The NCAA Division III Management Council approved a blanket waiver for the 2022-23 academic year for student-athletes who did not use the full-time enrollment blanket waiver during the 2021-22 academic year. The relief allows a student-athlete to participate while enrolled less than full-time as follows:

1. If a student-athlete has graduated prior to the 2022-23 academic year, they may be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours each term in a second baccalaureate, graduate program or classes approved by an academic authority outside of athletics that progresses the student-athlete toward a professional or career goal.

2. If a student-athlete will complete their undergraduate degree during the 2022-23 academic year, the student-athlete may do one of the following:
   a. Enroll in the classes necessary to complete their degree, per the final term exception in Bylaw 14.1.8.1.7.1, for the 2022 fall term and then enroll in a minimum of six (6) credit hours for the 2023 spring term in a second baccalaureate, graduate program or in classes that progress the student-athlete toward a professional or career goal and are approved by an academic authority outside of athletics; or
   b. Enroll in a minimum of six (6) hours of academic credit during the 2022 fall term and then enroll in the classes necessary to complete their degree, per the final term exception in Bylaw 14.1.8.1.7.1, for the 2023 spring term.

[The above criteria would apply to quarter institutions on the same equivalent basis.]

Please note:

Student-athletes who used the 2021-22 academic year Full-Time Enrollment blanket waiver are not eligible to use this waiver during 2022-23.

Further, this relief is for the 2022-23 academic year, only. The blanket waiver will not be extended beyond the 2022-23 academic year. Any future requests for a waiver of full-time enrollment will be considered on a case-by-case basis through a legislative relief waiver.
Student-athletes.

Question No. 1: Who qualifies for this blanket waiver?

Answer: Any student-athlete with eligibility remaining who either:

- Completed their undergraduate degree prior to the 2022 fall term; or
- Will complete their undergraduate degree during the 2022-23 academic year.

Question No. 2: Are there any additional qualifying criteria?

Answer: Yes. In order to qualify for this blanket waiver, a student-athlete must also be otherwise eligible to compete during the 2022-23 academic year and they must not have used the 2021-22 academic year Full-Time Enrollment blanket waiver.

Question No. 3: Does the blanket waiver apply to a student-athlete who transfers to a Division III institution for the 2022-23 academic year?

Answer: Yes. A student-athlete’s transfer status does not affect their ability to qualify for the blanket waiver. Please note that the student-athlete must still be eligible (e.g., satisfy an exception to the year in residence requirement; have seasons and terms remaining).

Question No. 4: Does the blanket waiver apply to a student-athlete that graduated from a non-Division III institution prior to the 2022 fall term?

Answer: Yes. The blanket waiver would apply if the student-athlete is otherwise eligible to compete during the 2022-23 academic year, including those with an approved for a legislative relief waiver of Bylaw 14.1.9.

Question No. 5: Can a student-athlete who was not enrolled during the 2021-22 academic year qualify for the blanket waiver?

Answer: Yes. The student-athlete’s enrollment status for 2021-22 academic year is not relevant to application of the blanket waiver.
Question No. 6:  Does the blanket waiver only apply to student-athletes using the COVID-19 relief (extra season) provided by the 2020-21 academic year blanket relief?

Answer:  No.

Enrollment.

Question No. 7  Are student-athletes required to enroll consistent with the blanket waiver during the 2022-23 academic year?

Answer:  No. The blanket waiver simply provides additional enrollment options for student-athletes who have already graduated or will graduate during the 2022-23 academic year.

Question No. 8:  Would the blanket waiver permit a spring sport student-athlete who graduated before the 2022-23 academic year to not enroll in the 2022 fall term and then enroll in six credit hours during the 2023 spring term to complete their eligibility?

Answer:  Yes. Provided the student-athlete qualifies for the blanket waiver, the student-athlete may use the blanket waiver for any or all terms of the 2022-23 academic year.

Question No. 9:  Does the blanket waiver permit a winter sport student-athlete who graduates following the 2022 fall term to not enroll in the 2023 spring term and be eligible to participate?

Answer:  No. The blanket waiver requires the student-athlete to be enrolled in a minimum of six semester or quarter hours in each term after graduating if they would like to complete their season of participation. The exceptions for eligibility after completion of a degree per Bylaw 14.1.8.1.7.7 are, however, still available for any student-athlete who meets the criteria list in Bylaw 14.1.8.1.7.7 (a) or (b).

Question No. 10:  If the student-athlete uses the final term exception to enroll in less than a full-time course load during the 2022 fall term and does not complete their degree requirements, may the student-athlete continue to participate in the 2023 spring term?
Answer: No. The legislation for the final term exception requires the student-athlete to complete all degree requirements during the term the exception is used and is eligible to receive their degree or the student-athlete forfeits eligibility in all sports.

Question No. 11: For the term during which the student-athlete uses the final term exception: do they still have to be enrolled in at least six credit hours?

Answer: No. If they are applying the final term exception, they only need to be enrolled in the credits necessary to complete their degree, even if that is less than six.

Question No. 12: What type of courses that are not part of a graduate or baccalaureate program may be used to satisfy the minimum six credit hours?

Answer: Any courses that advance the student-athlete towards an academic or professional goal and are approved by an academic authority outside of athletics.

Question No. 13: If the student-athlete is taking classes toward a second undergraduate or graduate degree, does the student-athlete need to complete the degree by the end of the 2022-23 academic year?

Answer: No. The student-athlete does not need to complete the requirements for the second undergraduate or graduate degree by the end of the 2022-23 academic year.

Question No. 14: What are the options for a student-athlete who does not qualify for the blanket waiver or has extenuating circumstances that prevent the student-athlete from satisfying the requirements of the blanket waiver (e.g., unable to take six credit hours)?

Answer: The institution has two options:

- The student enrolls full-time for any term in which the student-athlete wants to participate in intercollegiate athletics; or

- The institution may submit a legislative relief waiver. However, the blanket waiver does reflect certain principles in
which all individual waivers will be reviewed. For example, college athletics is about students competing against students and therefore a minimum enrollment threshold is important.

**Miscellaneous.**

**Question No. 15:** Will the Full-Time Enrollment blanket waiver be extended past the 2022-23 academic year?

**Answer:** No. Following the 2022-23 academic year, all less than full-time enrollment waiver requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis through a legislative relief waiver.

**Question No. 16:** Does an institution have to file anything in RSRO as a result of this blanket waiver?

**Answer:** No. An institution does not have to submit a separate waiver request in RSRO to receive the relief granted by this blanket waiver. The waiver applies to all institutions and/or student-athletes that are addressed/described in the blanket waiver.

**Question No. 17:** What if my institution determines enrollment hours on a basis other than traditional semester of quarter hours?

**Answer:** The student-athlete must be enrolled in the equivalent of six credit hours based on how the institution determines enrollment hours provided the institution received a waiver per Bylaw 14.1.8.1.8.1 (nontraditional academic calendars or nonrequired cooperative education program – 12-hour requirement only).

**Question No. 18:** How does the blanket waiver impact the financial aid a student-athlete may receive?

**Answer:** The blanket waiver has not altered, amended, or waived any Division III financial aid legislation. Institutions must still adhere to all Division III financial aid legislation and institutional policies regarding the awarding of financial aid to any student-athlete who participates during the 2022-23 academic pursuant to the blanket waiver. For questions regarding the employment of student-athletes during the 2022-23 academic year, institutions are encouraged to
review the April 2, 2021, educational column titled: Eligibility of Student-Athletes Working In or Outside the Athletics Department.

**Question No. 19:** Why was six credit hours selected as the minimum credit hours for the blanket waiver?

**Answer:** The Division III Management Council and Subcommittee for Legislative Relief believe that six hours maintains a base level of enrollment that ensures Division III athletics constitutes students competing against students, while providing flexibility that supports graduation and participation.