses; or
- (b) Declares itself to be professional.

14.02.18 Professional Service Provider. A professional service provider is an individual who provides third party services to an individual regarding their name, image and likeness. A professional service provider includes, but shall not be limited to, an agent, tax advisor, marketing consultant, attorney or anyone who is employed or associated with such persons.

14.02.19 Qualification Status.

14.02.19.1 Qualifier. A qualifier is a student who, for purposes of determining eligibility for financial aid, practice and competition, has met all of the following requirements (see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1):

- (a) Graduation from high school;
- (b) Successful completion of a required core curriculum consisting of a minimum number of courses in specified subjects; and
- (c) Specified minimum grade-point average in the core curriculum (see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1.3).

14.02.19.2 Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier is a student who does not meet the requirements for a qualifier.

14.02.20 Religious Mission, Official. An official religious mission is one that is required by the religious organization of which the individual is a member and that results in the individual being unable to attend a collegiate institution during the period of the mission.

14.02.21 Residence. Residence is enrollment in a full-time academic program (as defined by the institution) at a collegiate institution during a regular term of an academic year. A summer term may not be used to satisfy an academic term or year of residence. Any student-athlete (e.g., qualifier, partial qualifier, transfer student) admitted after the 12th class day may not use that semester or quarter for the purpose of satisfying an academic term or year of residence.

14.02.21.1 Academic Year of Residence. To satisfy an academic year of residence, a student shall:

- (a) Be enrolled in and complete a minimum full-time program of studies for two full semesters or three full quarters; or
- (b) Be enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies for two semesters or three quarters and pass a number of hours (including hours earned at the certifying institution during a summer term) that is at least equal to the sum total of the minimum load of each of the required terms.

14.02.22 Specific Athletically Related Employment Activities.

14.02.22.1 National Team Practice and Competition. A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses and reasonable benefits associated with national team practice and competition (e.g., health insurance, broken-time payments).

14.02.22.2 Fee-for-Lesson Instruction. A student-athlete may receive compensation for teaching or coaching sport skills or techniques in their sport on a fee-for-lesson basis, provided all compensation received by the student-athlete is consistent with the criteria governing compensation to student-athletes (see Bylaw 14.02.6).

14.02.23 Student-Athlete. A student-athlete is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program. Any other student becomes a student-athlete only when the student reports for an intercollegiate squad that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department, as specified in Bylaw 7.3.1.5.4. A student is not deemed a student-athlete solely on the basis of prior high school athletics participation.

14.02.24 Transfer Student. A transfer student, in the application of NCAA eligibility requirements, is a student who transfers from any collegiate institution after having met any one of the conditions set forth in Bylaw 14.3.2.

14.02.25 Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming. Triathlon includes elements of competition similar to cross country, track and field and swimming competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of Bylaw 14. Therefore, triathlon and cross country are considered the same sport, triathlon and track and field are considered the same sport, and triathlon and swimming are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaw 14 (see Bylaw 14.4.7.1.3 for an exception for outside competition legislation).

14.02.26 Waiver. A waiver is an action exempting an individual or institution from the application of a specific regulation. A waiver requires formal approval (e.g., by the Management Council, an NCAA committee or a conference, as specified in the legislation) based on evidence of compliance with the specified conditions or criteria under which the waiver is authorized (see Bylaw 14.02.8).

14.1 General Eligibility Requirements. An individual's (prospective student-athlete or enrolled student-athlete) eligibility for participation in athletics shall be determined using the following provisions. (See Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 regarding participation in organized competition prior to initial collegiate enrollment and Bylaw 14.12 † regarding the eligibility restoration process.)

14.1.1 Credentials and Eligibility Status.

14.1.1.1 Academic Credentials.

14.1.1.1.1 Invalidation of Academic Credentials After Initial-Eligibility Certification. If a student-athlete's academic credentials (e.g., transcript, test scores) are invalidated after their initial eligibility has been certified, the institution must report any violation that may have occurred as a result of the student-athlete's

receipt of financial aid or participation in practice or competition and declare the student-athlete ineligible for competition. If such a violation occurred, the student-athlete remains ineligible for intercollegiate competition unless eligibility is restored by the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement regardless of whether an initial-eligibility waiver is granted after the invalidation of the academic credentials.

14.1.1.1.2 Validity of Academic Credentials. As a condition and obligation of membership, an institution is responsible for determining the validity of a student-athlete's academic record.

14.1.1.2 Eligibility Status.

14.1.1.2.1 Validity of Eligibility Status. As a condition and obligation of membership, it is the responsibility of an institution to determine the validity of the information on which the eligibility status of a prospective student-athlete (e.g., including a two-year and four-year college transfer initially enrolling at an NCAA Division II institution) and student-athlete is based. (See Bylaw 14.01.2)

14.1.1.2.2 Scope. The certification of eligibility status issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center is limited to activities that occur prior to a prospective student-athlete requesting a final eligibility certification or their initial full-time collegiate enrollment at an NCAA Division II institution, whichever occurs earlier.

14.1.1.3 NCAA Eligibility Center. An institution shall use the NCAA Eligibility Center approved by the NCAA Board of Governors to determine the validity of a student-athlete's academic record and information on which the eligibility status of a student-athlete is based.

14.1.1.4 Institutional Responsibilities.

14.1.1.4.1 Validity of Initial-Eligibility Information. An institution is responsible for promptly reporting all discrepancies in information used in a student-athlete's initial-eligibility certification to the NCAA Eligibility Center. Discrepancies in information include, but are not limited to, corrections, additions, potential academic misconduct with regard to high schools attended, grades, completion of coursework or test scores.

14.1.1.4.2 Eligibility Status After Certification. An institution is responsible for certifying the eligibility status of a prospective student-athlete from the time they request a final certification be issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center or they initially enroll as a full-time student at an NCAA Division I or II institution (whichever occurs earlier).

14.1.1.4.3 Sharing Information and Reporting Discrepancies. An institution is responsible for notifying the NCAA Eligibility Center when it receives additional

information, or otherwise has cause to believe, that a previously certified prospective student-athlete's eligibility status has been jeopardized. Further, an institution is responsible for promptly reporting all discrepancies in information related to a student-athlete's certification to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

14.1.1.5 Eligibility for Practice and Competition. Prior to engaging in practice or competition, a student-athlete shall receive a certification of eligibility status for activities that occur prior to the certification or initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA Division II institution (whichever occurs earlier).

14.1.1.5.1 Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete. If a recruited or nonrecruited student-athlete reports for athletics participation before the student-athlete's eligibility status has been certified, the student-athlete may practice, but not compete, for a maximum of 45 days, provided the student-athlete is enrolled full time or has been accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student. After this 45-day period, the student shall have established minimum requirements as eligible for participation in athletics (as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center) to continue practicing or to compete.

14.1.1.5.1.1 Effect of Violation. A violation of Bylaw 14.1.1.5.1 in which the student-athlete is subsequently certified without conditions shall be considered an institutional violation per Constitution Article 1-E but shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

14.1.2 Certification of Eligibility.

14.1.2.1 Institutional Responsibility for Eligibility Certification. The president or chancellor is responsible for approving the procedures for certifying the eligibility of an institution's student-athletes under NCAA legislation. The president or chancellor may designate an individual on the institution's staff to administer proper certification of eligibility. Certification of eligibility must occur prior to allowing a student-athlete to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw 14.01.4). A violation of this bylaw in which the institution fails to certify a student-athlete's eligibility prior to allowing them to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility, provided all the necessary information to certify the student-athlete's eligibility was available to the institution and the student-athlete otherwise would have been eligible for competition.

14.1.2.2 Eligibility List Form. The institution's athletics director shall compile on a form approved by the Management Council a list of the squad members in each sport on the first day of competition and shall indicate thereon the status of each member in the designated categories. A student-athlete's name must be on the official institutional form in order for the student to be eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition. Violations of this bylaw do not affect a student-athlete's eligibility, if the violation occurred

due to an institutional administrative error or oversight, and the student-athlete is added to the form once the omission is realized; however, the violation shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10.

14.1.2.2.1 Eligibility List. The following procedures shall be used for the eligibility list:

- (a) The forms shall be kept on file in the office of the athletics director, and such file shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of another member institution, the NCAA, and, if the institution is a member of a conference, an authorized representative of the conference;
- (b) Any student-athlete who is included on the eligibility list must have signed a drug-testing consent form;
- (c) A supplementary form may be filed to add names of persons not initially on the eligibility list or to indicate a change of status;
- (d) A student-athlete's name must be on the official institutional form to qualify to represent the institution in intercollegiate athletics; and
- (e) The athletics director and head coach in the sport in which the student-athletes participate shall sign the eligibility list for that particular sport.

14.1.3 Ineligibility.

14.1.3.1 Obligation of Member Institution to Withhold Student-Athlete From Competition. If a student-athlete is ineligible under the provisions of the constitution, bylaws or other regulations of the Association, the institution shall be obligated to apply immediately the applicable rule and to withhold the student-athlete from all intercollegiate competition. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility as provided in Bylaw 14.1.4, if it concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration.

14.1.3.1.1 Application of Ineligibility Ruling Pending Appeal. Once an interpretation (per Bylaw 9.4.1.2) applicable to a member institution has been issued and results in the ineligibility of a student-athlete, it is necessary for the institution to apply the rule to the eligibility of the student-athlete, even if review of the interpretation (per Bylaw 9.4.1.2.1.1.1 or Bylaw 9.4.1.2.1.2) at the request of the institution is pending. Failure to withhold such a student-athlete from competition is a violation of the conditions and obligations of membership.

14.1.3.1.2 Payment of Legal Fees During Appeal. A member 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 their intent to enroll at the institution. The cost of legal representation in such proceedings also may be provided by the institution (or a representative of its athletic interests).

14.1.3.2 Ineligible Participation.

14.1.3.2.1 Loss of Eligibility. A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate competition in a sport, if they participate in intercollegiate competition in that sport while ineligible under this bylaw or other applicable NCAA legislation. The certifying institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility, if it concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration (see Bylaw 14.1.4).

14.1.4 Restoration of Eligibility.

14.1.4.1 Basis for Appeal. When a student-athlete is determined to be ineligible under any applicable provision of the constitution, bylaws or other regulations of the Association, the member institution, having applied the applicable rule and having withheld the student-athlete from all intercollegiate competition, may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student's eligibility, provided the institution concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration of eligibility.

14.1.4.2 Participation in Appeal Hearing. Any appeal to restore a student-athlete's eligibility shall be submitted in the name of the institution by the president or chancellor (or an individual designated by the president or chancellor), faculty athletics representative, senior woman administrator or athletics director (for the men's or women's program). At least one of those individuals must participate in any hearing of the appeal that involves direct participation by the student-athlete or other individuals representing the institution or the student.

14.1.4.3 Student Responsibility, Relationship to Restoration of Eligibility. A student-athlete is responsible for their involvement in a secondary or major violation of NCAA regulations (as defined in Bylaws 19.02.2.1 and 19.02.2.2), and the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may restore the eligibility of a student involved in any violation only when circumstances clearly warrant restoration. The eligibility of a student-athlete involved in a major violation shall not be restored other than through an exception authorized by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement in a unique case on the basis of specifically stated reasons.

14.1.5 Name, Image and Likeness.

14.1.5.1 Application. NCAA Bylaws, including prohibitions on pay-for-play and improper recruiting inducements, remain in effect, subject to the following:

- (a) For institutions in states without name, image and likeness laws or executive actions or with name, image and likeness laws or executive actions that have not yet taken effect, if an individual elects to engage in a name, image and likeness activity, the individual's eligibility for intercollegiate athletics will not be impacted by the application of Bylaw 14.
- (b) For institutions in states with name, image and likeness laws or executive actions with the force of law in effect, if an individual or member institution elects to engage in a name, image and likeness activity that is protected by law or executive order, the individual's eligibility for and/or the membership institution's full participation in NCAA athletics will not be impacted by the application of NCAA Bylaws unless the state law is invalidated or rendered unenforceable by operation of law.
- (c) Use of a professional services provider is also permissible for name, image and likeness activities, except as otherwise prohibited by state law or executive action with the force of law that has not been invalidated or rendered unenforceable by operation of law.

14.1.5.2 Name, Image and Likeness Activities Related to Enrollment Decisions. A name, image and likeness agreement or the payments associated with such an agreement may not be guaranteed or promised contingent on initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution (e.g., recruiting inducement).

14.1.5.3 Monitoring for Compliance. The NCAA will continue its normal regulatory operations but will not monitor name, image and likeness activities for compliance with state law.

14.1.5.4 Reporting Requirements. Individuals should report name, image and likeness activities consistent with state law and/or institutional requirements.

14.2 Academic Eligibility.

14.2.1 Individual. An individual, for purposes of Bylaw 14.2, is any person of any age without reference to enrollment in an educational institution or status as a student-athlete.

14.2.2 Admission. A student-athlete shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless the student-athlete has been admitted as a regularly enrolled, degree-seeking student in accordance with the regular, published entrance requirements of that institution.

14.2.2.1 Graduate Student Exception. A nonmatriculating, nondegree seeking graduate student may represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, provided all other eligibility requirements are satisfied (e.g., enrolled full time, in good academic standing).

14.2.3 Full-Time Enrollment.

14.2.3.1 Requirement for Practice or Competition. To be eligible for practice or competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies leading to a baccalaureate or equivalent degree as defined by the institution, which for purposes of this bylaw and its subsections shall not be less than 12-semester or -quarter hours, regardless of the institution's definition of a minimum full-time program of studies.

14.2.3.1.1 Drop/Add Course. A student-athlete no longer shall be considered enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies (after dropping a course that places the student below full-time status) when the dropped course becomes official in accordance with procedures determined by the institution for all students. A student-athlete who is adding a course to reach full-time status shall become eligible for practice and competition once the course has been approved by the appropriate department head (or designated representative) and submitted to the registrar.

14.2.3.1.2 Withdrawal or Dismissal. A student-athlete who withdraws or is dismissed from an institution is considered to be a prospective student-athlete eligible for recruitment by other NCAA institutions and may not continue to practice or compete with the original institution's team. (See Bylaw 13.1.1.2.)

14.2.3.1.3 Noncredit Work. Hours of noncredit work (including remedial courses) may be counted toward fulfilling the minimum full-time enrollment requirement, provided the noncredit work is given the same academic load value and is considered by the institution to be a requirement for the degree currently being pursued by the student-athlete.

14.2.3.1.4 Concurrent Courses at Two Institutions. Courses taken concurrently at a second institution may be counted toward meeting the minimum 12-hour enrollment requirement, provided:

- (a) The certifying institution officially recognizes the student-athlete's combined hours as full-time enrollment for a minimum of 12 hours; and
- (b) Courses taken at the second institution will be included on the student-athlete's transcript at the institution where the student-athlete is seeking the degree.

14.2.3.1.5 Cooperative Educational Exchange Program. A student-athlete may practice or compete for the certifying institution even though the student-athlete is enrolled in another institution in a cooperative educational exchange or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), provided:

- (a) The certifying institution considers the student-athlete to be regularly enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies; and
- (b) All academic coursework is placed on the student-athlete's transcript and accepted toward their undergraduate degree at the certifying institution.

14.2.3.1.6 Nontraditional Courses. Enrollment in a nontraditional course (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/virtual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) offered by the certifying institution may be used to satisfy the full-time enrollment requirement for competition, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The course is available to any student at the institution;
- (b) The student-athlete enrolls in the course in the same manner as is available to any student;
- (c) Enrollment in the course occurs within the institution's regular enrollment periods (preregistration or drop-add period) in accordance with the institution's academic calendar and applicable policies and procedures; and
- (d) The course is conducted during the institution's regular academic schedule (term time) in accordance with the institution's academic calendar and applicable policies and procedures.

14.2.3.1.7 Exceptions.

14.2.3.1.7.1 Practice or Competition -- Before Initial Full-Time Enrollment. To be eligible for practice or competition during the official vacation period immediately before initial enrollment, the student-athlete shall:

- (a) Have been accepted by the institution for enrollment in a regular, full-time program of studies at the time of the individual's participation;
- (b) No longer be enrolled in the previous educational institution(s); and
- (c) Be eligible under all institutional and NCAA requirements.

14.2.3.1.7.2 Practice or Competition -- Eligibility Between Terms. To be eligible for practice or competition that takes place between terms, the student-athlete shall:

- (a) Have been registered for the required minimum full-time program of studies (see Bylaw 14.2.3.1) at the conclusion of the term immediately preceding the date of competition, if the student-athlete is continuing enrollment; or

- (b) Be accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student for the regular term immediately after the date of competition, if the student-athlete is either continuing enrollment or beginning enrollment (see Bylaw 14.2.5).

14.2.3.1.7.3 Practice or Competition -- Final Semester/Quarter. A student-athlete with athletics eligibility remaining may compete or participate in organized practice sessions while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided the student-athlete is enrolled in the final semester or quarter of the baccalaureate program or a minor or undergraduate certificate program and the institution certifies that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete the degree, minor or certificate requirements. To qualify for this exception, a minor or undergraduate certificate program must be officially designated (pursuant to institutional policy) by the student-athlete before the beginning of the applicable term. Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree, minor or certificate requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

14.2.3.1.7.3.1 Waivers. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall establish appropriate criteria for waiver requests seeking relief of the forfeiture of eligibility penalty.

14.2.3.1.7.3.2 Practice or Competition -- Postseason. The student-athlete granted eligibility to compete under this provision shall be eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after said semester or quarter, provided the student-athlete has not exhausted the 10 semesters/15 quarters for completion of the individual's four seasons of eligibility (see Bylaw 14.4.3). Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

14.2.3.1.7.3.2.1 Waiver -- Postseason. The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, may waive the 60-day requirement when an NCAA championship is conducted at the conclusion of the championship segment of the playing season but begins more than 60 days after the end of said term. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.1 for legislation related to the eligibility of student-athletes enrolled less than full time to receive institutional financial aid.)

14.2.3.1.7.4 Final Term Before Experiential Learning Requirement. A student-athlete may compete or practice while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies in the final semester or quarter of the student's baccalaureate degree program before participating in an experiential learning requirement (e.g.,

student teaching, internship, clinical, capstone project) in the following term, provided the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) all courses necessary to complete degree requirements as determined by the faculty of the institution, other than the experiential learning requirement. A student-athlete who uses this exception is not permitted to use the final semester/quarter exception the following semester or quarter.

14.2.3.1.7.5 Practice or Competition -- Graduate Program. A student-athlete may practice or compete while enrolled in a full-time graduate program as defined by the institution for all graduate students in that program (see Bylaw 14.2.4).

14.2.3.1.7.6 Practice -- First Week of Class. A student-athlete may practice, but may not compete, during the institution's first five days of classes, if the student-athlete is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA requirements.

14.2.3.1.8 Waivers of the 12-Hour Requirement for Practice or Competition.

14.2.3.1.8.1 Practice or Competition -- Student-Athletes with Education-Impacting Disabilities. The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the 12-hour requirement for a student-athlete when objective evidence demonstrates that an institution defines full-time enrollment for that student-athlete to be less than 12 hours to accommodate for the student-athlete's education-impacting disability.

14.2.3.1.8.2 Practice or Competition -- Nontraditional Academic Calendars or Cooperative Educational Programs. A student-athlete enrolled in an institution that determines enrollment hours on a basis other than traditional semester or quarter hours or that conducts a cooperative educational or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), may practice or compete, if at the time of practice or competition the student-athlete is enrolled for a comparable minimum academic program of studies as determined by the Academic Requirements Committee.

14.2.3.1.8.3 Practice or Competition -- Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships or World Youth Championships. The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the minimum full-time enrollment requirement for any participant in the junior or elite levels of the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships or World Youth Championships who, because of such participation, may lose eligibility for practice or competition in any sport.

14.2.3.1.8.4 Practice -- U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee/National Governing Body -- Individual Sports or Rowing. A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is not enrolled or who is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies or a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining, may participate on a regular basis in organized practice sessions that involve an individual sport or rowing, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The practice sessions take place only at the institution(s) the individual previously attended as an undergraduate or currently attends or previously attended as a graduate student, except that a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining may participate in practice sessions at an institution other than the one they previously attended;
- (b) The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or national governing body in the sport has recommended the individual's participation;
- (c) The individual does not participate in any coaching activities unless the institution designates the individual in the appropriate coaching limits;
- (d) In the case of a student-athlete with NCAA eligibility remaining in the sport, such participation occurs only during the academic year immediately before the Olympic or Paralympic Games; and
- (e) In the case of a former student-athlete, such participation shall be limited to the number of years that allows the individual to practice with the institution's team in preparation for two consecutive Olympic or Paralympic Games following exhaustion of eligibility or completion of degree, whichever is earlier. A student-athlete who has not graduated must be enrolled (full or part time) and making progress toward a degree.

14.2.3.1.8.5 Practice -- U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee/National Governing Body -- Team Sports. A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is not enrolled or who is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies or a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining, may participate on a regular basis in organized practice sessions that involve a team sport, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The practice sessions take place only at the institution(s) the individual previously attended as an undergraduate or currently attends or previously attended as a graduate student, except that a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining may participate in practice sessions at an institution other than the one they previously attended;
- (b) The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or national governing body in the sport has recommended the individual's participation;

- (c) The individual does not participate in any coaching activities unless the institution designates the individual in the appropriate coaching limits;
- (d) The participation occurs only during the academic year immediately before the Olympic or Paralympic Games; and
- (e) In the case of a former student-athlete, such participation shall be limited to the number of years that allows the individual to practice with the institution's team in preparation for two consecutive Olympic or Paralympic Games following exhaustion of eligibility or completion of degree, whichever is earlier. A student-athlete who has not graduated must be enrolled (full or part time) and making progress toward a degree.

14.2.3.1.8.5.1 Administration. Waivers of Bylaw 14.2.3.1.8.4 or 14.2.3.1.8.5 shall be approved by the conference members of the Association or, in the case of independent institutions, by the Management Council. A member institution shall submit a waiver request that includes documentation that demonstrates that the conditions of Bylaw 14.2.3.1.8.4 or 14.2.3.1.8.5 have been met for each individual who wishes to participate in the institution's practice sessions.

14.2.3.1.8.6 Practice and Competition -- All Other Full-Time Enrollment Waivers. Unless otherwise specified under this bylaw, the Academic Requirements Committee may waive the 12-hour requirement for competition and practice.

14.2.4 Graduate Student/Postbaccalaureate/Second Baccalaureate Participation. A student-athlete who is enrolled in a graduate or professional school of the institution they previously attended as an undergraduate (regardless of whether the individual has received a United States baccalaureate degree or its equivalent), a student-athlete who is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or equivalent degree at the same institution, a student-athlete who has graduated and is continuing as a full-time student at the same institution while taking course work that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree as defined and documented by the institution, or a nonmatriculating, nondegree seeking graduate student who satisfies all eligibility requirements (e.g., enrolled full time, in good academic standing), may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining and such participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3 (see Bylaw 14.2.3.1.7.5).

14.2.4.1 Transfer Exception. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program at an institution other than the institution they previously attended as an undergraduate may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining.

14.2.4.1.1 Disciplinary Suspension. A student who transfers from a collegiate institution and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or second

baccalaureate or equivalent degree program while the student is disqualified or suspended from the previous institution for disciplinary reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year of residence at the certifying institution.

14.2.4.2 NCAA Championship Following Last Term of Eligibility. A student-athlete who is eligible during the term in which degree work is completed (or is eligible as a graduate, per Bylaw 14.2.4) remains eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after the end of the term in which the student completes the requirements for the degree (or graduate eligibility). The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, may waive the 60-day requirement when an NCAA championship, postseason bowl game or National Invitation Tournament is conducted at the conclusion of the traditional playing season but begins more than 60 days after the end of said term.

14.2.5 Change in Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete's academic eligibility changes at the end of a quarter or semester, the student-athlete shall become eligible or ineligible to compete on the date their eligibility officially is certified by the appropriate institutional authority. In a case in which the student becomes eligible at the end of the term, the earliest date on which the student can become eligible to compete is the day after the date of the last scheduled examination listed in the institution's official calendar for the term that is ending. In a case in which the student becomes ineligible, the ineligibility shall become effective not later than the first day of classes of the following semester or quarter. In any case, if the student-athlete is academically eligible to compete at the time of the student-athlete's or the institution's first participation in an NCAA championship, they shall remain eligible for the remainder of the championship.

14.2.5.1 Exception.

14.2.5.1.1 Institutions With Official Posting Date for Grades. An institution whose official posting date for grades falls within three days of the first day of classes for the following academic term shall have three business days from the official date on which grades must be posted to certify that student-athletes have satisfactorily completed at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2). For those institutions that post grades on a rolling basis, the three-business day period shall begin within the first week of classes.

14.2.5.1.2 Institutions With No Official Posting Date for Grades. An institution whose official submission date for grades falls on or after the first day of classes for the following academic term shall have five business days from the date on which grades are submitted to certify that student-athletes have satisfactorily completed at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2).

14.2.5.1.3 Certification of Eligibility. During the three-business-day or five-business-day period, a student-athlete who is otherwise eligible under NCAA, conference and institutional requirements, shall be permitted to compete. If during the exception period, a student-athlete is certified ineligible, the student-athlete shall be declared immediately ineligible for competition. If the three-business-day or five-business-day period concludes prior to the certification of eligibility for any student-athlete, the student-athlete(s) shall be ineligible until such time as the student-athlete(s) is declared eligible for competition.

14.2.6 Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice With Women's Teams. A male student or male student-athlete (see Bylaw 17.02.9) may engage in practice sessions with women's teams under the following conditions:

- (a) Male students who practice with an institution's women's team must be verified as eligible for practice in accordance with Bylaw 14.2.3.1 and must have eligibility remaining under the ten-semester/15-quarter rule (see Bylaw 14.4.3.2) and undergo a mandatory medical examination per Bylaw 17.1.5. A male student who practices with an institution's women's team is not required to have an academic or amateurism certification from the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- (b) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students financial assistance, which includes room and board, tuition and fees, and books, in return for practicing with the women's team.
- (c) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students awards and benefits set forth in Bylaw 16.
- (d) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students room and board to remain on campus during a vacation period to participate in practice sessions with a women's team.
- (e) It is permissible for an institution to provide practice apparel to male students for the purpose of practicing with a women's team.

14.2.7 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be considered a transfer student-athlete upon return to the certifying institution. A student-athlete participating in such a program shall not trigger the use of a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment. In sports other than basketball, a student-athlete shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in such a program. All eligibility regulations still apply.

14.2.8 Freshman Academic Requirements.

14.2.8.1 General Principles.

14.2.8.1.1 High School Review Committee. The High School Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the academic review of high schools and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a high school shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.4.2.)

14.2.8.1.2 Student Records Review Committee. The Student Records Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.5.2.)

14.2.8.2 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers.

14.2.8.2.1 Qualifier. A qualifier is defined as one who is a high school graduate and who has a minimum cumulative core-course grade-point average of 2.200 (based on a maximum 4.000) in a minimum of 16 academic courses. The 16 core courses shall include the following:

English	3 years
Mathematics	2 years
Natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered by the high school)	2 years
Additional courses in English, mathematics or natural or physical science	3 years
Social science	2 years
Additional academic courses [in any of the above areas or foreign language, philosophy or nondoctrinal religion (e.g., comparative religion) courses]	4 years

The record of the above courses and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or on a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office; and

14.2.8.2.1.1 Exception -- Early Academic Certification. A prospective student-athlete shall be certified as a qualifier, provided they have achieved a core-course grade-point average of 2.500 (based on a maximum of 4.000) in a minimum of 14 core courses on completion of six semesters (or the equivalent). The 14 core courses shall include three core courses in English, three in mathematics (at the level of Algebra I or higher), two in natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered at the high school) and six additional core courses in any NCAA core area. The record of the course and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using either an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office.

14.2.8.2.1.1.1 Submission of Final Transcript(s). An institution must submit a final high school transcript(s) (official or unofficial) to the NCAA Eligibility Center by November 15 following a student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment for any student-athlete who is certified as a qualifier pursuant to the early academic certification exception.

14.2.8.2.1.2 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifier. A student-athlete who enrolls in a Division II institution as an entering freshman with no previous full-time college attendance shall meet the academic requirements for a qualifier, as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center, and approved by the Board of Governors, and any applicable institutional and conference regulations, to be eligible for financial aid, practice and competition during the first academic year in residence.

14.2.8.2.2 Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier is defined as a student who does not meet the requirements for a qualifier (see Bylaw [14.2.8.2.1](#)).

14.2.8.2.2.1 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A student-athlete who enrolls in a Division II institution as an entering freshman with no previous full-time college attendance and who is a partial qualifier may receive institutional financial aid (see Bylaw [15.2.1](#)) based on institutional and conference regulations and may practice only on campus or at the institution's regular practice facility but may not compete during the first academic year in residence.

14.2.8.2.2.2 Outside Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff); however, during the first year in residence, such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institutional club team or on an outside sports team.

14.2.8.2.2.3 Seasons of Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier shall not engage in more than four seasons of competition.

14.2.8.2.2.4 Residence Requirement -- Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier must fulfill an academic year of residence to be eligible to compete and to practice away from the institution (see Bylaw 14.02.21 regarding the requirements that must be met to fulfill an academic year in residence).

14.2.8.2.3 Core-Curriculum Requirements. For purposes of meeting the core-curriculum requirement to establish eligibility at a member institution, a "core course" must meet all of the following criteria:

- (a) A course must be a recognized academic course and qualify for high school graduation credit in one or a combination of the following areas: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy;
- (b) A course must be considered college-preparatory by the high school. College-preparatory is defined for these purposes as any course that prepares a student academically to enter a four-year collegiate institution on graduation from high school;
- (c) A mathematics course must be at the level of Algebra I or higher-level mathematics course;
- (d) A course must be taught by a qualified instructor as defined by the appropriate academic authority (e.g., high school, school district or state agency with authority over such matters); and
- (e) A course must be taught at or above the high school's regular academic level (i.e., remedial, special education or compensatory courses shall not be considered core courses). However, the prohibition against the use of remedial or compensatory courses is not applicable to courses designed for students with education-impacting disabilities (see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.5).

14.2.8.2.3.1 Core-Curriculum Time Limitation. A student is permitted to use all core courses completed following the start of the ninth grade and prior to initial full-time enrollment at a collegiate institution as certified on the official transcript or by official correspondence.

14.2.8.2.3.2 Nontraditional Courses. Courses taught via the Internet, distance-learning, independent-study, individualized-instruction, correspondence and courses taught by similar means, may be used to satisfy NCAA core-course requirements, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) The course meets all requirements for a core course as defined in Bylaw 14.2.8.2.3;

- (b) The instructor and the student have ongoing access to one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;
- (c) The instructor and the student have regular interaction with one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;
- (d) The student's work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) is available for evaluation and validation;
- (e) Evaluation of the student's work is conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies;
- (f) The course includes a defined time period for completion; and
- (g) The course is acceptable for any student and is placed on the high school transcript.

14.2.8.2.3.3 College Courses. College courses may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements if accepted by the high school, provided the courses are accepted for any other student, meet all other requirements for core courses and are placed on the student's high school transcript.

14.2.8.2.3.4 English as a Second Language Course. It is permissible to use an advanced level English as a Second Language (ESL) course to satisfy a core-curriculum requirement, provided the course is qualitatively and quantitatively the same as the comparison course in the regular course offering and the course appears on the high school's list of approved core courses. Further, an advanced-level ESL course must be exclusively for ESL students and all students in the course must be at the same level.

14.2.8.2.3.5 Courses for Students With Education-Impacting Disabilities. High school courses for students with education-impacting disabilities may be used to fulfill the core-curriculum requirements, even if such courses appear to be taught at a level below the high school's regular academic instructional level (e.g., special education courses), if the high school principal submits a written statement to the NCAA Eligibility Center indicating that courses are substantially comparable, quantitatively and qualitatively, to similar core-course offerings in that academic discipline and the courses appear on the high school's list of approved core courses. Students with education-impacting disabilities still must complete the required core courses and achieve the minimum required grade-point average in the core curriculum. The fact that the title of a course includes a designation such as "remedial," "special education," "special needs," or other similar titles used for

courses designed for students with education-impacting disabilities does not, in and of itself, disqualify a course from satisfying core-curriculum requirements.

14.2.8.2.3.6 Grade Value of Core Courses. The following grade values are to be used in determining a student's grade-point average in the core courses: A = 4 quality points, B = 3 quality points, C = 2 quality points, D = 1 quality point. In determining the core-curriculum grade-point average, each grade earned in a course (including all numerical grades) must be converted to this 4.000 scale on an individual-course basis. Pluses or minuses within a grade level shall not receive greater or lesser quality points. A school's normal practice of weighting honors or advanced courses may be used to compute the quality points awarded in those courses and the cumulative grade-point average, provided a written statement verifying the grading policy accompanies the prospective student-athlete's official grade transcript. An honors or an advanced course shall receive not greater than 1.000 additional quality point (e.g., A = 5.000). In calculating the grade in a weighted honors or advanced course, if a high school does not assign quality points to its courses, quality points shall be added to each course before calculating the student's grade-point average and not added to a student's cumulative core-course grade-point average. The core-curriculum grade-point average may be calculated using the student's 16 best grades from courses that meet the distribution requirements of the core curriculum. Additional core courses (beyond the 16 required) may be used to meet the core-curriculum grade-point average, provided the distribution requirements are met.

14.2.8.2.3.6.1 Grade-Point Average Computation. In determining a student-athlete's eligibility, it is not permissible to round the student's high school grade-point average, regardless of the number of digits to which the computation is carried (e.g., a high school grade-point average of 1.9999 would not make a prospective student-athlete a partial qualifier).

14.2.8.2.3.6.2 Multiple Grade-Point Average Calculations. If a high school uses more than one method to compute cumulative grade-point averages for all of its students, the high school may use the method most beneficial to a prospective student-athlete, provided that under its normal procedures the high school actually computes (without any special request by the student or a member institution) a cumulative grade-point average, using that same method for each student at the high school.

14.2.8.2.3.6.3 Multiple High School Attendance. When a prospective student-athlete attends more than one high school, it is necessary for the high school from which the student graduated to provide the student's total high school grade-point average. Eligibility shall not be established solely on the basis of work accomplished at the high school from which the student graduated.

14.2.8.2.3.7 Pass-Fail Grades. Courses that are awarded pass-fail grades may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements. The NCAA Eligibility Center shall assign the course the lowest passing grade that the high school assigns for a pass-fail course.

14.2.8.2.3.8 Repeat Courses. A repeated course may be used only once to satisfy core-curriculum requirements. The best grade in that course may be used to calculate the grade-point average in the core curriculum.

14.2.8.2.3.9 Multiple High School Attendance. For a student-athlete who attends more than one high school, a Form 48-H (core-course form) and an official transcript from each high school the student-athlete attended must be used. However, the NCAA Eligibility Center may receive the official transcript from either the student-athlete's original high school or the high school from which the student-athlete graduated, or from an institution's admissions office.

14.2.8.2.4 Early Admissions Program Waiver. A waiver may be granted by the Academic Requirements Committee for a student who left high school after completion of the junior year or during the senior year to enter a member institution under an early admissions program (open to students solely on the basis of outstanding academic performance and promise), provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) For the last four semesters completed in high school, the student maintained a cumulative, minimum grade-point average of 3.500 (based on a maximum of 4.000) and ranked in the top 20 percent of the student's class; and
- (b) The student has met all the requirements of a qualifier except graduation from high school.

14.2.8.3 Determination of Freshman Eligibility.

14.2.8.3.1 Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete. If a recruited or nonrecruited student-athlete reports for athletics participation before the high school core-curriculum grade-point average and test score have been certified, the student-athlete may practice, but not compete, for a maximum of 45 days, provided the student-athlete is enrolled full time or has been accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student. After this 45-day period, the student shall have been certified as a qualifier by the NCAA Eligibility Center to continue practicing or to compete, or as a partial qualifier to continue practicing.

14.2.8.3.1.1 Effect of Violation. A violation of Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2 in which the student-athlete is subsequently certified shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.7 but shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

14.2.8.3.2 Equivalency Test/Diploma. A prospective student-athlete who does not graduate from high school but completes a state high school equivalency test [e.g., General

Educational Development (GED)] and obtains a state high school equivalency diploma may satisfy the graduation requirement, provided the equivalency test is completed on or after the high school graduation date of the prospective student-athlete's class [as determined by their first year of enrollment in high school (ninth grade) or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility].

14.2.8.3.3 Advanced Placement. If the student-athlete is admitted with a minimum of 24-semester hours or a minimum of 36-quarter hours of advanced placement from a College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) examination (or from a similar proficiency examination) and/or concurrent high school/college credit without previous enrollment at a collegiate institution, the student-athlete shall be immediately eligible. Credits earned from extension or summer-session courses may not be counted in satisfaction of this requirement. A "similar proficiency examination" must be an advanced or higher level, nationally administered proficiency exam with a uniform grading scale that is taken after high school graduation.

14.2.8.3.3.1 International Certification. An institution shall use the NCAA Eligibility Center to determine whether a "similar proficiency examination" taken by an international student-athlete is an advanced or higher level, nationally administered proficiency exam with a uniform grading scale that is taken after high school graduation. In addition, the Eligibility Center shall certify the eligibility of an international student-athlete based on the number of advanced placement and concurrent high school/college credit hours accepted by the certifying institution.

14.2.8.3.4 International Academic Standards. A student from a foreign country shall satisfy the requirements outlined in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility and the test-score requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1-(b) to be certified as a qualifier.

14.2.8.4 Notification of Initial-Eligibility Standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center shall provide information regarding the initial-eligibility standards contained in Bylaw 14.2.8.2 to a prospective student-athlete and their parents or legal guardians after they have registered with the Eligibility Center.

14.2.8.5 Initial-Eligibility Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all initial-eligibility requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of this regulation. The committee shall establish the process for granting such waivers and shall report at least annually to the Management Council and to the membership, the actions taken, in summary, aggregate form.

14.2.9 Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.

14.2.9.1 Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall maintain progress toward a

baccalaureate or equivalent degree at that institution. (See Bylaw 7.3.1.5.5 regarding the obligations of members to publish their progress-toward-degree requirements for student-athletes.)

14.2.9.1.1 Exchange Student. The eligibility of an exchange student shall be based on satisfactory completion of at least:

- (a) Nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during the preceding regular academic term in which the student has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution (see Bylaw **14.2.9.3.2**);
- (b) Credit hours earned during the regular academic year as set forth in Bylaw **14.2.9.3.3**;
- (c) Credit hours earned for the annual credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw **14.2.9.3.4**; and
- (d) Cumulative minimum grade-point average as set forth in Bylaw **14.2.9.3.5**.

14.2.9.1.2 Temporary Student. A student-athlete having the status of temporary, transient or exchange student shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless such status is specifically allowed and governed by provisions adopted by the membership.

14.2.9.2 Eligibility for Financial Aid and Practice. Eligibility for institutional financial aid and practice during each academic year after a student-athlete's initial year in residence or after the student-athlete has used one season of eligibility in a sport shall be based upon the rules of the institution and the conference(s), if any, of which the institution is a member. See Bylaw **14.2.3** for additional rules regarding eligibility for practice.

14.2.9.3 Eligibility for Competition.

14.2.9.3.1 Good Academic Standing. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in good academic standing, as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students at the institution, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a member. A student-athlete shall maintain a grade-point average that places the individual in good academic standing, as established by the institution for all students who are at an equivalent stage of progress toward a degree. A student-athlete who is not in good academic standing is not eligible for competition even if the individual satisfies the progress-toward-degree requirements. The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution.

14.2.9.3.2 Term-By-Term Credit-Hour Requirement. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must earn nine-

semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term in which the student-athlete has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution.

14.2.9.3.2.1 Application of Rule to Transfer Student. For purposes of certifying eligibility for a transfer student from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2, the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours must be transferable degree credit. (See Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3)

14.2.9.3.2.2 Calculation of Credit Hours. During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the term-by-term credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program.

14.2.9.3.2.2.1 Exception -- Final Academic Year of Degree Program. A student-athlete who is in the final academic year (final two semesters or three quarters) of their designated degree program may use credit hours acceptable toward any of the institution's degree programs to satisfy the nine-semester or eight-quarter hour requirement per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2, provided the institution certifies, through review by appropriate academic officials, that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete degree requirements at the end of the two semesters or three quarters. Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during the final two semesters or three quarters and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

14.2.9.3.2.2.1.1 Waivers. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall establish appropriate criteria for waiver requests seeking relief of the forfeiture of eligibility penalty.

14.2.9.3.3 Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term or since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.

14.2.9.3.3.1 Regular Academic Year. For purposes of Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3, the regular academic year consists of the time beginning with the opening of the institutions' fall term and concluding with the institution's spring commencement exercises.

14.2.9.3.3.2 Application of Rule. The following student-athletes are subject to the credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3: (*Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16 for certifications of progress toward degree for fall 2016 and thereafter*)

- (a) A midyear transfer student-athlete;
- (b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the institution for at least one academic year; or
- (c) A student-athlete who has used one season of eligibility in any sport at the certifying institution.

14.2.9.3.3.2.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee. A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) is not subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3 for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution. In subsequent years, the student-athlete's completion of the 18-semester or 27-quarter hour requirement shall be certified prior to the start of each academic year based on the student-athlete's record since the beginning of the previous fall term.

14.2.9.3.3.3 Calculation of Credit Hours. During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.

14.2.9.3.3.4 Part-Time Enrollment. Credit hours earned during a term in which a student-athlete is enrolled less than full-time may be used to satisfy the 18-semester/27-quarter hour requirement only if such credits are combined with credits earned during a term that immediately precedes or immediately follows a term in which the student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student. Credits earned during a part-time term may be completed at an institution other than the certifying institution.

14.2.9.3.4 Annual Credit Hour Requirement. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must earn 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit during any year in which the student-athlete is enrolled full time in at least one academic term. A student-athlete may satisfy this requirement based on the student-athlete earning:

- (a) 24-semester or 36-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term;
- (b) 24-semester or 36-quarter hours since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters; or
- (c) 48-semester or 72-quarter hours during the first two years of collegiate enrollment (the certifying institution's first four semesters or six quarters following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment in a collegiate institution).

(Note: A student-athlete who does not enroll in a collegiate institution for a full academic year following their initial year of collegiate enrollment is considered to be enrolled in their second year of collegiate enrollment upon the next enrollment in a regular academic term at a collegiate institution.)

14.2.9.3.4.1 Application of Rule. The following student-athletes are subject to annual credit-hour requirements:

- (a) A midyear transfer student-athlete;
- (b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the institution for at least one academic year; or
- (c) A student-athlete who has used one season of eligibility in any sport at the certifying institution.

14.2.9.3.4.1.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee. A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) shall be subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4 for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution; however, the annual credit hours may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during the initial regular academic year of attendance. (See Bylaw 14.2.9.3.8.2)

14.2.9.3.4.2 Academic Year in Residence. The definition of "year in residence" for purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is subject to the annual credit-hour requirement is based on full-time enrollment and attendance during any portion of a term in an academic year, except that when a student-athlete is granted a medical-absence waiver per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.9.1 during the first year of academic residence, that term is not counted in determining whether the student-athlete has been in residence at the certifying institution for one academic year.

14.2.9.3.4.3 Calculation of Credit Hours. During the student-athlete's first four semesters or six quarters of collegiate enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate

enrollment, credits used to meet the annual credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) may be used to satisfy the academic credit requirements of this regulation.

14.2.9.3.4.4 Regaining Eligibility. A student-athlete who does not meet the 24-semester or 36-quarter credit-hour requirement since the beginning of the previous fall term, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully completing 24-semester or 36-quarter hours during the previous two semesters or three quarters.

14.2.9.3.5 Fulfillment of Minimum Grade-Point Average Requirements. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must achieve a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of each fall term. The eligibility of a student-athlete who does not satisfy the grade-point average requirement prior to the fall term may be recertified prior to the next regular academic term.

14.2.9.3.5.1 Application of Rule. The following student-athletes are subject to minimum grade-point average requirements:

- (a) A midyear transfer student-athlete from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution who has completed an academic term in residence;
- (b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year; or
- (c) A student-athlete who has used a season of eligibility in a sport at the certifying institution.

14.2.9.3.5.1.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee or Transfer Student. The provisions of Bylaw 14.2.9.3.5 shall be applicable to the eligibility of a midyear enrollee or transfer student from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution in the fall term following their initial enrollment at the certifying institution.

14.2.9.3.5.2 Academic Year in Residence. The definition of "year in residence" for purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is subject to the annual grade-point average requirement is based on full-time enrollment and attendance during any portion of a term in an academic year, except that if a student-athlete is granted a medical-absence waiver per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.9.1 during the first year of academic residence, that term is not counted in determining whether the student-athlete has been in residence at the certifying institution for one academic year.

14.2.9.3.5.3 Calculation of Minimum Grade-Point Average. A student-athlete must meet the minimum cumulative grade-point average at the certifying institution based on the method of calculation used by the institution for calculating cumulative grade-point averages for all students, and the calculation shall include only course work normally counted by the certifying institution in calculating the cumulative grade-point average for graduation (regardless of whether an institution requires multiple minimum grade-point averages for graduation).

14.2.9.3.5.4 Applicable Credit Hours. All credit hours (e.g., part time, transfer, advanced placement) that are accepted and appear on the student-athlete's transcript at the certifying institution shall be used in determining the minimum grade-point average requirements.

14.2.9.3.5.5 Regaining Eligibility. A student-athlete who does not meet the minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of a fall term, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully earning a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000.

14.2.9.3.6 Designation of Degree Program. A student-athlete shall designate a program of studies leading toward a specific baccalaureate degree at the certifying institution by the beginning of the third year of enrollment (fifth semester or seventh quarter) and thereafter shall make progress toward that specific degree. This provision shall be applicable to the eligibility not only of a continuing student, but also of a transfer student from a four-year or two-year collegiate institution who is entering their third year of collegiate enrollment, even if the student has not yet completed an academic year in residence or used a season of eligibility in a sport at the certifying institution. An institution shall not incur a violation if a student-athlete fails to designate a degree program prior to their third year of enrollment (fifth semester or seventh quarter), provided the student-athlete designates a degree prior to competing. Designation of a specific baccalaureate degree program may be accomplished by:

- (a) Formal enrollment by the student-athlete in a specific baccalaureate degree program; or
- (b) Approval by an appropriate academic official (who must not be an academic adviser/counselor employed by the athletics department) of the program leading to the specific baccalaureate degree that the student-athlete is pursuing.

14.2.9.3.6.1 Documentation of Degree Program Designation. If the designation is in accordance with Bylaw 14.2.9.3.6-(a), the official enrollment records of the institution shall constitute the documentation of the program against which progress toward degree under this regulation shall be measured. If the designation is in accordance with Bylaw 14.2.9.3.6-(b), the record of the degree program designation, approved by the appropriate academic official, shall constitute that documentation. For purposes of certifying eligibility for competition, an appropriate

academic official shall affirm in writing the number of credit hours applicable to the designated degree program that have been completed satisfactorily. The institution's records for all student-athlete degree program designations and progress-toward-degree evaluations shall be retained for inspection (on request) by an authorized representative of the NCAA.

14.2.9.3.7 Regulations for Administration of Progress Toward Degree.

14.2.9.3.7.1 Nontraditional Terms. An institution that determines registration other than on a traditional semester- or quarter-hour basis shall submit a statement describing the progress-toward-degree requirements applicable to its student-athletes for approval by the Academic Requirements Committee.

14.2.9.3.7.2 Credit Hours Earned Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment at the Certifying Institution. Credit hours earned at another institution before initial enrollment at the certifying institution may not be used to satisfy progress-toward-degree requirements. In the first year of collegiate enrollment [or during the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4-(c) to satisfy the annual credit hour requirement], this restriction does not apply to credit hours earned while a student was enrolled as a high school student (e.g., courses that qualify as high school and college credit). Such credit hours shall not be used to meet the required minimum number of credit hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3).

14.2.9.3.7.3 Advanced-Placement Tests/Credit by Examination. Credit received through advanced-placement tests or by examination or International Baccalaureate Program examinations may be used by a student-athlete to meet the minimum progress-toward-degree requirements, provided the subject for which the examination is an alternative is offered by the institution as acceptable degree credit. If such credit was earned while the student-athlete was enrolled in high school, it may be used to meet both initial-eligibility and progress-toward-degree requirements in the first year of collegiate enrollment [or in the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4-(c) to satisfy the annual credit-hour requirement], provided the credit was earned prior to high school graduation. However, such credit, if earned prior to initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, may not be used to meet the required minimum number of hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3).

14.2.9.3.7.4 Remedial, Tutorial or Noncredit Courses. Remedial, tutorial or noncredit courses may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 only if such courses meet all of the following conditions:

- (a) The courses must be considered by the institution to be prerequisites for specific courses acceptable for any degree program;

- (b) The courses must be given the same weight as others in the institution in determining the student-athlete's status for full-time enrollment;
- (c) Noncredit courses may not exceed the maximum institutional limit for such courses in any baccalaureate degree program (or the student-athlete's specific baccalaureate degree program once a program has been designated); and
- (d) Credit in such courses shall not exceed 12-semester or 18-quarter hours, and the courses must be taken during the student-athlete's first academic year of collegiate enrollment.

14.2.9.3.7.5 Incomplete Grades. A student-athlete who receives an incomplete grade in a course may use the course in question to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The incomplete grade must have been removed and recorded in accordance with the institution's regulations applicable to all students;
- (b) Such a course may be counted only once after a grade has been achieved that is acceptable to the institution for determining progress-toward-degree; and
- (c) In the case of no institutional policy, the course with the acceptable grade shall be counted either during the term in which the student initially enrolled in the course or during the term in which the incomplete grade was removed and acceptable credit was awarded.

14.2.9.3.7.6 Repeated Courses. Credit for courses that are repeated may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 only under the following conditions:

- (a) A course repeated due to an unsatisfactory initial grade may be used only once and only after it has been satisfactorily completed;
- (b) Credit for a course that may be taken several times (e.g., a physical education activities course) shall be limited by institutional regulations; and
- (c) Credits earned in courses that may be taken several times may not exceed the maximum institutional limit for credits of that type for any baccalaureate degree program (or for the student-athlete's specific baccalaureate degree program once a program has been designated).

14.2.9.3.7.7 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted for Degree Credit After Change of Degree Program. A student-athlete who changes their designated degree program after their fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment may

comply with the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 if:

- (a) The change in programs is documented appropriately by the institution's academic authorities;
- (b) The credits earned before the change are acceptable toward a degree previously sought; and
- (c) The credits earned from the time of the change are acceptable toward the new desired degree.

14.2.9.3.7.8 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Major. A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program with an identified major may not use a course to fulfill the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 even if the course fulfills an elective component of the student-athlete's degree program, if the student-athlete ultimately must repeat the course to fulfill the requirements of the student's major.

14.2.9.3.7.9 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Minor. A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program may use credits earned in a minor to fulfill the credit-hour requirements for meeting progress toward degree if the minor is a required element for all students to obtain the original baccalaureate degree. A student-athlete who has designated a voluntary or optional minor (i.e., a minor that is not a required element of the original baccalaureate degree program for all students) may use a maximum of six credit hours per academic term (regular academic year, summer) earned in the minor to fulfill the credit-hour requirements for meeting progress toward degree.

14.2.9.3.7.10 Nontraditional Courses From Another Institution. Nontraditional courses (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/virtual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) completed at an institution other than the one in which a student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student may be used in determining progress toward degree, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The course is available to any student at the certifying institution;
- (b) The student-athlete enrolls in the course in the same manner as is available to any student; and
- (c) Enrollment in the course occurs within the offering institution's regular enrollment periods (preregistration or drop-add period) in accordance with the institution's academic calendar and applicable policies and procedures.

14.2.9.3.7.11 Cooperative Educational, Work Experience and Study-Abroad Programs. A student-athlete shall not be required to complete nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term of full-time enrollment during any term or terms of enrollment in a cooperative educational or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching) or an institutionally approved study-abroad program.

14.2.9.3.7.11.1 Adjustment of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.

A student-athlete who participates in a cooperative educational, work experience or an institutionally approved study abroad program, may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance in traditional coursework.

14.2.9.3.8 Exceptions to Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.

14.2.9.3.8.1 Missed Term Exception. One time during a student-athlete's entire period of collegiate enrollment, the provisions of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance, if the student-athlete misses a complete term or consecutive terms during an academic year, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The student-athlete did not attend class during a regular academic term while enrolled in a full-time program of studies;
- (b) The student-athlete engaged in no outside competition in the sport during the academic term or terms in which the student was not in attendance;
- (c) The student-athlete was eligible for enrollment during the student's absence; and
- (d) At the time of certification, the student-athlete has fulfilled the progress-toward-degree requirements (per Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4) for the terms in which the student was in attendance. It is not permissible to use this one-time exception during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution in order to maintain eligibility during the second year in residence. Hours earned while enrolled as a part-time student during the "missed term" may not be counted in meeting the progress-toward-degree requirement.

14.2.9.3.8.2 Midyear Enrollment Exception. For student-athletes entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer), the annual credit hours required per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during the initial regular academic year of attendance.

14.2.9.3.8.3 Nonrecruited, Nonparticipant Exception. A student-athlete may qualify for an exception to the application of the progress-toward-degree regulations for the initial season of eligibility, if the student has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year; was not recruited; has not received athletically related financial assistance; has never practiced or participated in intercollegiate athletics, except that a student may have participated in limited preseason tryouts; and is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA rules. The student-athlete's eligibility in future seasons would be governed by the progress-toward-degree requirements, which would be applied from the beginning of the first term the student began participation.

14.2.9.3.8.4 Graduate Student Exception. A student-athlete who is a graduate student or a student-athlete who graduates and returns for a second baccalaureate degree or who is taking coursework that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree who is otherwise eligible for regular-season competition shall be exempt from the progress-toward-degree requirements.

14.2.9.3.8.5 Two-Year Non-Participation or Minimal Participation Exception. A student-athlete may qualify for an exception to the application of the progress-toward-degree regulations if, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student-athlete has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in any sport beyond a 14-consecutive calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution; and is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA rules. The 14-consecutive calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student-athlete's initial collegiate enrollment. The student-athlete's eligibility in future seasons would be governed by the progress-toward-degree requirements, which would be applied from the beginning of the first term the student-athlete began participation.

14.2.9.3.9 Waivers of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements. The Academic Requirements Committee shall establish appropriate criteria for waivers of this legislation. Such waivers shall be administered by the conference members of the Association or, in the case of an independent institution, by the Academic Requirements Committee. Waivers of the progress-toward-degree requirements may be granted under the following conditions:

14.2.9.3.9.1 Medical Absence Waiver. The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student misses a term or is unable

to complete a term as a full-time student as a result of an injury or illness. Such an exception may be granted only when circumstances clearly supported by appropriate medical documentation establish that a student-athlete is unable to attend a collegiate institution as a full-time student as a result of an incapacitating physical injury or illness involving the student-athlete or a member of the student-athlete's immediate family. Credits earned by the student-athlete during the term to which the waiver applies may not be used in determining progress toward degree. A Division II conference office has the authority to administer medical absence waivers for terms that occurred at an NCAA institution prior to a student-athlete's enrollment at a member institution within the conference.

14.2.9.3.9.2 International Competition Waiver. The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student is not enrolled for a term or terms or is unable to complete a term as a result of participation in the Pan American, Parapan American, Olympic, Paralympic, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) or World University Championships (including final Olympic or Paralympic tryouts and the officially recognized training program that directly qualifies participants for those tryouts). This waiver provision may be applied to not more than two semesters or three quarters.

14.2.9.3.10 Olympic or Paralympic Games Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the progress-toward-degree requirements for any participant in the Olympic or Paralympic Games who, because of such participation, may lose eligibility for practice and competition in any sport.

14.2.9.3.11 Student-Athletes With Education-Impacting Disabilities Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the progress-toward-degree requirements for a student-athlete when objective evidence demonstrates that the institution has defined full-time enrollment for that student-athlete to be less than 12 hours to accommodate for the student's education-impacting disability.

14.2.9.3.12 Additional Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all other progress-toward-degree requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations. The committee shall establish the process for granting such waivers and shall report at least annually to the Management Council and to the membership, the actions taken in summary, aggregate form.

14.2.10 Academic Misconduct.

14.2.10.1 Institutional Staff Member. For purposes of Bylaw 14, an institutional staff member is any individual, excluding a student employee, who performs work for the institution or the athletics department, regardless of whether they receive compensation for such work.

14.2.10.1.1 Student Employee. For purposes of Bylaw 14, a student employee is an institutional staff member if:

- (a) They have institutional responsibilities to provide academic services to student-athletes; or
- (b) They engage in academic misconduct or provides impermissible academic assistance at the direction of a nonstudent employee, an institutional staff member per Bylaw 14.2.10.1.1-(a) or a representative of the institution's athletics interests.

14.2.10.2 Pre-Enrollment.

14.2.10.2.1 Pre-Enrollment Academic Misconduct. A prospective student-athlete, student-athlete, representative of athletics interests or a current or former institutional staff member shall not:

- (a) Arrange for a false or inaccurate academic record (e.g., courses, grades, credits, transcripts, test scores) for a prospective student-athlete; or
- (b) Provide false, inaccurate or incomplete information to the NCAA or an institution regarding a prospective student-athlete's academic record.

14.2.10.3 Policies and Procedures. An institution must:

- (a) Have written institutional policies and procedures regarding academic misconduct applicable to the general student-body, including student-athletes. The policies and procedures must be approved through the institution's normal process for approving such policies and must be kept on file or be accessible on the institution's website.
- (b) Investigate and adjudicate alleged academic misconduct in accordance with established policies regardless of whether the misconduct is reported to the NCAA or whether the student-athlete acted alone or in concert with others.

14.2.10.3.1 Exception. An institution may establish a policy that permits an expedited investigation and adjudication of academic misconduct by a student-athlete, provided other applicable policies and procedures are observed and the policy for expedited review is approved through the institution's normal process for approving such policies and is approved by the institution's president or chancellor (or their designee). Further, the policy that permits an expedited review must be kept on file or must be accessible on the institution's website.

14.2.10.4 Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.

14.2.10.4.1 Student-Athlete. A student-athlete shall not be involved in:

- (a) Academic misconduct involving a current or former institutional staff member or representative of athletics interests;

- (b) Academic misconduct, without the involvement of a current or former institutional staff member or representative of athletics interests, that results in:
 - (1) An erroneous declaration of eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics and the student-athlete subsequently competes for the institution while ineligible;
 - (2) An erroneous declaration of eligibility to receive financial aid and the student-athlete subsequently receives financial aid while ineligible; or
- (c) Academic misconduct involving the alteration or falsification of a student-athlete's transcript or academic record.

14.2.10.4.2 Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests. A current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests shall not be involved (with or without knowledge of the student-athlete) in:

- (a) Academic misconduct related to a student-athlete; or
- (b) The alteration or falsification of a student-athlete's transcript or academic record.

14.2.10.4.3 Impermissible Academic Assistance – Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests. A current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests shall not provide impermissible academic assistance to a student-athlete (see Bylaw 14.02.11).

14.2.10.4.3.1 Application. If an institution determines, pursuant to its policies and procedures, that academic misconduct has occurred, a violation of Bylaw 14.2.12.3.3 shall not be cited by the institution or through an enforcement investigation. If an institution determines, pursuant to its policies and procedures, that academic misconduct has not occurred, the conduct in question may still constitute a violation of Bylaw 14.2.12.3.3.

14.3 Transfer Regulations.

14.3.1 Residence Requirement -- General Principle. A student who transfers (see Bylaw 14.3.2) to a member institution from any collegiate institution is required to complete one full academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.21) at the certifying institution before being eligible to compete for or to receive travel expenses from the member institution (see Bylaw 16.8.1), unless the student satisfies the applicable transfer requirements or receives an exception or waiver as set forth in this bylaw.

14.3.1.1 Disciplinary Suspension. A student (including a student enrolling in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program per Bylaw 14.2.4.1) who transfers to any NCAA institution from a collegiate institution while the student is disqualified or suspended from the previous institution for disciplinary

reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year of residence at the certifying institution.

14.3.1.2 Outside Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A two-year college transfer student who is a partial qualifier and does not meet the applicable transfer requirements may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff), but such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institution's club team or an outside sports team during the first academic year in residence. A four-year college transfer student who is a partial qualifier and who has not completed an academic year in residence may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff), but such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institution's club team or an outside sports team during the first academic year in residence.

14.3.1.3 NCAA Championship Eligibility. A transfer student who is required to fulfill an academic year of residence shall not be eligible to participate in any NCAA championship that occurs during the vacation period immediately following the academic year of residence.

14.3.1.4 Foreign Institution Transfers. A transfer student from a foreign collegiate institution (college, university or two-year college) is subject to the one-year residence requirement set forth in Bylaw 14.3.5.1 (see Bylaw 14.3.5.3.2 regarding the exchange student exception).

14.3.2 Conditions Affecting Transfer Status. A transfer student is an individual who transfers from a collegiate institution after having met any one of the following conditions at that institution:

- (a) The student attended a class or classes in any quarter or semester in which the student was enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies, even if the enrollment was on a provisional basis and the student was later determined by the institution not to be admissible;
- (b) The student is or was enrolled in an institution in a minimum full-time program of studies in a night school that is considered to have regular terms (semesters or quarters) the same as the institution's day school, and the student is or was considered by the institution to be a regularly matriculated student;
- (c) The student attended a branch school that does not conduct an intercollegiate athletics program, but the student had been enrolled in another collegiate institution before attendance at the branch school;
- (d) The student attended a branch school that conducted an intercollegiate athletics program and transfers to any institution, including the parent institution;

- (e) The student attended a second campus of an institution that conducted an intercollegiate athletics program and transfers to any institution, including the parent institution.
- (f) The student reported for a regular squad practice [including countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) that occur prior to certification per Bylaws 14.1.1.5.1 and 14.3.4.5.7], announced by the institution through any member of its athletics department staff, before the beginning of any quarter or semester, as certified by the athletics director. Participation only in picture-day activities would not constitute "regular" practice;
- (g) The student participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in a given sport even though the student was enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies; or
- (h) The student received athletically related institutional financial aid while attending a summer term, summer school or summer-orientation program (see Bylaw 15.2.1.1).

14.3.3 Conditions Not Constituting Transfer Status. Unless otherwise covered by conditions set forth in Bylaw 14.3.2, a student-athlete is not considered a transfer under the following enrollment conditions:

14.3.3.1 Summer School, Extension Courses or Night School. The student has been enrolled in or attended classes only in a summer school, extension course or night school, unless the night school is considered by the institution to be a regular term (semester or quarter) the same as its day school, the student is enrolled for a minimum full-time load in this regular night term, and the student is considered by the institution to be a regularly enrolled student.

14.3.3.2 Branch School. The student has been enrolled in or attended classes only in a branch school, provided the branch school does not conduct an intercollegiate athletics program. If the branch school conducts an intercollegiate athletics program, the student shall be considered a transfer if they enroll at the parent institution directly from the branch school. (For definition of "branch school," see Bylaw 14.3.3.2.)

14.3.3.3 Academic Exchange Program. The student participates in a regular academic exchange program between two four-year institutions that requires a participant to complete a specified period of time at each institution, and the program provides for the student-athlete to receive at least two baccalaureate or equivalent degrees at the conclusion of this joint academic program.

14.3.3.4 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. The student participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities and returns to the certifying institution.

14.3.3.5 Service Academies. A student who has attended as a freshman (plebe) only in the official summer-enrollment program of one of the four national service academies.

14.3.4 Two-Year College Transfers. A student who transfers to a member institution from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program must complete an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.21) unless the student meets the following eligibility requirements applicable to the division of which the certifying institution is a member. (See Bylaw 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

14.3.4.1 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Graduation From Two-year College. A transfer student from a two-year college who has graduated from the two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete has completed at least two semesters or three quarters (excluding summer sessions) of enrollment as a full-time student at the two-year college; and
- (b) At least 25 percent of the credit hours used to fulfill the student's academic degree requirements are earned at the two-year college that awards the degree per Bylaw 14.3.4.5.4 (see Bylaw 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes).

14.3.4.1.1 Application.

- (a) **Transfer Never Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has never attended a four-year institution as a full-time student, then the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and academic degree(s) from any two-year college(s) attended shall be considered.
- (b) **Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during their academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and academic degree(s) earned at the two-year college(s) after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college (e.g., '2-4-2-4 transfer') shall be considered for purposes of meeting the requirements of Bylaw 14.3.4.5.1.

14.3.4.1.2 Exception -- Previous Four-Year College Attendance -- Graduation After One Semester or Quarter. A student who transfers from a four-year college to a two-year college and then to the certifying institution is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during their first year at the certifying institution, provided the student:

- (a) Attended the last two-year college as a full-time student for only one semester or one quarter; and
- (b) Graduated from that two-year college.

14.3.4.2 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Qualifier With No Four-Year College Attendance and Only One Term of Attendance at a Two-Year College. A transfer student from a two-year college who was a qualifier (per Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1), has not previously attended a four-year collegiate institution and has only attended a two-year college for one academic term (semester or quarter), is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete has attended the two-year college as a full-time student for only one semester or one quarter (excluding summer sessions);
- (b) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution for the full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year college; and
- (c) The student-athlete has presented a minimum grade-point average of 2.200 earned in transferable degree credit (see Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3.2).

14.3.4.2.1 Use of Physical Education Activity Courses. Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements.

14.3.4.2.2 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid. Qualifiers who do not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.3.4.2 or 14.3.4.3 may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year of residence.

14.3.4.3 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers. A transfer student from a two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete has completed at least two semesters or three quarters (excluding summer sessions) of enrollment as a full-time student at the two-year college;
- (b) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate

degree program at the certifying institution for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year college;

(c) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed the following transferable credit-hour requirements:

- (1) Six semester or eight quarter hours of English;
- (2) Three semester or four quarter hours of math; and
- (3) Three semester or four quarter hours of natural or physical science;

Remedial credit hours may not be used to satisfy these requirements. A transfer student may use transferable English, math and science credits earned while enrolled full time or part time at a previous two-year or four-year institution to satisfy these requirements.

(d) The student-athlete has presented a minimum grade-point average of 2.200 earned in transferable degree credit (see Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3.2).

14.3.4.3.1 Use of Physical Education Activity Courses. Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements.

14.3.4.3.2 Application.

(a) **Transfer Never Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has never attended a four-year institution as a full-time student, then the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and the transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) from any two-year college(s) attended shall be considered.

(b) **Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If the two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during their academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) earned at the two-year college(s) attended after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college shall be considered for purposes of meeting the requirements of Bylaw 14.3.4.3-(a), -(b) and -(d).

14.3.4.3.3 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid – Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers. A two-year college transfer who does not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.3.4.3 may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year in residence.

14.3.4.4 Subvarsity Competition. A transfer from a two-year college who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.3.4.1, 14.3.4.2 or 14.3.4.3 shall be eligible to compete only at the subvarsity level at the certifying institution. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a two-year college who was a partial qualifier and who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.3.4.1 or 14.3.4.3 shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first year in residence at the certifying institution.

14.3.4.5 Two-Year College Transfer Regulations. The following regulations shall be applied in administering the eligibility requirements for two-year college transfers.

14.3.4.5.1 Previous Enrollment at Two-Year Institution. The two-year college transfer requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.3.4 apply to all two-year college transfers regardless of whether the student-athlete attended one or more four-year colleges prior to their full-time enrollment at the two-year institution.

14.3.4.5.2 Credit Earned at Four-Year Institution. If a student-athlete attends a two-year college and, before regular enrollment at the certifying institution, attains additional credits as a part-time student in a four-year collegiate institution, the hours accumulated at the four-year institution may be used by the certifying institution in determining the student-athlete's eligibility under the credit-hour requirement of the two-year college transfer provisions, provided:

- (a) These hours are accepted by the two-year college and are placed on the transcript or other official document by the two-year college from which the student-athlete transfers before the date of initial regular enrollment at the certifying institution. Any official document (other than the student's transcript) used by the two-year college for this purpose includes the official seal of the two-year college, is signed by the appropriate academic official of the two-year college and is forwarded directly from the two-year college to the appropriate admissions official of the certifying institution; or
- (b) Prior approval by the appropriate academic official of the two-year college was obtained by the student, granting permission to satisfactorily complete hours as a part-time student at a four-year collegiate institution before the date of initial regular enrollment at the certifying institution. Acceptance of approved hours must be in accordance with the transfer policies and procedures of both the two-year college and the certifying institution.

14.3.4.5.3 Determination of Transferable Degree Credit. For the purpose of determining transferable degree credit, the institution may count those courses accepted as degree credit in any of its colleges, schools or departments.

14.3.4.5.3.1 Transferable Credit, Unacceptable Grade. Credit hours for courses with grades not considered acceptable for transferable degree credit for all students at an institution shall not be counted in determining whether the transfer requirement for total number of hours is satisfied.

14.3.4.5.3.2 Calculation of Grade-Point Average for Transferable Credit. Grades earned in all courses that are normally transferable to an institution shall be considered in determining the qualitative grade-point average for meeting transfer requirements, regardless of the grade earned or whether such grade makes the course unacceptable for transferable degree credit. Only the last grade earned in a course that has been repeated shall be included in the grade-point-average calculation.

14.3.4.5.4 Academic Degree. In order to satisfy the two-year-college graduation requirement for eligibility immediately on transfer from a two-year college to a member institution, a student-athlete must receive an associate or equivalent degree in an academic, rather than a vocational or technical, curriculum. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to determine whether a two-year college degree is academic, rather than vocational or technical, in nature.

14.3.4.5.5 Transfer to Four-Year College Prior to Completion of Requirements. The requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.3.4 must be met before a student-athlete's transfer to the certifying institution. Thus, if a two-year college student transfers (as defined in Bylaw 14.3.2) to an institution before the completion of applicable transfer requirements, the student is subject to the one-year residence requirement at the certifying institution, even though the student transfers back to the two-year college and completes the necessary requirements.

14.3.4.5.6 Transfer to Original Institution After Completion of Two-Year College Transfer Requirements. A student-athlete with a previous progress-toward-degree deficiency who transfers to the four-year college from which they transferred to the two-year college may be immediately eligible upon returning to the certifying institution provided the student-athlete has met the two-year college transfer requirements prior to participation.

14.3.4.5.7 Competition in Year of Transfer. A transfer student from a two-year institution, who has met the two-year transfer eligibility requirements (per Bylaw 14.3.4), is not eligible to compete during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution if the student-athlete has

competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous two-year institution.

14.3.4.5.7.1 Exception – Competition During the Nonchampionship Segment. A transfer student-athlete who competes during the nonchampionship segment where the contest(s) count toward championships selection criteria (e.g., golf, tennis) may be immediately eligible for competition during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution upon transfer during the same academic year.

14.3.4.5.7.2 Alternate Playing Season. In the sports of baseball, golf and tennis, during the fall term, a student-athlete who participates in competition where the institution and/or conference declares the alternate playing season may not be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer to the certifying institution that does not declare the alternate playing season during the same academic year.

14.3.4.6 Exceptions or Waivers for Transfer From Two-Year Colleges. A transfer student from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program is not subject to the residence requirement at the certifying institution, if any one of the following conditions is met. An individual who is a partial qualifier shall not be permitted to use the exceptions under this bylaw.

14.3.4.6.1 Discontinued/Nonsponsored Sport Exception. The student changed institutions in order to continue participation in a sport because the student's original two-year college dropped the sport from its intercollegiate program (even though it may re-establish that sport on a club basis) or never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level while the student was in attendance at that institution, provided the student never attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport and the student earned at least a minimum 2.200 grade-point average (see Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3.2) at the two-year college.

14.3.4.6.1.1 Original Collegiate Institution. In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the two-year college in which the student was enrolled immediately before the transfer to the certifying institution, provided that, if the student is transferring from a two-year college that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

14.3.4.6.1.2 Application -- COVID-19 Season Cancellations. If the student's original two-year college does not participate in competition during the 2020-21 academic year due to COVID-19, the student does not

have access to this exception to be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer.

14.3.4.6.2 Nonrecruited Student Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution and the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student was not recruited per Bylaw 13.02.10.1 by the certifying institution;
- (b) No athletically related financial assistance has been received by the student-athlete; and
- (c) The student-athlete has not competed for any previous institution and has not participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in intercollegiate athletics beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period at any previous institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity.

14.3.4.6.3 Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from a two-year college and, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment.

14.3.4.6.4 Return to Original Institution Exception. The student returns to the four-year college from which they transferred to the two-year college, provided the student did not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the time of the transfer from the four-year college. The amount of time originally spent in residence at the first four-year college may be used by the student in completing the unfulfilled residence requirement at that institution. The student must satisfy all progress-toward-degree requirements the student triggered during their previous enrollment at the certifying institution (e.g., annual credit-hour requirement) before being eligible for competition. (See Bylaw 14.3.4.5.6).

14.3.4.7 Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all two-year college transfer requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations.

14.3.5 Four-Year College Transfers. See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

14.3.5.1 General Rule. A transfer student from a four-year institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition at a member institution until the student has fulfilled a residence requirement of one full academic year (two full semesters or three full quarters) at the certifying institution (see Bylaw 14.02.21).

14.3.5.1.1 Attendance for One Academic Year. A transfer student from a four-year institution who attended a four-year institution at least one academic year shall be eligible for financial aid and practice at a Division II institution under the rules of the institution and the conference of which the institution is a member, regardless of the student's qualification status (per Bylaw 14.2.8.2) at the time of initial enrollment.

14.3.5.1.2 Attendance for Less Than One Academic Year. A transfer student from a four-year institution who was a partial qualifier (as defined in Bylaw 14.02.19.2) and who attended the four-year institution less than one full academic year shall not be eligible for competition during the first academic year of attendance at the certifying institution. Participation in practice sessions and the receipt of financial aid during the first academic year of attendance at the certifying institution by such students is governed by the provisions of Bylaw 14.2.8.2.2 (partial qualifiers).

14.3.5.1.2.1 Attendance at Four-Year Institution for Less Than One Academic Year Following Transfer from a Two-Year Institution. A student-athlete who initially enrolls at a two-year college, transfers to another four-year institution and attends the four-year institution for less than one full academic year before transferring to a Division II institution (e.g., '2-4-4 transfer') is not eligible to use a four-year college transfer exception unless the student-athlete would have been immediately eligible for competition under the Division II two-year college transfer regulations had the student-athlete transferred directly from the two-year college to the Division II institution.

14.3.5.2 Subvarsity Competition. A transfer student from a four-year institution who was a qualifier shall be eligible to compete immediately at the subvarsity level only at the certifying institution before meeting the transfer eligibility requirements. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a four-year institution who was not a qualifier shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution.

14.3.5.3 Exceptions for Transfers From Four-Year Colleges. A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.3.5.1) from a four-year collegiate institution is not subject to the residence requirement for intercollegiate competition, provided the student does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring (except for the return to the original institution without participation exception) and any of the following exceptions are satisfied. However, during the student-athlete's first academic year of full-time collegiate enrollment, such conditions may serve as a basis for an exception to the residence requirement for transfer students to a Division II institution who, at the time of initial collegiate enrollment, met the requirements for "qualifiers" (set forth in Bylaw—14.2.8.2.1) in Division II. See Bylaw 14.3.5.1.2.1 for additional information regarding the eligibility of a 2-4-4 transfer who attended the initial four-year institution for less than one academic year.

14.3.5.3.1 Educational Exchange Exception. The student returns to their original institution under any of the following conditions:

- (a) After participation in a cooperative educational exchange program or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), provided the student is to receive a baccalaureate degree from the institution from which the student transferred to participate in the exchange program;
- (b) After one semester or quarter of attendance at another institution for purposes of taking academic courses not available at the original institution, regardless of whether they are required in the degree program the student-athlete is pursuing at the first institution. In such an instance, the student also may take additional courses that were available at the first institution; or
- (c) After one academic year of attendance at another collegiate institution, in accordance with the program recommended by the appropriate academic officer at the original institution, provided the student was in good academic standing at the time the student left the original institution.

14.3.5.3.2 Exchange Student Exception. The student is enrolled in the certifying institution for a specified period of time as an exchange student participating in a formal and established educational exchange program recognized by the institution's academic authorities. (See Bylaw 14.2.9.1.1.)

14.3.5.3.3 Discontinued Academic Program Exception. The certifying institution concludes that the student changed institutions in order to continue a major course of study because the original institution discontinued the academic program in the student's major.

14.3.5.3.4 Military Service, Religious Mission Exception. The student returns from at least 12 months of active service in the armed forces of the United States, or from at least 12 months of active service on an official religious mission.

14.3.5.3.4.1 Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Military Service or Religious Mission. The amount of time that an individual is enrolled as a regular student in a collegiate institution while concurrently on active military duty or engaged in active service on an official religious mission may not be counted as a part of the 12-month active-duty period that qualifies a student for an exception to the transfer residence requirement.

14.3.5.3.5 Discontinued/Nonsponsored Sport Exception. In a particular sport when the student transfers at any time to the certifying institution and participates in the sport on the intercollegiate level after any of the following conditions has occurred:

- (a) The student's original four-year collegiate institution dropped the sport [in which the student has participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) at that institution in intercollegiate competition] from its intercollegiate program. This exception becomes applicable at the time the student-athlete's institution indicates through public announcement that their sport will be discontinued; or
- (b) The student's original four-year collegiate institution never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level while the student was in attendance at the institution, provided the student had never transferred from any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that particular sport.

14.3.5.3.5.1 Original Institution. In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the one in which the student was enrolled immediately before transfer to the certifying institution, it being understood that, if the student is transferring from an institution that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

14.3.5.3.5.2 Application -- COVID-19 Season Cancellations. If the student's original four-year collegiate institution does not participate in competition during the 2020-21 academic year due to COVID-19, the student does not have access to this exception to be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer.

14.3.5.3.6 Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year college and,

for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment.

14.3.5.3.7 Return to Original Institution Without Participation or With Minimal Participation Exception. The student enrolls at a second four-year collegiate institution, does not compete and does not participate in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport at the second institution beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period and returns to the original institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. A student may use this exception even if they have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring. The student must satisfy all progress-toward-degree requirements the student triggered during their previous enrollment at the certifying institution (e.g., annual credit-hour requirement) before being eligible for competition.

14.3.5.3.8 Nonrecruited Student Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution, and the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student-athlete was not recruited by the certifying institution (per Bylaw 13.02.10.1);
- (b) No athletically related financial assistance has been received by the student-athlete; and
- (c) The student-athlete has not competed for any previous institution and has not participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in intercollegiate athletics beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period at any previous institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity.

14.3.5.3.9 One-Time Transfer Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all of the following conditions are met (for graduate students, see Bylaw 14.2.4.1):

- (a) The student has not transferred previously from one four-year institution, unless, in the previous transfer, the student-athlete received an exception

per Bylaw 14.3.5.3.5 (discontinued/nonsponsored sport exception). A student-athlete who, prior to the transfer to the certifying institution, attended two four-year institutions ("4-2-4-4" transfer), does not meet this condition regardless of whether the student was enrolled at a two-year institution between attendance at the two previous four-year institutions;

- (b) The student is in good academic standing and meets the progress-toward-degree requirements at the previous four-year institution at the time of transfer to the certifying institution, except that, for a student transferring from a Division I institution, they are not required to have fulfilled the necessary percentage-of-degree requirements at the previous institution. The transferring student must be one who would have been academically eligible had they remained at the institution from which the student transferred, and they also must be eligible at the certifying institution as a regularly enrolled, full-time, degree-seeking student who was admitted in accordance with the regular, published entrance requirements of the institution;
- (c) The head coach of the certifying institution and the student shall certify that no athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interest communicated or made contact with the student-athlete, or any individual associated with the student (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process (see Bylaw 13.1.1.2);
- (d) The student must provide written notification of transfer to the institution by June 15 (see Bylaw 14.3.5.3.9 for an exception for midyear and non-Division II transfers); and
- (e) A student who has one season of competition remaining in their sport or two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters or fewer remaining in which to complete their eligibility and who has not earned a baccalaureate degree, shall have satisfactorily completed an average of 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution for each term of full-time attendance, at any collegiate institution, with a cumulative minimum grade-point average of 2.000 in the transferable degree credits.

14.3.5.3.9.1 Application of Notification Dates to Midyear and Non-Division II Transfers. A midyear transfer student-athlete or student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) is not required to have provided notification of transfer to the institution by the notification deadline in the previous academic year.

14.3.5.3.9.2 Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive academic components of the one-time transfer exception. Those components include good academic standing, progress-toward-degree requirements, and the 12-semester or 12-quarter hour requirement for a transfer student who has one season of competition remaining in their sport or two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters or fewer remaining to complete eligibility and who has not earned a baccalaureate degree. The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to waive all remaining components of the one-time transfer exception.

14.3.5.4 Competition in Year of Transfer. A transfer student from a four-year institution, who has received a waiver of or exception to the transfer residence requirement (per Bylaw 14.2.4.1 or 14.3.5.3), is not eligible to compete at the certifying institution during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship if the student-athlete has competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous four-year institution. Therefore, if the institution from which a student-athlete transfers declares separate segments of its playing and practice season, a student-athlete may compete during the segment that does not conclude with the NCAA championship for such an institution and during the segment that does conclude with the NCAA championship for the certifying institution during the same academic year in the same sport, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible for competition.

14.3.5.4.1 Exception – Competition During the Nonchampionship Segment. A transfer student-athlete who competes during the nonchampionship segment where the contest(s) count toward championships selection criteria (e.g., golf, tennis) may be immediately eligible for competition during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution upon transfer during the same academic year.

14.3.5.4.2 Alternate Playing Season. In the sports of baseball, golf and tennis, during the fall term, a student-athlete who participates in competition where the institution and/or conference declares the alternate playing season may not be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer to the certifying institution that does not declare the alternate playing season during the same academic year.

14.4 Athletics Eligibility.

14.4.1 Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. Volleyball and beach volleyball are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaws 14.4.3.4.2, 14.4.4, 14.4.5, 14.4.6, 14.4.7, and 14.4.8.

14.4.2 Postseason and Regular-Season Competition. To be eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football bowl games, the student-athlete shall meet all of the Association's general eligibility requirements and any additional eligibility requirements adopted by the applicable membership division.

14.4.2.1 Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, is found to have used a substance on the list of banned drugs, as set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.1, shall be declared ineligible for further participation in postseason and regular-season competition in accordance with the ineligibility provisions in Bylaws 18.4.1.4.1 and 18.4.1.4.2.

14.4.3 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.12 and 14.4.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

14.4.3.1 Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Service Assignment. Any time in which a student-athlete is enrolled for a minimum full-time load as a regular student in a collegiate institution while simultaneously on active duty in the U.S. military, on an official religious mission or with a recognized foreign aid service of the U.S. government shall count against the 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the four seasons of eligibility must be completed.

14.4.3.2 Ten-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall complete their seasons of participation during the first 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the student is enrolled in a collegiate institution in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, as determined by the regulations of that institution. For an institution that conducts registration other than on a traditional semester or quarter basis, the Academic Requirements Committee shall determine an equivalent enrollment period.

14.4.3.2.1 Use of Semester or Quarter. A student-athlete is considered to have used a semester or quarter under this rule when the student-athlete is officially registered in a collegiate institution (domestic or foreign) in a regular term of an academic year for a minimum full-time program of studies, as determined by the institution, and attends the first day of classes for that term, even if the student-athlete drops to part-time status during that first day of classes (see Bylaw 14.4.3.3).

14.4.3.2.2 Pregnancy Exception. A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of this 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a pregnant student-athlete.

14.4.3.2.3 Transgender Female Exception. A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a transgender female (male to female) student-athlete who uses two semesters or three quarters while completing one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment or surgical intervention.

14.4.3.2.4 Ten-Semester/15-Quarter Rule Waivers. The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may approve waivers to the 10-semester/15-quarter rule as it deems appropriate.

14.4.3.2.4.1 Waiver Criteria. A waiver of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility is designed to provide a student-athlete with the opportunity to participate in four seasons of intercollegiate competition within a 10-semester/15-quarter period. This waiver may be granted, based upon objective evidence, for reasons that are beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution, which deprive the student-athlete of the opportunity to participate for more than one season in their sport within the 10-semester/15-quarter period. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement reserves the right to review requests that do not meet the more-than-one-year criteria detailed in this bylaw for extraordinary circumstances or extreme hardship.

14.4.3.2.4.1.1 Application of Waiver. If the waiver is granted, it shall be applied during the next available opportunity to enroll [e.g., next semester(s), quarter(s)].

14.4.3.2.4.1.2 Circumstances Beyond Control. Circumstances considered to be beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution and do not cause a participation opportunity to be used shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Situations clearly supported by contemporaneous medical documentation, which states that a student-athlete is unable to participate in intercollegiate competition as a result of incapacitating physical or mental circumstances;
- (b) The student-athlete is unable to participate in intercollegiate athletics as a result of a life-threatening or incapacitating injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family that clearly is supported by contemporaneous medical documentation;
- (c) Reliance by the student-athlete on written, contemporaneous, clearly erroneous academic advice provided to the student-athlete from a specific academic authority from a collegiate institution regarding the academic status of the student-athlete or prospective student-athlete that directly leads to that individual not being eligible to participate and, but for the clearly

erroneous advice, the student-athlete would have established eligibility for intercollegiate competition;

- (d) Natural disaster (e.g., earthquakes, floods); and
- (e) Extreme financial difficulties as a result of a specific event (e.g., layoff, death in the family) experienced by the student-athlete or by an individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent that prohibits the student-athlete from participating in intercollegiate athletics. These circumstances must be clearly supported by objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination) and must be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent.

14.4.3.2.4.1.3 Circumstances Within Control. Circumstances that are considered to be within the control of the student-athlete and the institution and cause a participation opportunity to be used include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) A student-athlete's decision to attend an institution that does not sponsor their sport, or decides not to participate at an institution that does sponsor their sport;
- (b) An inability to participate due to failure to meet institutional/conference or NCAA academic requirements, or disciplinary reasons or incarceration culminating in or resulting from a conviction;
- (c) Reliance by a student-athlete on misinformation from a coaching staff member;
- (d) Redshirt year, unless it meets the exception pursuant to Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1.4;
- (e) An inability to participate as a result of a transfer year in residence or fulfilling a condition for restoration of eligibility; and
- (f) A student-athlete's lack of understanding regarding the specific starting date of their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility.

14.4.3.2.4.1.4 Waiver -- Student-Athlete Who Does Not Use Season of Competition During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment. For a student-athlete who does not use a season of

competition during their initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at any institution, a waiver may be granted if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student-athlete was academically and athletically eligible and was on the institution's eligibility list (formerly squad list) during their initial year of collegiate enrollment; and
- (b) The student-athlete was denied one participation opportunity per Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1 following their initial year of collegiate enrollment.

14.4.3.2.4.1.4.1 Application of Waiver. If the waiver is granted, it must be used during the next available opportunity [e.g., next semester(s) or quarter(s)].

14.4.3.2.4.2 Practice While Waiver Is Pending. A student-athlete, who has exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility, may practice, but not compete, for 30 consecutive calendar days, provided the institution has filed a 10-semester/15-quarter waiver request with the NCAA national office. If such a request is denied prior to exhausting the 30-day practice period, the student-athlete must cease all practice activities upon the institution's notification of the denial.

14.4.3.3 Additional Applications of the 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.

14.4.3.3.1 Athletics Competition. Even though a student is enrolled for less than a minimum full-time program of studies at a collegiate institution, a student shall use a semester or quarter under the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility if the individual represents the institution in intercollegiate athletics.

14.4.3.3.2 Nonrecognized College. Enrollment in a postsecondary, noncollegiate institution (e.g., technical school, seminary or business college) in the United States that is not accredited at the college level by an agency or association recognized by the secretary of the Department of Education and legally authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree, constitutes enrollment in the application of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule (Bylaw 14.4.3) only if:

- (a) The student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies at such an institution that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program; or
- (b) The student, whether enrolled for a minimum full-time program of studies or not, represents the institution in intercollegiate athletics.

14.4.3.3.3 Joint College/High School Program. A student-athlete's eligibility under the 10-semester/15-quarter rule does not begin while a student is enrolled

in a collegiate institution in a joint high school/college academic program for high school students, in which the courses count as both high school graduation credit and college credit, provided the student has not officially graduated from high school and does not practice (including limited preseason tryouts) or compete for the college's athletics programs.

14.4.3.3.4 Vocational Program. A student-athlete's eligibility under the 10-semester rule does not begin while the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies as a part of a special vocational program that combines enrollment in regular college courses and participation in vocational training courses, provided the student is not considered to be regularly matriculated by the institution, does not go through the customary registration and testing procedures required of all regular entering students and is not eligible for the institution's extracurricular activities, including athletics.

14.4.3.3.5 Eligibility for Practice. A student-athlete receiving athletics aid after having engaged in four seasons of intercollegiate competition in a sport may continue to take part in organized, institutional practice sessions in that sport without being a counter (see Bylaw 15.02.4), provided the individual has eligibility remaining under the 10-semester rule.

14.4.3.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

14.4.3.4.1 Minimum Amount of Competition. Any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport. This provision is applicable to intercollegiate athletics competition conducted by a two-year or four-year collegiate institution at the varsity or subvarsity level.

14.4.3.4.1.1 Transfer from a Non-Division II Institution. The Division II season of competition legislation does not apply to a transfer student-athlete's previous participation at a non-Division II institution (e.g., NCAA Division I or III, NAIA, two-year college). A transfer student-athlete is subject to the legislation applicable to the division or association of which the previous institution was a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.

14.4.3.4.1.2 Exception -- Division III Transfer. A Division III student-athlete who is charged with a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not be charged with a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.

14.4.3.4.1.3 Exception -- Two-Year College Scrimmages. A two-year college prospective student-athlete may compete in a scrimmage as a member of a two-year college team without counting such

competition as a season of competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.

14.4.3.4.1.3.1 Official Scoring. Official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:

- (a) The signing of a scorebook by an official; or
- (b) The score is used for individual or seasonal statistics.

14.4.3.4.1.4 Exception -- Competition in the Nonchampionship Segment. In field hockey, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's volleyball and men's and women's water polo, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment in the same academic year that concludes with the NCAA championship. In baseball, women's beach volleyball, softball and men's and women's lacrosse, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition. Prior to participating against outside competition during the nonchampionship segment, student-athletes shall be certified as eligible (e.g., amateurism, enrolled full time).

14.4.3.4.1.5 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not use a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment.

14.4.3.4.1.6 Alumni Game, Fundraising Activity or Celebrity Sports Activity. A student-athlete may engage in outside competition in either one alumni game, one fundraising activity or one celebrity sports activity during a season without counting such competition as a season of competition, provided the event is exempted from the institution's maximum number of contests or dates of competition as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17.

14.4.3.4.1.7 Preseason Exhibition Contests or Dates of Competition/Preseason Scrimmages During Initial Year. During a student-athlete's initial year of collegiate enrollment, they may compete in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason

scrimmages (as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17) that occur prior to the first countable contest or date of competition in the sport without counting such competition as a season of competition.

14.4.3.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment.

14.4.3.4.2.1 Administration of Participation in Organized Competition.

14.4.3.4.2.1.1 High School Graduation. An individual's high school graduation date (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) shall be considered to be the graduation date of the final high school class (e.g., junior, senior) of which they were a member.

14.4.3.4.2.1.1.1 Early High School Graduation. If an individual graduates early from high school, they become a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.

14.4.3.4.2.1.1.2 Late High School Graduation -- Required Repeat Year. If an individual is required to repeat an entire year of high school attendance, they become a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.

14.4.3.4.2.1.1.3 Discontinued High School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one calendar year has elapsed) following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

14.4.3.4.2.1.2 Organized Competition. Athletics competition shall be considered organized if any one of the following conditions exists:

- (a) Competition is scheduled in advance;
- (b) Official score is kept;
- (c) Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained;
- (d) Official timer or game officials are used;

- (e) Admission is charged;
- (f) Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;
- (g) Team uniforms are used;
- (h) An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

14.4.3.4.2.1.3 Academic Year in Residence. An individual who uses a season of competition in a specific sport per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition.

14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 Exception -- Transfer Student. A student who has attended a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution for at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters and who has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year or four-year collegiate institution is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. This exception shall not apply to the use of a season(s) of intercollegiate competition for each 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which an individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2. (See Bylaws 14.2.9 and 14.3 for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.)

14.4.3.4.2.1.3.2 Exception -- Graduate Student. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or equivalent degree program is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (See Bylaws 14.2.4 and

14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.)

14.4.3.4.2.2 Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition. An individual shall not be charged with a season of intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 following the one-year time period after the individual's high school graduation and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

14.4.3.4.2.2.1 Service Exceptions. Participation in organized competition during time spent in the armed services, on official religious missions or with recognized foreign aid services of the U.S. government and the period between completion of the service commitment and the first opportunity to enroll as a full-time student in a regular academic term is exempt from the application of Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.

14.4.3.4.2.2.2 National/International Competition Exception. For a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted if the competition is national or international competition that includes participation in:

- (a) Official Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, Olympic and Paralympic training, tryouts and competition or junior level equivalents (e.g., Youth Olympic, Youth Paralympic, U20 World Cup, junior national teams);
- (b) Officially recognized training and competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic or Paralympic tryouts or junior level equivalents (e.g., Youth Olympic, Youth Paralympic, U20 World Cup, junior national teams);
or
- (c) Official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport) or junior level

equivalents (e.g., Youth Olympic, Youth Paralympic, U20 World Cup, junior national teams).

14.4.3.4.2.2.3 Skiing Exception. For a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted in skiing when such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the U.S. Skiing Association and its international counterparts.

14.4.3.4.2.2.4 Men's Ice Hockey Exception. In men's ice hockey, for a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted.

14.4.3.4.2.2.4.1 Major Junior Ice Hockey – Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who participates on a Major Junior men's ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs. The individual shall fulfill an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3) before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition in men's ice hockey.

14.4.3.4.2.3 Waiver. The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to review and grant waivers of the organized competition legislation.

14.4.3.4.3 Road Racing. Participation in road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Therefore, an individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-calendar year time period following high school graduation and participates in a road race(s) shall use one season of intercollegiate competition in cross country and track and field for each consecutive 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The individual shall also fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in cross country or track and field competition.

14.4.3.4.4 Track and Field and Cross Country. Cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field shall be considered separate sports.

14.4.3.4.5 Foreign-Tour Competition. A student-athlete who did not compete during the institution's season just completed and who represents the institution in a certified foreign tour after that intercollegiate season and before the start of the

next academic year shall not be charged with a season of eligibility (see Bylaw 17.31.1.5).

14.4.3.5 Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference or the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions:

- (a) The incapacitating injury or illness occurs in one of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition at any two-year or four-year collegiate institution;
- (b) The injury or illness occurs prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport (see Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.3) and results in an incapacity to compete for the remainder of that playing season; and
- (c) The injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport), or 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in their sport (see Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.5.1.1 for information regarding percent calculation in track and field and Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.5.1.2 for information regarding percent calculation in basketball). Competition (excluding alumni games, fundraising activities, celebrity sports activities, scrimmages and exhibition contests per Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport) against outside participants during the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship, or, if so designated, during the official NCAA championship playing season in that sport (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), shall be countable under this limitation. In basketball, contests played as part of a region challenge shall be countable under this limitation.

14.4.3.5.1 Administration of Hardship Waiver. The hardship waiver shall be administered by the member conferences of the Association or, in the case of an independent member institution, by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. An institution may appeal a decision by its conference to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

14.4.3.5.2 Criteria for Administration of Hardship Waiver. The following criteria are to be employed in the administration of the hardship waiver:

14.4.3.5.2.1 Nature of Injury/Illness. It is not necessary for the incapacitating injury or illness to be the direct result of the student's participation in the institution's organized practice or game competition. The student-athlete may qualify for the hardship waiver as a result of any incapacitating injury or illness occurring after the individual becomes a student-athlete by reporting on call for regular squad practice or after

attending the first day of classes as a full-time student at a member institution.

14.4.3.5.2.2 Medical Documentation. Contemporaneous medical documentation from a physician or medical doctor that establishes the student-athlete's inability to compete for the remainder of the playing season as a result of an injury or illness shall be submitted with any hardship-waiver request. Chiropractic records do not constitute medical documentation for purposes of administering a hardship-waiver request. For circumstances involving psychological or mental illnesses, the required contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation may be provided by an individual who is qualified and licensed to diagnose and treat the particular illness (e.g., psychologist).

14.4.3.5.2.3 First-Half-of-Season Calculation. The first half of the season is measured by the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in the sport. Any computation of the first half of the season that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number. The first full contest or date of competition immediately following the rounded value is the first contest or date of competition in the second half of the season (e.g., 50 percent of an 11-game football schedule -- 5.5 games -- shall be considered six games and any injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the seventh contest).

14.4.3.5.2.3.1 Contests or Dates of Competition Based on Championship Selection. In sports in which the playing season is divided into two segments, but championship selection is based on competition throughout the season (e.g., golf and tennis), the first half of the season shall be measured by the Bylaw 17 maximum for the entire season (e.g., nonchampionship and championship segments). In sports in which the playing season may be divided into two segments but the championship selection is based on competition during only one segment of the season (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the championship segment.

14.4.3.5.2.3.2 First-Half-of-Season Calculation -- Track and Field. For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the first half of the season calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in

indoor track, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the beginning of the fourth date of competition. For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17.

14.4.3.5.2.3.3 First Half-of-Season Calculation – Basketball. If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17 plus the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the 15th contest (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).

14.4.3.5.2.4 Reinjury in Second Half of Season. A student-athlete who suffers an injury in the first half of the season that concludes with the NCAA championship, attempts to return to competition during the second half of that season and then is unable to participate further as a result of aggravating the original injury does not qualify for the hardship waiver.

14.4.3.5.2.5 Percent Calculation. The following requirements apply in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.5-(c) and 14.4.3.5.2.3 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the minimum- and maximum- contests requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)

14.4.3.5.2.5.1 Denominator in Percent Computation. The denominator in the percent calculation shall be based on the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport.

14.4.3.5.2.5.1.1 Denominator in Percent Computation -- Track and Field. For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the denominator in the percent calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in indoor track, the denominator in the percent calculation for a hardship waiver in indoor track and field would be six.

For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition or the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 may be used in the denominator.

14.4.3.5.2.5.1.2 Denominator in Percent Calculation – Basketball. If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the denominator shall include the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the denominator in the percent calculation would be 28 (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).

14.4.3.5.2.5.2 Fraction in Percent Computation. Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 30 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 7.8 games -- shall be considered eight games).

14.4.3.5.2.6 Transfer Student-Athletes. The hardship-waiver criteria for a transfer student-athlete who suffers an injury or illness while attending an NCAA Division I or Division III institution may be based on the method that would be most beneficial to the student-athlete (the rule applicable to the member division in which the injury or illness occurred or the Division II rule). The application of a particular division's legislation must include all the applicable elements of that division's legislation, as opposed to selected elements of the legislation of each division.

14.4.3.5.2.7 Foreign-Tour Competition. A student-athlete who qualifies for a hardship for the previous academic year would not use a season of competition if the student-athlete represents the institution on a certified foreign tour during the summer-vacation period at the conclusion of that academic year.

14.4.3.6 Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Ineligible. In conjunction with a request for restoration of eligibility and any conditions imposed thereon per Bylaw 14.1.4, a student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement when they participated in a limited amount of competition under either of the following circumstances:

- (a) As a result of a good-faith, erroneous formal declaration of eligibility by the institution's appropriate certifying authority; or
- (b) As a result of a student-athlete's good-faith, erroneous reliance upon a coaching staff member's decision to place the student-athlete into competition prior to the coaching staff member receiving a formal declaration of eligibility for the student-athlete from the institution's appropriate certifying authority.

14.4.3.6.1 Applicable Conditions. The competition must have occurred under all of the following conditions:

- (a) The competition occurred while the student-athlete was representing an NCAA member institution;
- (b) The student-athlete did not participate in more than two events or 10 percent (whichever number is greater) of the institution's scheduled or completed events in their sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating both the number of events in which the student-athlete participated and the number of completed events during that season (both segments) in the sport;
- (c) The student-athlete was involved innocently and inadvertently in the erroneous declaration of eligibility, which permitted the student-athlete to compete while ineligible; and
- (d) The student-athlete, in the case of a coaching staff member's erroneous decision, had reason to believe they were eligible to participate, and the student-athlete did not contribute to the coaching staff member's erroneous decision to allow the student-athlete to participate.

14.4.3.6.2 Administrative Criteria. The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of the season-of-competition waiver:

14.4.3.6.2.1 Ten Percent Calculation. The following requirements are to be met in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.6.1-(b) and 14.4.3.6.2.1 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the minimum- and maximum-contest requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)

14.4.3.6.2.1.1 Denominator in Percent Computation. The denominator in the institution's percent calculation shall be based on the institution's number of scheduled or completed varsity contests or dates of competition [see Bylaw 14.4.3.6.1-(b)] as computed for playing and practice season purposes in Bylaw 17 for

the applicable sport. Exempted events in Bylaw 17 are included in the percent calculation, except for discretionary exemptions in the applicable sport.

14.4.3.6.2.1.2 Fraction in Percent Calculation. Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 10 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 2.6 games -- shall be considered three games).

14.4.3.6.2.1.3 Conference Championships. A conference championship shall be counted as one contest or date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed contests or dates of competition in the sport, regardless of the number of dates or games involved in the championship. However, for purposes of this regulation, the calculation of scheduled contests or dates of competition in a particular season does not include postseason competition conducted after the completion of the institution's regular-season schedule and conference tournament.

14.4.3.6.2.1.4 NCAA Regional Cross Country Meet. The NCAA regional cross country meet may be counted as one date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed dates of competition, provided no qualifying standards exist for participation in the meet.

14.4.3.7 Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Eligible. A student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement when, due to extenuating circumstances (per Bylaw 14.4.3.7.1.3), the student-athlete, while eligible, did not compete in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport) or 30 percent (whichever number is greater) of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17. The competition must occur prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating the number of contests or dates of competition in which the student-athlete participated.

14.4.3.7.1 Administrative Criteria. The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of this season-of-competition waiver:

14.4.3.7.1.1 Thirty Percent Calculation. The requirements specified in Bylaw 14.4.3.6.2.1 shall apply to the 30 percent calculation specified in this waiver.

14.4.3.7.1.2 First-Half-of-Season Requirement. The first-half-of-season requirements specified in Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.3 shall apply to the first-half-of-season requirement specified in this waiver.

14.4.3.7.1.3 Extenuating Circumstances. Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) The student-athlete is unable to compete as a result of a life-threatening injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family, which clearly is supported by contemporaneous medical documentation;
- (b) The student-athlete is unable to compete as a result of extreme financial difficulties as a result of a specific event (e.g., layoff, death in family) experienced by the student-athlete or an individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent. These circumstances must be clearly supported by objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination) and must be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent;
- (c) The student-athlete's institution dropped the sport (in which the student has practiced or competed) from its intercollegiate program; and
- (d) The student-athlete participated in nonregular-season competition (e.g., alumni contest, exhibition contests, scrimmages, nonchampionship segment contests) due to a coach's documented misunderstanding of the legislation. The competition must have occurred while the student-athlete was representing an NCAA institution.

14.4.3.7.1.4 Review Authority. In cases where a student-athlete does not meet the extenuating circumstances listed in Bylaw 14.4.3.7.1.3, the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall have authority to review and grant waivers based on additional documented extenuating circumstances.

14.4.4 U.S. Service Academies, Special Eligibility Provisions.

14.4.4.1 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may approve waivers to the 10-semester/15-quarter rule (see Bylaw 14.4.3) for student-athletes of the national service academies who have exhausted eligibility in one sport but wish to compete in another sport or sports in which they have eligibility remaining.

14.4.5 Permissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, participation in the following activities and receipt of the following benefits will not jeopardize the athletics eligibility status of an individual:

- (a) **Actual and Necessary Expenses for Participation on an Outside Amateur Sports Team or Organization.** Receipt of actual and necessary expenses from an outside amateur sports team or organization or outside sponsor (e.g., neighbor, business), other than an agent, professional service provider, representative of an institution's athletics interests or professional sports organization, for competition and practice held in preparation for such competition. Practice must be conducted in a continuous time period preceding the competition except for practice sessions conducted by a national team, which occasionally may be interrupted for specific periods of time before the competition;
- (b) **Actual and Necessary Expenses for Participation in a Collegiate All-Star Contest.** A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses from an outside sponsor (e.g., neighbor, business), other than an agent, professional service provider, representative of an institution's athletics interests or professional sports organization, for participation in a collegiate all-star contest, provided the student-athlete has exhausted eligibility in the sport.
- (c) **Prize Money Based on Place Finish -- Individual Sports.** In individual sports, receipt of prize money based on place finish or performance in an open athletics event. The competition must occur outside the institution's declared playing season during the institution's official summer vacation period. In addition, such prize money shall not exceed the student-athlete's actual and necessary expenses and may be provided only by the sponsor of the event. Actual and necessary expenses shall not include the expenses or fees of anyone other than the student-athlete;
- (d) **Awards Based on Performance in Outside Competition.** Receipt of an award (e.g., trophy, medal, saddle) based on place finish or performance in outside competition, subject to the rules of the amateur organization that governs the competition;
- (e) **Permissible Insurance Against Disabling Injury or Illness.** An individual may borrow against their future earnings potential from an established, accredited commercial lending institution exclusively for the purpose of purchasing insurance (with no cash surrender value) against a disabling injury or illness that would prevent the individual from pursuing a chosen career, provided a third party (including a member institution's athletics department staff members, its professional sports counseling panel or representatives of its athletics interests) is not involved in arrangements for securing the loan. The student-athlete shall report all such transactions and shall file copies of any loan documents associated with disability insurance with the member institution, regardless of the source of the collateral for the loan. The student-athlete also shall file copies of the insurance policy with the member institution, regardless of whether a loan is secured to purchase the insurance policy;

- (f) **Elite-Level Participation.** Receipt of the following benefits at any time without jeopardizing an individual's amateur status:
- (1) Funds that are administered by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee pursuant to its Operation Gold Program;
 - (2) Incentive Programs for International Athletes. An international prospective student-athlete or international student-athlete may accept funds from their country's national Olympic governing body (equivalent to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee) based on place finish in one event per year that is designated as the highest level of international competition for the year by the governing body;
 - (3) Comprehensive benefits of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee Elite Athlete Health Insurance Program;
 - (4) Actual and necessary expenses [including grants but not prize money, whereby the recipient has qualified for the grant based on their performance in a specific event(s)] to cover developmental training, coaching, facility usage, equipment, apparel, supplies, comprehensive health insurance, travel, room and board without jeopardizing the individual's eligibility for intercollegiate athletics, provided such expenses are approved and provided directly by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, the appropriate national governing body in the sport (or, for international individuals, the equivalent organization of that nation) or a governmental entity;
 - (5) Actual and necessary expenses from a commercial company (other than a professional sports organization) or members of the local community for an individual's relatives or legal guardians to attend the Olympic Games in which the individual will participate;
 - (6) Actual and necessary expenses to participate in Olympic tours or exhibitions from a sponsor other than the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, national governing body or nonprofessional organizations sponsoring the event, provided that the student-athlete does not miss class time and the exhibition does not conflict with dates of institutional competition; or
 - (7) Receipt of commemorative items incidental to participation in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, Pan American Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships and World Cup events through the applicable national governing body. These benefits may include any and all apparel, leisure wear, footwear and other items that are provided to all athletes participating in the applicable event.

14.4.6 Impermissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual's participation in the following activities or receipt of

the following benefits will jeopardize the individual's athletics eligibility and eligibility for intercollegiate participation in a particular sport:

- (a) **Use of Athletics Skill for Pay.** Use of athletics skills for pay in any form in that sport from any source (e.g., a professional team), including a promise of pay, receipt of direct or indirect salary, gratuity or comparable compensation or preferential treatment, benefits or services. Road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of this Bylaw. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, any payment for participation in a road race will result in an individual's ineligibility for intercollegiate cross country or track and field competition. (See Bylaw 14.4.5-(d) for an exception related to payment based on performance.
- (b) **Name, Image and Likeness Agreements Based on Athletics Participation or Achievement.** Receipt of compensation or incentives for enrollment decisions (e.g., signing a letter of intent or transferring), athletic performance (e.g., points scored, minutes played, winning a contest), achievement (e.g., starting position, award winner), or membership on a team (e.g., being on roster).
- (c) **Receipt of Any Division or Split of Surplus.** Receipt of any division or split of surplus (e.g., bonuses, game receipts).
- (d) **Payment Based on Place Finish.** Any payment, including actual and necessary expenses, conditioned on the individual's or team's place finish or performance or given on an incentive basis, or receipt of expenses in excess of the same reasonable amount for permissible expenses given to all individuals or team members involved in the competition.
- (e) **Receipt of Cash Award for Participation.** Receipt of cash, or the equivalent thereof (e.g., trust fund), as an award for participation in competition at any time, even if such an award is permitted under the rules governing an amateur, noncollegiate event in which the individual is participating. An award or a cash prize that an individual could not receive under NCAA legislation may not be forwarded in the individual's name to a different individual or agency.
- (f) **Expenses or Awards Not Permitted by Amateurism Rules Governing Events.** Receipt of expenses incurred or awards received by an individual that are prohibited by the rules governing an amateur, noncollegiate event in which the individual participates.
- (g) **Unspecified or Unitemized Expenses.** Payment to individual team members or individual competitors for unspecified or unitemized expenses beyond actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses for practice and competition.

14.4.7 Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility. The eligibility of a student-athlete who engages in outside competition (see Bylaws 14.2.8.2.2.2 and 17.02.10) is affected as set forth in the following regulations.

14.4.7.1 Outside Competition, Sports Other Than Basketball. A student-athlete becomes ineligible for intercollegiate competition in their sport (other than basketball) if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of any outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., tournament play, exhibition games or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate season in the sport (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions) until eligibility is restored by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

14.4.7.1.1 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in the program.

14.4.7.1.2 Additional Restriction -- Men's and Women's Wrestling. In men's and women's wrestling, a student-athlete may compete outside of the institution's intercollegiate season as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition, except during the period between the beginning of the institution's academic year and November 1. The number of student-athletes from any one institution shall not exceed the applicable limits set forth in Bylaw 17.31.2.

14.4.7.1.3 Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming. Triathlon and cross country are considered separate sports, triathlon and track and field are considered separate sports, and triathlon and swimming are considered separate sports for purposes of the outside competition legislation.

14.4.7.2 Outside Competition, Basketball. A student-athlete who participates in any organized basketball competition except while representing the institution in intercollegiate competition in accordance with the permissible playing season specified in Bylaw 17.4 becomes ineligible for any further intercollegiate competition in basketball (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions).

14.4.7.3 Additional Applications of Outside-Competition Regulations, Sports Other Than Basketball.

14.4.7.3.1 Eligibility Status. A student-athlete is considered to be a member of the institution's team, and therefore bound by this regulation in that sport, if the student-athlete:

- (a) Does not practice or compete but is receiving athletically related financial aid for the sport; or
- (b) Is ineligible to compete but practiced with a squad or team in the sport; or

- (c) Is eligible to compete but was not permitted to do so, other than taking part in practice sessions with the squad or team in the sport.

14.4.7.3.1.1 Exception. A student-athlete who fails to make the institution's team after participation only in limited preseason tryouts shall not be considered a member of the team for purposes of this regulation.

14.4.7.3.2 Competition Between Seasons. If an institution conducts separate fall and spring practice or playing seasons in a sport, it is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in that sport on an outside team during the period between the two seasons without affecting their eligibility.

14.4.7.3.3 Postseason Competition. An institution's intercollegiate season includes any scheduled participation in the conference championship in the sport in question but excludes the period between the last regularly scheduled competition and the NCAA championship in that sport.

14.4.7.3.4 Competition as Individual/Not Representing Institution. It is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in outside competition as an individual during the academic year in the student-athlete's sport, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete is academically and athletically eligible for intercollegiate competition;
- (b) The student-athlete represents only themselves in the competition; and
- (c) The student-athlete does not engage in such competition as a member of or receive expenses from an outside team; and

(1) **Exception - Medical Services.** A student-athlete competing as an individual may receive medical services from their institution's medical personnel (e.g., athletic trainer, team physician) at a competition site.

- (d) The event is an "open" event. An "open" event is one in which the competition must be open to noncollegiate competitors and must be organized, publicized and operated as an event that is open to individuals other than collegiate competitors.

14.4.7.3.4.1 No Competition Between Beginning of Academic Year and November 1 – Men's and Women's Wrestling. In men's and women's wrestling, a student-athlete shall not participate in outside competition as an individual between the beginning of the institution's academic year and November 1.

14.4.7.3.5 Exempt Teams. In the individual sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.2), such units as "pro-am" golf teams, doubles tennis teams, and relay teams in track and field are not considered to be outside teams for purposes of this legislation.

14.4.7.4 Additional Applications of Outside-Competition Regulations, Basketball.

14.4.7.4.1 Organized Basketball Competition. Outside basketball competition, including competition involving teams with fewer than five players, shall be considered "organized" if any one of the following conditions exists:

- (a) Teams are regularly formed, or team rosters are predetermined;
- (b) Competition is scheduled and publicized in advance;
- (c) Official score is kept;
- (d) Individual or team standings are maintained;
- (e) Official timer or game officials are used;
- (f) Team uniforms are used;
- (g) Admission is charged;
- (h) A team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) Competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

14.4.7.4.2 Individual Subject to Outside-Competition Regulations. Once a student-athlete becomes a candidate for the institution's basketball team (i.e., has reported for the squad), or if the student was recruited by a member institution in part for basketball ability and enrolls in the institution, this prohibition against outside organized basketball competition remains applicable until the student-athlete's intercollegiate basketball eligibility has been exhausted. This includes time while the student is officially withdrawn from college, fulfilling a residence requirement following transfer to another college, awaiting transfer or enrolled in a nonmember collegiate institution.

14.4.7.4.3 Nonrecruited, Nonparticipant. Participation by a student-athlete in organized basketball competition while enrolled in a member institution and having participated in a sport other than basketball would not jeopardize the student's eligibility in basketball, if the individual had not been recruited in basketball and had not participated on or been a candidate for the institution's intercollegiate basketball team.

14.4.7.5 Exceptions to Outside-Competition Regulations. The following exceptions to the outside-competition regulations are permitted.

14.4.7.5.1 In All Sports:

- (a) **High School Alumni Game.** A student-athlete may compete in one game a year involving players from the student-athlete's former high school and its alumni team. In sports other than basketball, this game must take place during an official vacation period of the institution's academic year.
- (b) **Olympic or Paralympic Games.** A student-athlete may participate in the official Olympic or Paralympic Games, in final tryouts that directly qualify competitors for the Olympic or Paralympic Games and in officially recognized competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic or Paralympic Games tryouts.
- (c) **Official Pan American or Parapan American Games Tryouts and Competition.** A student-athlete may participate in official Pan American or Parapan American Games tryouts and competition, including junior-level tryouts and competition.
- (d) **U.S. National Teams.** A student-athlete may participate in official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for the student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport).
- (e) **Official World Championships, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup Tryouts and Competition.** A student-athlete may participate in official World Championships, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup tryouts and competition, including junior-level tryouts and competition.
- (f) **Multisport Events.** A student-athlete may participate in officially recognized state and national multisport events.

14.4.7.5.2 Additional Exceptions for Basketball Only:

- (a) **Summer Competition.** There are no restrictions on the participation of student-athletes in outside basketball competition during the summer.
- (b) **Puerto Rico Superior Basketball League.** A student-athlete who is a resident of Puerto Rico may participate in the Superior Basketball League of Puerto Rico.
- (c) **United States vs. U.S. National Teams.** A student-athlete may participate in the United States against U.S. national teams.

14.4.7.5.3 National-Team Criteria. A national team shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) It is designated by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, national governing body or other organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization in that sport);
- (b) Selection for such a team is made on a national qualification basis either through a defined selective process or actual tryouts, publicly announced; and
- (c) The international competition in question requires that the entries officially represent their respective nations, although it is not necessary to require team scoring by nation.

14.4.7.6 Collegiate All-Star Contests. A student-athlete who competes as a member of a squad in any college all-star contest shall be denied further intercollegiate eligibility in that sport.

14.4.8 Involvement with Professional Teams.

14.4.8.1 Tryouts.

14.4.8.1.1 Tryout After Enrollment. A student-athlete may try out with a professional athletics team (or participate in a combine including that team) in a sport or permit a professional athletics team to conduct medical examinations at any time, provided the individual does not miss class. A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses related to the tryout from a professional sports organization, provided the tryout does not exceed 48 hours. The 48-hour tryout period begins at the time the individual arrives at the tryout location. At the completion of the 48-hour period, the individual must depart the location of the tryout immediately in order to receive return transportation expenses. A tryout may extend beyond 48 hours if the individual self-finances additional expenses, including return transportation.

14.4.8.1.2 Outside Competition Prohibited. During a tryout, an individual may not take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.

14.4.8.2 Practice Without Competition. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate in practice sessions conducted by a professional team, provided such participation meets the requirements of NCAA legislation governing tryouts with professional athletics teams (see Bylaw 14.4.8.1.1 and the individual does not receive

any compensation or enter into a contract or agreement to practice or participate as a member of the professional athletics team. Such contracts or agreements would be separate from those that the individual may enter into with the professional team for name, image and likeness activities, as set forth in Bylaw 14.1.5.

14.4.8.3 Competition.

14.4.8.3.1 Competition Against Professionals. An individual may participate singly or as a member of an amateur team against professional athletes or professional teams.

14.4.8.3.2 Competition With Professionals. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics in a sport, if the individual competed on a professional athletics team (per Bylaw 14.02.17) in that sport. However, an individual may compete on a tennis, golf, two-person beach volleyball or two-person synchronized diving team(s) with persons who are competing for cash or a comparable prize, provided the individual does not receive payment of any kind for such participation.

14.4.8.3.2.1 Professional Player as Team Member. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate with a professional on a team, provided the professional is not being paid by a professional team or league to play as a member of that team (e.g., summer basketball leagues with teams composed of both professional and amateur athletes).

14.4.8.3.2.2 Exception – Olympic, Paralympic or National Team. It is permissible for an individual (prospective student-athlete or student-athlete) to participate on Olympic, Paralympic or national teams that are competing for prize money or are being compensated by the governing body to participate in a specific event, provided the individual does not accept prize money or any other compensation (other than actual or necessary expenses).

14.4.8.3.2.3 Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who competes on a Major Junior ice hockey team shall be subject to the seasons of competition regulations set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2, regardless of when such competition occurs.

14.4.8.3.2.4 Professional Coach or Referee. Participation on a team that includes a professional coach or referee does not cause the team to be classified as a professional team.

14.4.8.3.3 Competition in Professional All-Star Contest. A student-athlete who agrees to participate in a professional (players to be paid) all-star game becomes ineligible to compete in any intercollegiate contest that occurs after that agreement.

Thus, a senior entering into such an agreement immediately after the last regular-season intercollegiate contest would not be eligible to compete in a bowl game or an NCAA championship.

14.4.8.4 Athletics Eligibility Status if Professional in Another Sport. A professional athlete in one sport may represent a member institution in a different sport. The institution may award institutional financial aid to a student-athlete, provided the student-athlete is not professional in the sport in which the student-athlete will participate at the certifying institution. However, a student-athlete who currently is receiving institutional financial aid and signs a contract in the same sport or receives compensation from an agent or a professional-sport organization may continue to receive such aid for the remainder of the term of the award, provided the student-athlete has completed their four seasons of competition. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.4.)

14.4.8.4.1 Professional at Later Date. If the individual later becomes involved in professional athletics while still a student-athlete with remaining eligibility, the individual would be considered to have violated the principles of ethical conduct per Bylaw 10, thus rendering the individual ineligible for intercollegiate competition.

14.4.8.5 Draft and Inquiry.

14.4.8.5.1 Inquiry. An individual may inquire of a professional sports organization about eligibility for a professional-league player draft or request information about the individual's market value without affecting their eligibility status.

14.4.8.5.2 Draft List. An enrolled student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft an unlimited number of times during their collegiate career and be drafted by any team in the league without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided the student-athlete does not ever agree (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purposes of marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport, sign a professional sport contract or otherwise jeopardize their eligibility status.

14.4.8.5.3 Negotiations. An individual may request information about professional market value without affecting their eligibility status. Further, the individual, their relatives or legal guardians, the institution's professional sports counseling panel or head coach may enter into negotiations with a professional sports organization without the loss of the individual's eligibility status. An individual who retains an agent in order to secure a professional sports opportunity shall lose eligibility status.

14.4.8.6 Contracts and Compensation.

14.4.8.6.1 General Rule. After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport, if they have entered

into any kind of agreement to compete in professional athletics, either orally or in writing, regardless of the legal enforceability of that agreement.

14.4.8.6.1.1 Nonbinding Agreements. After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual who signs a contract or commitment that does not become binding until the professional organization's representative or agent also signs the document is ineligible, even if the contract remains unsigned by the other parties until after the student-athlete's eligibility is exhausted.

14.4.9 Use of Agents.

14.4.9.1 General Rule. An individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport, if they ever have agreed (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purpose of marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport. Further, an agency contract not specifically limited in writing to a sport or particular sports shall be deemed applicable to all sports, and the individual shall be ineligible to participate in any sport.

14.4.9.1.1 Nonbinding Agreements. An individual who signs a contract or commitment that does not become binding until the agent also signs the document, is ineligible, even if the contract remains unsigned by the other parties until after the student-athlete's eligibility is exhausted.

14.4.9.1.2 Representation for Future Negotiations. An individual shall be ineligible per Bylaw 14.4.9.1, if they enter into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations that are to take place after the individual has completed their eligibility in that sport.

14.4.9.1.3 Benefits From Prospective Agents. An individual shall be ineligible per Bylaw 14.4.9.1, if they (or their relatives or friends) accept transportation or other benefits from:

- (a) Any person who represents any individual in the marketing of their athletics ability. The receipt of such expenses constitutes compensation based on athletics skill and is an extra benefit not available to the student body in general; or
- (b) An agent, even if they have indicated that they have no interest in representing the student-athlete in the marketing of their athletics ability or reputation and do not represent individuals in the student-athlete's sport.

14.4.9.1.3.1 Educational Expenses or Services. Receipt of educational expenses or services (e.g., tuition, fees, room and board, books, tutoring, standardized test preparatory classes) from an agent is specifically prohibited.

14.4.9.1.4 Exception -- Career Counseling and Internship/Job Placement Services. A student-athlete may use career counseling and internship/job placement services available exclusively to student-athletes, provided the student-athlete is not placed in a position in which the student-athlete uses their athletics ability.

14.4.9.2 Legal Counsel. Securing advice from a lawyer concerning a proposed professional sports contract shall not be considered contracting for representation by an agent under this rule, unless the lawyer also represents the student-athlete in negotiations for such a contract.

14.4.9.2.1 Presence of a Lawyer at Negotiations. A lawyer may not be present during discussions of a contract offer with a professional organization or have any direct contact (i.e., in person, by telephone or by mail) with a professional sports organization on behalf of the student-athlete. A lawyer's presence during such discussions is considered representation by an agent.

14.4.9.3 Athletics Scholarship Agent. Any individual, agency or organization that represents a prospective student-athlete for compensation in placing the prospective student-athlete in a collegiate institution as a recipient of institutional financial aid shall be considered an agent or organization marketing the individual's athletics ability or reputation.

14.4.9.3.1 Talent Evaluation Services and Agents. A prospective student-athlete may allow a scouting service or agent to distribute personal information (e.g., high school academic and athletics records, physical statistics) to member institutions without jeopardizing their eligibility, provided the fee paid to such an agent is not based on placing the prospective student-athlete in a collegiate institution as a recipient of institutional financial aid.

14.4.9.4 Professional Sports Counseling Panel. It is permissible for an institution to have an authorized institutional professional sports counseling panel appointed and overseen by the institution's president or chancellor (or their designated representative from outside the athletics department).

Current Bylaw Cite	Bylaw Name	New Bylaw Cite
7.4	Provisional Membership.	7.5
7.5	Active Division II Membership Following Reclassification.	7.6
7.6	Multidivision Classification.	7.7
7.7	Reclassification from Division II to Division I or Division III.	7.8
7.8	Institutional Eligibility.	7.9
12.01.1	Eligibility for Intercollegiate Athletics.	14.01.3
12.01.2	Clear Line of Demarcation.	14.01.1
12.01.3	“Individual” Versus “Student-Athlete.”	Eliminated
12.01.4	Permissible Grant-in-Aid.	Merged with 14.01.2.3
12.02.1	Agent.	14.02.2
12.02.1.1	Application.	Eliminated
12.02.2	Agency Contract.	14.02.3
12.02.3	Individual.	14.2.1
12.02.4	Professional Service Provider.	14.02.18
12.02.5	Pay.	14.02.15
12.02.6	Payment for Participation in Road Racing.	Merged with 14.4.6(a)
12.02.7	Professional Athlete.	14.02.16
12.02.8	Professional Athletics Team.	14.02.17
12.02.9	Student-Athlete.	14.02.23
12.02.10	Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming.	14.02.25
12.02.11	Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.	14.4.1
12.1	General Regulations.	Merged with 14.1
12.1.1	Validity of Eligibility Status.	14.1.1.2.1
12.1.1.1	NCAA Eligibility Center	Merged with 14.1.1.3
12.1.1.1.1	Scope.	14.1.1.2.2
12.1.1.1.2	Institutional Responsibilities.	14.1.1.4
12.1.1.1.2.1	Eligibility Status After Certification.	14.1.1.4.2
12.1.1.1.2.2	Sharing Information and Reporting Discrepancies.	14.1.1.4.3
12.1.1.1.3	Eligibility for Practice and Competition.	14.1.1.5
12.1.1.1.3.1	Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete.	14.1.1.5.1
12.1.1.1.3.1.1	Effect of Violation.	14.1.1.5.1.1
12.1.2	Name, Image and Likeness.	14.1.5
12.1.2.1	Application.	14.1.5.1
12.1.2.2	Name, Image and Likeness Activities Related to Enrollment Decisions.	14.1.5.2
12.1.2.3	Monitoring for Compliance.	14.1.5.3

12.1.2.4	Reporting Requirements.	14.1.5.4
12.1.3	Permissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment.	14.4.5
12.1.4	Impermissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment.	14.4.6
12.1.5	Athletics Eligibility Status if Professional in Another Sport.	14.4.8.4
12.1.5.1	Professional at Later Date.	14.4.8.4.1
12.2	Involvement with Professional Teams.	14.4.8
12.2.1	Tryouts.	14.4.8.1
12.2.1.1	Tryout After Enrollment.	14.4.8.1.1
12.2.1.2	Outside Competition Prohibited.	14.4.8.1.2
12.2.2	Practice Without Competition.	14.4.8.2
12.2.3	Competition.	14.4.8.3
12.2.3.1	Competition Against Professionals.	14.4.8.3.1
12.2.3.2	Competition With Professionals.	14.4.8.3.2
12.2.3.2.1	Professional Player as Team Member.	14.4.8.3.2.1
12.2.3.2.2	Exception – Olympic, Paralympic or National Teams.	14.4.8.3.2.2
12.2.3.2.3	Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey.	14.4.8.3.2.3
12.2.3.2.4	Professional Coach or Referee.	14.4.8.3.2.4
12.2.3.3	Competition in Professional All-Star Contest.	14.4.8.3.3
12.2.4	Draft and Inquiry.	14.4.8.5
12.2.4.1	Inquiry.	14.4.8.5.1
12.2.4.2	Draft List.	14.4.8.5.2
12.2.4.3	Negotiations.	14.4.8.5.3
12.2.5	Contracts and Compensation.	14.4.8.6
12.2.5.1	General Rule.	14.4.8.6.1
12.2.5.1.1	Nonbinding Agreements.	14.4.8.6.1.1
12.3	Use of Agents.	14.4.9
12.3.1	General Rule.	14.4.9.1
12.3.1.1	Nonbinding Agreements.	14.4.9.1.1
12.3.1.2	Representation for Future Negotiations.	14.4.9.1.2
12.3.1.3	Benefits From Prospective Agents.	14.4.9.1.3
12.3.1.3.1	Educational Expenses or Services.	14.4.9.1.3.1
12.3.1.4	Exception -- Career Counseling and Internship/Job Placement Services.	14.4.9.1.4
12.3.2	Legal Counsel.	14.4.9.2
12.3.2.1	Presence of a Lawyer at Negotiations.	14.4.9.2.1
12.3.3	Athletics Scholarship Agent.	14.4.9.3
12.3.3.1	Talent Evaluation Services and Agents.	14.4.9.3.1
12.3.4	Professional Sports Counseling Panel.	14.4.9.4
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12.4.1	Criteria Governing Compensation to Student-Athletes.	14.02.6
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12.6	Financial Donations from Outside Organizations.	7.4
12.6.1	Professional Sports Organizations.	7.4.1
12.6.1.1	To Noncollegiate Amateur Team.	7.4.1.1
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12.6.1.5	To Conference.	7.4.1.5
12.6.1.6	Revenues Derived from Pro-Am Events.	7.4.1.6
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12.6.2	Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.	7.4.2
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14.01.1	Institutional Responsibility.	14.01.4
14.01.2	Academic Status.	Merged with 14.02.9
14.01.2.1	Good Academic Standing.	Merged with 14.02.9
14.01.3	Compliance With Other NCAA and Conference Legislation.	14.01.2
14.01.3.1	Amateurism.	Eliminated
14.01.3.2	Impermissible Benefits.	14.01.2.1
14.01.3.3	Unethical Conduct.	14.01.2.2
14.01.3.4	Financial Aid.	14.01.2.3
14.01.3.5	Recruitment.	14.01.2.4
14.02.1	Academic Misconduct -- Post-Enrollment.	Same (14.02.1)
14.02.2	Branch School.	14.02.4
14.02.3	Religious Mission, Official.	14.02.20
14.02.4	Collegiate Institution.	14.02.5
14.02.5	Education-Impacting Disability.	14.02.7
14.02.6	Exception.	14.02.8
14.02.7	Good Academic Standing and Progress Toward Degree.	14.02.9
14.02.8	Impermissible Academic Assistance – Institutional Staff.	14.02.11
14.02.9	Institutional Staff Member.	14.2.10.1
14.02.9.1	Student Employee.	14.2.10.1.1
14.02.10	Intercollegiate Competition.	14.02.12
14.01.10.1	Exempted Events.	14.02.12.1
14.02.10.2	Exemption -- Tryouts.	14.02.12.2
14.02.11	National Team.	14.02.13
14.02.12	Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics.	14.02.14
14.02.13	Qualification Status.	14.02.19
14.02.13.1	Qualifier.	14.02.19.1
14.02.13.2	Partial Qualifier.	14.02.19.2
14.02.14	Residence.	14.02.21

14.02.14.1	Academic Year of Residence.	14.02.21.1
14.02.15	Grade-Point Average.	14.02.10
14.02.16	Transfer Student.	14.02.24
14.02.17	Waiver.	14.02.26
14.1.1	Postseason and Regular-Season Competition.	14.4.2
14.1.1.1	Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs.	14.4.2.1
14.1.2.5.1	Institutional Responsibility.	14.1.1.4.1
14.1.3	Student-Athlete Statement.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.3.1	Content and Purpose.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.3.2	Administration.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.3.3	Institutional Responsibility -- Notification of Positive Test.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4	Drug-Testing Consent Form.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4.1	Content and Purpose.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4.2	Administration.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4.3	Exception -- 14-Consecutive Calendar Day Grace Period.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.5	Student-Athlete Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Authorization/Buckley Amendment Consent Form -- Disclosure of Protected Health Information.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.5.1	Content and Purpose.	Eliminated; recommend

		going to Bylaw 7
14.1.5.2	Administration.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.6	Academic Eligibility	14.2
14.1.6.1	Admission.	14.2.2
14.1.6.1.1	Graduate Student Exception.	14.2.2.1
14.1.7	Full-Time Enrollment.	14.2.3
14.1.8	Graduate/Postbaccalaureate/Second Baccalaureate Participation.	14.2.4
14.1.8.1	Transfer Exception.	14.2.4.1
14.1.8.1.1	Disciplinary Suspension.	14.2.4.1.1
14.1.8.2	International Student Exception.	Removed; recommend moving to ARC's policies and procedures
14.1.8.3	NCAA Championship Following Last Term of Eligibility.	14.2.4.2
14.1.9	Change in Eligibility Status.	14.2.5
14.1.10	Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice with Women's Teams.	14.2.6
14.1.11	Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.	14.2.7
14.2	Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.	14.4.3
14.2.4.7	Intercollegiate Competition.	Eliminated
14.2.4.8	Foreign-Tour Competition.	14.4.3.4.7
14.3	Freshman Academic Requirements.	14.2.8
14.4	Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.	14.2.9
14.5	Transfer Regulations.	14.3
14.7	Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility.	14.4.7
14.8	Additional Waivers for Eligibility Requirements.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.8.1	Management Council Waivers.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location

14.8.1.1	Academic and General Requirements.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.8.2	Committee for Legislative Relief Waivers.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.8.2.1	Residence Requirement.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.9	Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.	14.2.10.4
14.9.1	Policies and Procedures.	14.2.10.3
14.9.1.1	Exception.	14.2.10.3.1
14.9.2	Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.	14.2.10.4
14.10	U.S. Service Academies, Special Eligibility Provisions.	14.4.4
14.10.1	10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.	14.4.4.1
14.10.2	Service Academies.	14.3.3.5
14.11	Certification of Eligibility.	14.1.2
14.12	Ineligibility.	14.1.3
14.13	Restoration of Eligibility.	14.1.4