



**NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Webinar:
Application of Division II COVID-19 Self-Applied Season-of-
Competition and Extension of Eligibility Waiver Relief**

Question and Answer Guide

Season-of-Competition Waiver Questions.

Question No. 1: Does unattached competition count against the 50% limit of NCAA Division II Bylaw 17 maximums for spring sports when applying the self-applied season-of-competition waiver?

Answer: No.

Question No. 2: The [NCAA Division II 2020-21 Academic Year COVID-19 Question and Answer Guide](#) notes that for institutions that sponsor both indoor and outdoor track and field, the 50% calculation for outdoor track and field is four dates of competition, but the Bylaw 17 playing and practice season maximum is 14 dates of competition for the 2020-21 academic year. Is that four dates for indoor track and field and four dates for outdoor track and field? Or four dates over both sport seasons?

Answer: If an institution only sponsors outdoor track and field, the 50% calculation is seven dates of competition for the self-applied season-of-competition waiver for outdoor track and field student-athletes.

If an institution sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the 50% calculation is four dates of competition in outdoor track and field for the self-applied season-of-competition waiver for outdoor track and field student-athletes.

If an institution sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, but cancels its indoor season without competing, the institution may use seven dates of competition when determining the 50% calculation for the self-applied season-of-competition waiver for outdoor track and field student-athletes.

The 50% calculation does not apply to the self-applied season-of-competition waiver for winter sports (i.e., indoor track and field).

Question No. 3: In sports such as golf or tennis where participation in the nonchampionship segment triggers use of a season of competition, does a student-athlete who only competes in the nonchampionship segment qualify for the self-applied season-of-competition waiver?

Answer: Yes. See Bylaw 14.2.4.1.3 (Exception – Competition in the Nonchampionship Segment) for additional information regarding sports that do not use a season of competition during the nonchampionship segment.

Question No. 4: Does a student-athlete who used the progress-toward-degree blanket waiver from the 2019-20 academic year in order to be eligible for the 2020-21 academic year meet the requirement to be "otherwise eligible" for purposes of the self-applied season-of-competition waiver?

Answer: Yes.

Extension of Eligibility Waiver Questions.

Question No. 5: Would an eligible spring 2020 student-athlete who did not appear in a game before the COVID-19 shutdown be eligible for the self-applied extension of eligibility relief under the [previously approved request list](#)?

Answer: Yes. Since the student-athlete was unable to compete during the 2020 spring semester due to cancellation of its sport's season, they would qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility through the previously approved request list provided the student-athlete was on the team and otherwise eligible for competition during the 2020 spring semester.

Question No. 6: If an institution discontinued a sport for the 2020-21 academic year, may the institution self-apply the extension of eligibility waiver?

Answer: No. If an institution discontinued a sport for the 2020-21 academic year, the student-athlete does not qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver. The institution may submit an individual extension of eligibility waiver request to the NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff through RSRO.

Question No. 7: If a cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field student-athlete received the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver for one of the sports (but not all) in which they participate, can they compete in their other sports if they have seasons remaining?

Answer: No. The self-applied extension of eligibility waivers are sport specific. A student-athlete may only participate beyond the legislated 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility in the sport(s) in which they qualify for the extension of eligibility waiver.

Question No. 8: Will the institution be able to apply the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver for both the spring 2020 term and 2020-21 academic year?

Answer: Yes. It is permissible to "stack" the COVID-19 flexibility for any student-athletes who qualify for relief in both academic years.

Question No. 9: May a fall sport student-athlete, who used their 10th term during spring 2021, use one semester of the two semester extension during the 2021 fall term and the second semester during the 2022 fall term if the student-athlete meets the missed term exception criteria for the 2022 spring term?

Answer: No. A student-athlete who receives a self-applied extension of eligibility waiver must use the two semesters or three quarters at the first available opportunity immediately following the conclusion of the student-athlete's 10th full-time semester/15th full-time quarter and consecutively.

Question No. 10: If a spring sport student-athlete was eligible during the 2020 fall term but is ineligible for spring 2021 term, do they still qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver?

Answer: Yes. In order to have access to the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver, the student-athlete must be eligible at some point during the 2020-21 academic year. Provided the student-athlete was eligible during the fall, the student-athlete would meet the eligibility component for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver.

Question No. 11: May a spring sport student athlete "opt out" during the spring 2021 season while not academically eligible for spring 2021 and still have access to the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver if they were eligible during the fall 2020 semester?

Answer: Yes. In order to have access to the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver, the student-athlete must be eligible at some point during the 2020-21 academic year. Provided the student-athlete was eligible during the fall, the student-athlete would meet the eligibility component for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver.

Transfer Questions.

Question No. 12: If the application of the self-applied season-of-competition and/or extension of eligibility waiver for other divisions or other associations (e.g., National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, NCAA Divisions I and III) is noted on the transfer tracer, is any additional documentation needed?

Answer: No. However, the institution is encouraged to contact its conference office regarding any additional documentation that may be required by the conference.

Question No. 13: Where can I find information regarding the NCAA Division I and Division III self-applied season-of-competition and extension of eligibility waivers?

Answer: Information regarding Division I and Division III waivers can be found on the respective compliance page for each division on NCAA.org. Additionally, the Division I and Division III previously approved request lists can be found on the [NCAA Student-Athlete Reinstatement website on NCAA.org](https://www.ncaa.org/sport-management/2020/08/20/ncaa-dii-reinstatement-website).

Question No. 14: May an institution self-apply relief for a transfer student-athlete who played on a club team at the previous institution?

Answer: No. The Division II COVID-19 relief only applies to student-athletes at Division II institutions. The regular waiver process remains available through Request/Self-Request Online Case Management System for transfer student-athletes who do not meet the applicable criteria for relief set by the respective division or other association.

Specific Scenarios.

Question No. 15: A basketball player used nine semesters entering the 2020-21 academic year. The student-athlete enrolled part-time in fall 2020, full-time spring 2021 and competed. Does the student-athlete qualify for the self-applied season-of-competition and extension of eligibility waiver?

Answer: Yes. Provided the student-athlete was eligible at the time of competition, they would qualify for the self-applied season-of-competition waiver. Additionally, the student-athlete would qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver. Please note, the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver must be used at the first available opportunity immediately following the conclusion of the student-athlete's 10th full-time semester/15th full-time quarter and consecutively.

Question No. 16: A fall sport student-athlete used only one season of competition prior to the 2020-21 season. At the end of the 2020-21 academic year, the student-athlete used eight semesters. At the end of the 2021-22 season, the student-athlete will have used two seasons and 10 semesters. Will the student-athlete be able to get a self-applied extension of eligibility waiver to return and compete in the 2022-23 season?

Answer: Yes. If the fall sport student-athlete was otherwise eligible during the 2020-21 academic year, the student-athlete will qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver provided certain criteria are met.

Question No. 17: During the 2020-21 academic year, fall or winter sport team has one scrimmage. A first year, freshman competed in the scrimmage. Does this trigger the use of season of competition? If not, are they eligible for the self-applied season-of-competition or extension of eligibility waiver?

Answer: It depends on the sport. Please refer to the appropriate bylaw to see if the student-athlete's participation in the fall or winter sport scrimmage triggers use of a season of competition. If a student-athlete does not trigger use of a season of competition, they would not need a season-of-competition waiver but, they may still qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver, as long as the student-athlete's circumstances meet the criteria for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver.

Question No. 18: A spring 2020 student-athlete received a season-of-competition waiver for spring 2020, returned for the 2020-21 academic year and competed in spring 2021. The student-athlete suffered a medical hardship during the spring 2021 season but was in their 11th term using the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver. Would the institution be permitted to self-apply an extension of eligibility term (12th semester) for the student-athlete to compete in the 2021-2022 academic year?

Answer: No. The institution would need to submit the extension of eligibility waiver request through the RSRO system.

Financial Aid.

Question No. 19: Will all student-athletes who utilize a self-applied season-of-competition waiver have their financial aid exempted from counting toward team equivalency limits in their fifth year?

Answer: No. A student-athlete, regardless of sport, who would have used their fourth season of competition or exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility during the 2020-21 academic year may receive athletics aid for the 2021-22 academic year without counting toward team equivalency limits (i.e., treat these student-athletes as if they are receiving exhausted eligibility athletics aid). This relief only applies if the student-athlete remains at their original institution. If the student-athlete transfers for the 2021-22 academic year, the athletics aid received at the new institution will count toward team equivalency limits.

Student-athletes who would not have used their fourth season of competition or exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility during the 2020-21 academic year will count toward team equivalency limits in all future academic years in which they receive athletics aid and have eligibility remaining.

Progress Toward Degree.

Question No. 20: If COVID-19 has impacted a student-athlete's ability to successfully complete coursework, may the institution utilize the previously approved waiver checklist for progress-toward-degree?

Answer: An institution is permitted to self-apply relief (i.e., waive an otherwise applicable progress-toward-degree requirement) provided the student-athlete's circumstance appears on the [Division II Progress-Toward-Degree Waiver Subcommittee Previously Approved Waivers Checklist](#) and the circumstances satisfy the specified criteria established for the previously approved waiver. If the student-athlete's circumstance does not appear on the checklist, the regular progress-toward-degree waiver process remains available through RSRO.