

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 12-13, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
 - None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **1. Welcome and introduction.** The NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee commenced business, February 12, 1:01 p.m.
- **2. Review of the November 12, 2024, report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its November 12, 2024, meeting.
- **3. Level II reviews.** The committee reviewed 13 cases. On review, the committee took the following actions:
 - a. Voted to take no action on the following 10 cases:
 - (1) 2005-1-14;
 - (2) 2005-2-05;
 - (3) 2007-1-07;
 - (4) 2007-1-11;
 - (5) 2007-1-13;
 - (6) 2009-3-02;
 - (7) 2013-2-06;
 - (8) 2024-1-01;
 - (9) 2024-1-02; and
 - (10) 2024-1-06.
 - b. Voted to refer the following three cases to NCAA enforcement:
 - (1) 2010-3-01;
 - (2) 2014-1-02; and
 - (3) 2015-1-01
- 4. The 2025-2026 Division III Financial Aid Reporting Program.
 - a. The committee was provided a summary of the review criteria for the 2024-25 reporting cycle and confirmed the criteria are substantive and appropriate.

- b. The committee reviewed updates to the financial aid reporting program file format for the 2024-25 reporting cycle and confirmed the updates are sufficient. The Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) variable was replaced with the Student Aid Index (SAI) per changes made to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The membership will be notified of the updated file format in an announcement June 1, 2025.
- c. The committee confirmed the removal of the variance estimate table from the School Profile Report and references to it in the Division III Financial Aid Annual Reporting Process User's Manual. The committee determined the table was unnecessary to include in future reports.
- d. The committee was provided a review of program logistics. The reporting window for the 2025-26 reporting cycle will open June 1, and close September 12, 2025.
- 5. Division III Requests/Self-Reports Online Bylaw 15 interpretations. The committee was provided an overview of Bylaw 15 interpretation requests submitted by the membership since October 29, 2024.
- 6. Review of the Graduate/Post-Baccalaureate Student-Athlete Report. The committee was provided a report of graduate/post-baccalaureate student-athletes that enrolled at Division III institutions after receiving an undergraduate degree from another institution. This information is reported as part of the Division III financial aid reporting program. Report highlights included:
 - The number of student-athletes reported increased from 48 to 502 between 2019-20 to 2023-24.
 - The number of Division III graduate/post-baccalaureate student-athletes that enrolled at Division III institutions in 2023-24 (502) comprised 0.2% of all Division III student-athletes (206,698) in that year.
- 7. Review of Division III full-time first-time enrollment findings. The committee was provided a review of the Division III first-time enrollment findings. Report highlights included:
 - Twenty-nine percent of Division III institutions experienced a 20% or greater decrease in full-time, first-time enrollment between 2019-20 and 2023-24. Five percent experienced a 20% or greater decrease between 2022-23 and 2023-24.
 - Forty-one percent of Division III institutions experienced a 20% or greater increase in the proportion of student-athletes in their full-time first-time cohort of students between 2019-20 and 2023-24. Seventeen percent experienced a 20% or greater increase between 2022-23 and 2023-24.

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- **8. Division III governance update**. The committee received an update on Division III and Association-wide current key topics.
- **9. Future meeting**. The committee confirmed its next meeting will be held via videoconference in November 2025.
- **10. Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned February 13, 11 a.m.

Committee Chair: Mark Becker, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Staff Liaisons: Eric Hartung, Division III Governance

Brittany Higgins, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee February 12-13, 2025, Meeting

Attendees:

Mark Becker, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Taylor Bischoff, Eastern Connecticut State University, Little East Conference.

Jack Follis, University of St. Thomas, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Danielle Lynch, Haverford College, Centennial Conference.

Perry Rettig, Piedmont University, USA South Athletic Conference.

Jen Windmiller, Bethany College (West Virginia), Presidents Athletic Conference.

Absentees:

Christopher Hanlon, Lebanon Valley College, Middle Atlantic Conferences.

Gavin Jones, Westminster College (Pennsylvania), Presidents' Athletic Conference.

Andrea Savage, New England Small College Athletic Conference.

NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:

Eric Hartung and Brittany Higgins.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Louise McCleary.