

# NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

---



[www.national-letter.org](http://www.national-letter.org)



@NLIinsider

2020 NCAA REGIONAL RULES SEMINAR



# OBJECTIVES

## NLI PROVISIONS, POLICIES AND PROCESS

---



Understand



Analyze



Apply



PRE-  
SIGNING



ENROLLMENT



POST-  
ENROLLMENT



## PRE-SIGNING

### WHAT IS THE PSA'S STATUS?



### Four important checks before signing.

- 1 PSA does not have a previously signed NLI.
- 2 PSA is not a four-year transfer.
- 3 PSA is in position to enroll the upcoming fall term.
- 4 PSA (under the age of 21) has a parent or legal guardian to sign NLI.

BUT WHAT IF...?

1

PSA HAS a previously signed NLI.

Can another NLI be signed in the SAME signing year?

What is the status of the previously signed NLI?

VALID

INVALID

NULL AND VOID

COMPLETE RELEASE

NO RELEASE





PSA HAS a previously signed NLI.

Can another NLI be signed in the SAME signing year?

What is the status of the previously signed NLI?

~~VALID~~

INVALID



Only an INVALID NLI can be signed again in the same signing year.



~~NULL AND VOID~~

~~COMPLETE RELEASE~~

~~NO RELEASE~~

1

PSA HAS a previously signed NLI.

Can another NLI be signed in the SAME signing year?

NEW  
POLICY

Starting with the 2020-21 NLI signing year, it will be permissible to sign an NLI in the same signing year after the signee is granted a complete release or the signee's NLI is declared null and void.

INVALID



NULL AND VOID

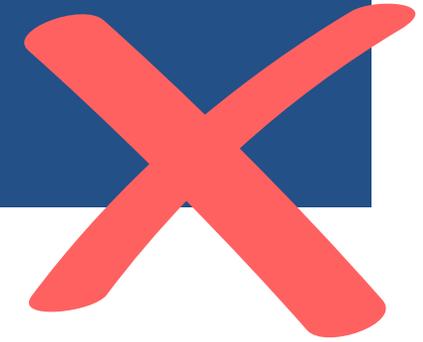


COMPLETE RELEASE



2

PSA IS a four-year transfer.



- A four-year transfer cannot sign an NLI even if the transfer never previously signed an NLI.
- Attendance at a foreign/international institution is considered a four-year transfer.
- Four-year transfers signing athletic aid agreements are not bound by NLI signing dates.

3

PSA IS NOT in position to enroll the upcoming fall term.

Coach is recruiting a PSA who will enroll for the spring term in the next academic year after the PSA graduates in December.

When can this PSA sign an NLI?

CURRENT NLI  
SIGNING YEAR



PSA GRADUATES NEXT  
DECEMBER AFTER THE  
CURRENT NLI SIGNING YEAR



PSA CANNOT SIGN NLI UNTIL  
THE NEXT SIGNING YEAR



PSA is not in position to enroll the upcoming fall term during the current NLI signing year.

[ Coach is recruiting PSA during this time ]

# 4

PSA DOES NOT have a parent or legal guardian to sign NLI.

Institution must submit a cosigner request in the NLI Portal.

- Cosigner cannot have an athletic nexus to the PSA, such as club or high school coach.
- PSA and cosigner cannot sign the NLI until the cosigner request is approved.



What is the reason why a parent or legal guardian cannot sign the NLI?

- Must be extenuating circumstances why a parent is not able to sign the NLI.
- Cannot be that the parent does not want to sign.

# Athletic Aid and the NLI



## PRE-SIGNING

Ⓢ Aid issued without the NLI.

OR

Ⓢ Aid issued with the NLI.



Aid issued without the NLI

If athletic aid is issued without the NLI...



NLI signing dates apply. The athletic aid agreement cannot be signed before the initial NLI signing date for that sport or between signing periods, for sports with designated signing periods, but can be signed after all NLI signing dates have concluded for the signing year.



PSA is not bound by the athletic aid agreement but the aid agreement is binding on the institution if signed without the NLI.

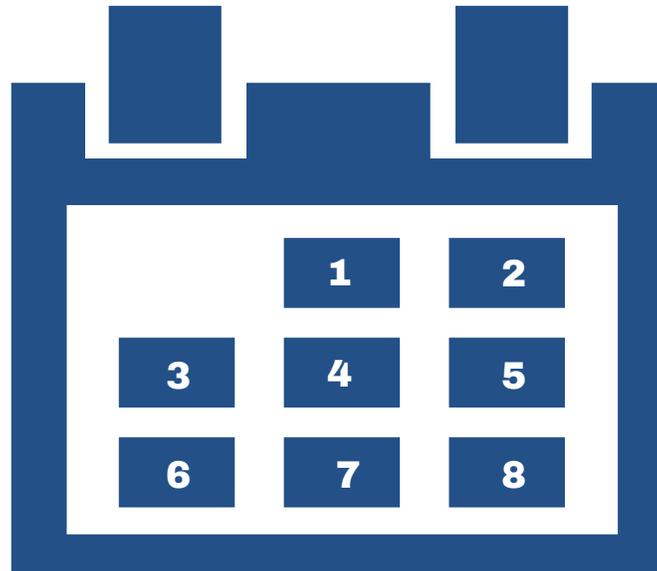


Must follow NCAA, conference and/or institutional financial aid policies.



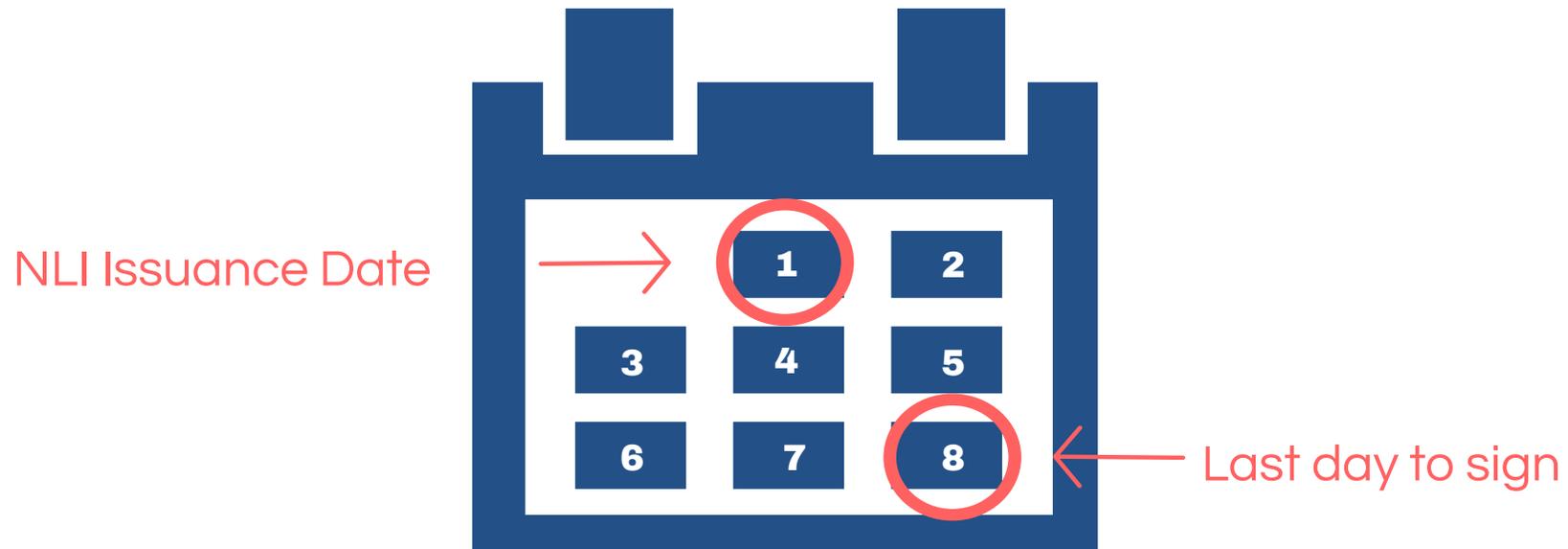
Aid issued with the NLI

7-Day Signing Deadline



---

## 7-Day Signing Deadline

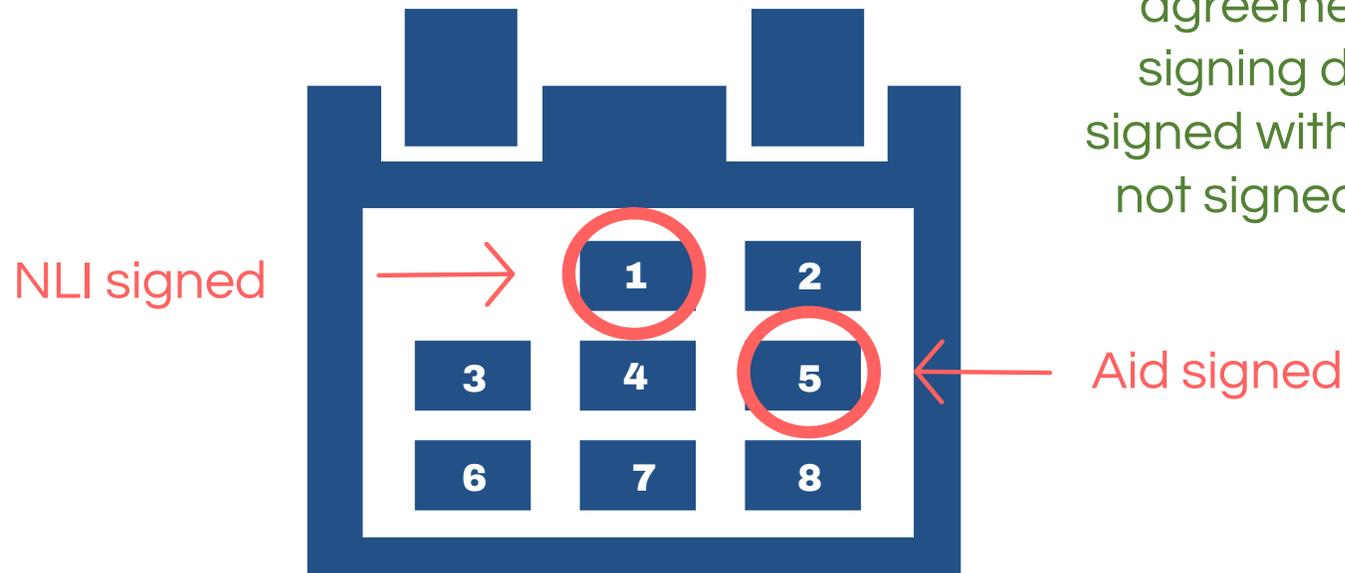


---

What if the NLI was signed on day 1 and the athletics aid agreement was signed on day 5?

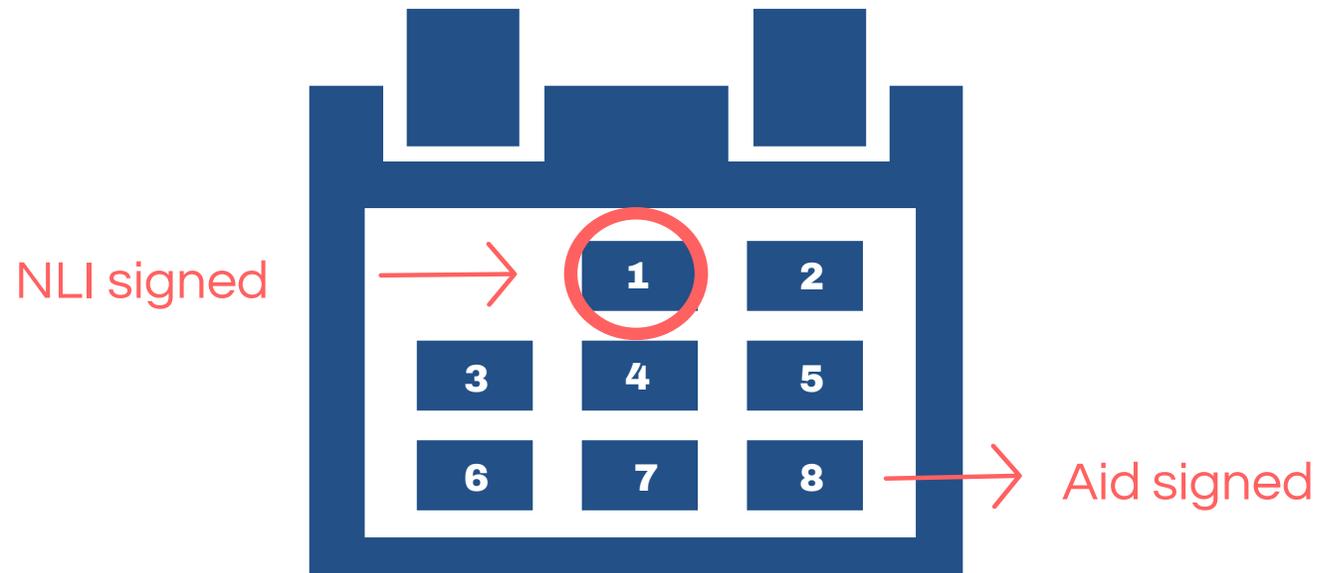


NLI and athletics aid agreement meet the 7-day signing deadline if both are signed within the 7 days, even if not signed on the same date.



---

What if the NLI was signed on day 1 and the athletics aid agreement was signed after the 7-day signing deadline?



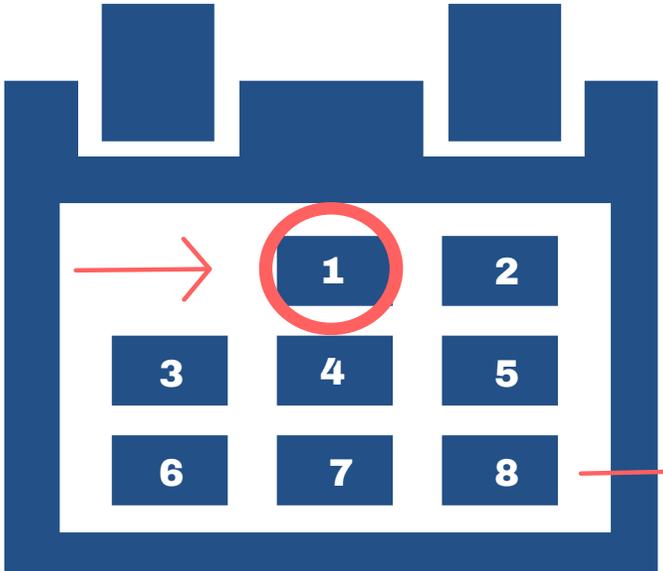


Invalid NLI



Valid Aid Agreement

NLI signed

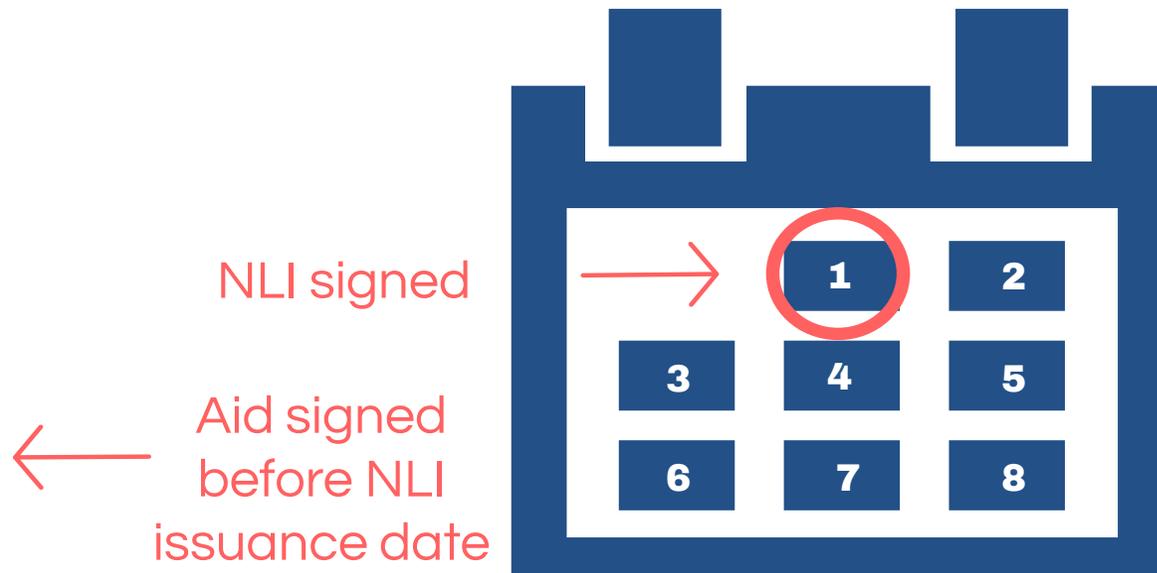


Aid signed



---

What if the athletics aid agreement was signed during an NLI signing period but before the NLI issuance date?



This is permissible!  
The previously signed aid agreement must be included with the NLI once the NLI is signed.

---



## Aid issued with the NLI

RECAP:



- If the aid agreement is rendered invalid, NLI is invalid.
- If NLI is rendered invalid, aid agreement remains valid if meets NCAA rules.
- NLI and athletics aid agreement do not need to be signed on the same signing date in the 7-day signing deadline but NLI is invalid if aid agreement is not signed within the 7-day signing deadline in order to accompany the NLI.

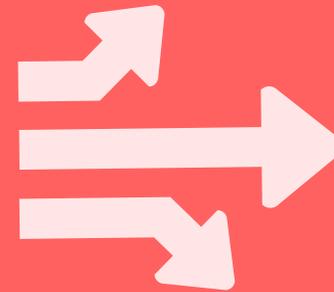


# ENROLLMENT

EARLY ENROLLMENT

DELAYED  
ENROLLMENT

NO ENROLLMENT



# Early Enrollment

PSA signs an NLI starting in November, graduates the next month in December and enrolls the upcoming term (winter or spring).

Can the signee enroll early and the NLI remain binding?



**EXAMPLE:** 2021-22 NLI signed in November 2020 is accompanied by a 2021-22 athletic aid agreement.

**DIVISION I:** It is permissible to add spring 2022 aid as a multiyear aid agreement.

## Delayed Enrollment

PSA signs an NLI starting in November, graduates in June and delays enrollment until the next academic year.

Was the signee admitted to the signing institution? **YES**

Did the signee meet initial eligibility requirements? **YES**

Can the signee delay enrollment and will the NLI remain binding?

- NLI remains binding if the signing institution has the athletics aid available for the next academic year.
- NLI is null and void if the athletics aid is not available the next academic year.



## Delayed Enrollment Agreement



## Delayed Enrollment

- The delayed enrollment agreement is to be used when the NLI signee and the signing institution mutually agree to delay the signee's enrollment to the next academic year.
- The NLI criteria to delay enrollment remains unchanged which requires that the signee has met initial eligibility standards and has been admitted to the signing institution.
- All conditions are listed for the NLI signee and the signing institution to check and sign. With both the signee and signing institution acknowledging their understanding of all information included on the delayed enrollment agreement, all parties are provided transparency with this important decision.

## Delayed Enrollment

- The delayed enrollment can only be initiated after a prospective student-athlete signs an NLI.
- With the immediate effective date for institutions to utilize the delayed enrollment agreement, the deadline to complete the agreement for 2020 will be extended to August 1 versus July 1.

THE DELAYED ENROLLMENT FORM CAN BE FOUND IN THE NLI RESOURCES LOCATED IN THE NLI PORTAL.

## Delayed Enrollment Q & A

### **IS THE DELAYED ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT FORM REQUIRED?**

- Yes, the form is required if the delayed enrollment is a mutual agreement. This provides both the signee and signing institution a clear understanding of the agreement with future expectations.
- If this is not a mutual agreement, there is no agreement the athletics aid will be available for the signee the next academic year or no agreement the signee will attend the next academic year.

## Delayed Enrollment Q & A

### **HAVE THE NLI RULES RELATED TO DELAYED ENROLLMENT CHANGED WITH THIS DELAYED ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT?**

- No, the NLI rules in applying delayed enrollment have not changed. This is an additional process to implement written documentation when the delayed enrollment is mutually agreed between the signee and signing institution.

### **CAN THE DELAYED ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT FORM BE USED FOR ONE TERM OF DELAYED ENROLLMENT (E.G., SPRING)?**

- No, this form is only used for when the delayed enrollment is for one academic year. The delayed enrollment to the spring term is still within the current one year of the NLI and athletics aid agreement.

## Delayed Enrollment Q & A

### **CAN THE DEADLINE FOR AGREEING ON THE DELAYED ENROLLMENT BE EXTENDED?**

- Yes, if there are circumstances for a delayed enrollment after the deadline of July 1 (August 1 for 2020), you can apply an extension by notifying the NLI office.
- The July 1 deadline is aligned with the financial aid renewals, reductions or cancellations for returning student-athletes and allows institutions to manage their athletics aid distribution for the upcoming academic year for roster management.

## Delayed Enrollment Q & A

### **IS THE SIGNING INSTITUTION OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE THE ATHLETICS AID FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR IF THE DELAYED ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT IS ENACTED?**

- Yes, if there is a mutual agreement to delay enrollment, this is conditioned on the signing institution providing the same amount of athletics aid (at a minimum) signed on the athletic aid agreement accompanying the NLI.
- If the signing institution does not guarantee the athletics aid for the next academic year, the delayed enrollment agreement would not be enacted.
- As a reminder, the athletics aid accompanying the NLI is for the academic year aligned with the NLI year.

## Delayed Enrollment Q & A

### **CAN THERE BE A MUTUAL AGREEMENT TO DELAY ENROLLMENT FOR TWO ACADEMIC YEARS?**

- In some cases, a signee may wish to delay enrollment for two years and if this is mutually agreed by the signing institution, the delayed enrollment agreement form would need to be signed for the first year of delayed enrollment and then if there is agreement for another year, a second delayed enrollment agreement form would be signed.
- Noted on the delayed enrollment is the year the delayed enrollment is occurring.

## Delayed Enrollment Q & A

### **DOES THE DELAYED ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT FORM REPLACE THE NLI?**

- No, the NLI and athletics aid agreement are signed. The mutual agreement to delay enrollment would be to not enroll the upcoming year as noted on the NLI and athletics aid agreement in order to delay enrollment to the next academic year.

## No Enrollment

NLI signee does not attend the signing institution.



**No action needed!**

- 1.** NLI remains binding.
- 2.** Signee can submit an NLI release request.

# Enrollment

RECAP:



## EARLY ENROLLMENT

- It is permissible for a PSA to sign an NLI and enroll midyear.
- It is permissible to add spring aid to the academic year aid agreement in Division I.
- If the signee enrolls early, the signee fulfills the NLI by attending the signing institution for the spring and fall terms.

# Enrollment

RECAP:



## DELAYED ENROLLMENT

- The signee must be admitted and meet initial eligibility requirements to delay enrollment.
- Delayed enrollment must be a mutual agreement between the signee and the signing institution.
- If the signing institution is in agreement with the delayed enrollment, the athletic aid must be honored.

# Enrollment

RECAP:



## NO ENROLLMENT

- The NLI remains binding if the signee does not enroll.
- No action is needed by the signing institution if the signee does not enroll.

# POST- ENROLLMENT

2-4 TRANSFERS

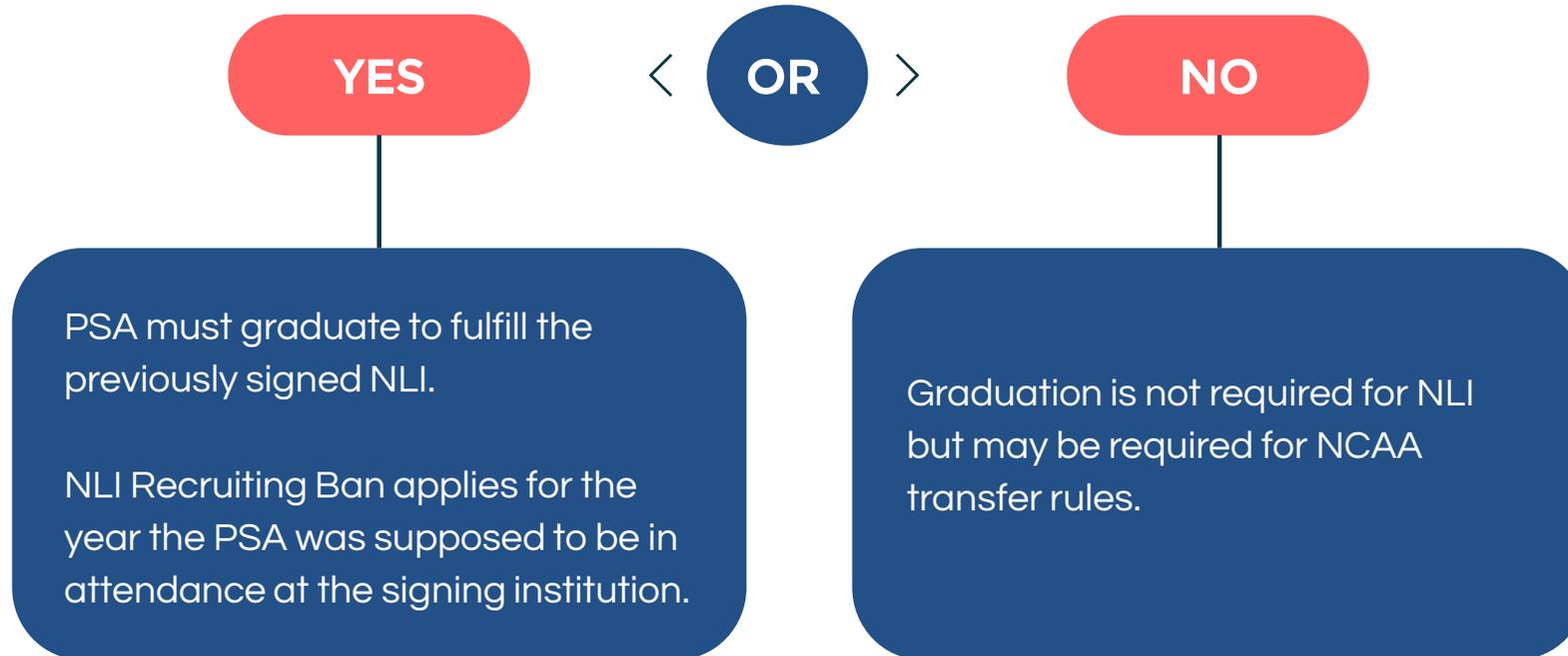
4-4 TRANSFERS

4-2-4 TRANSFERS



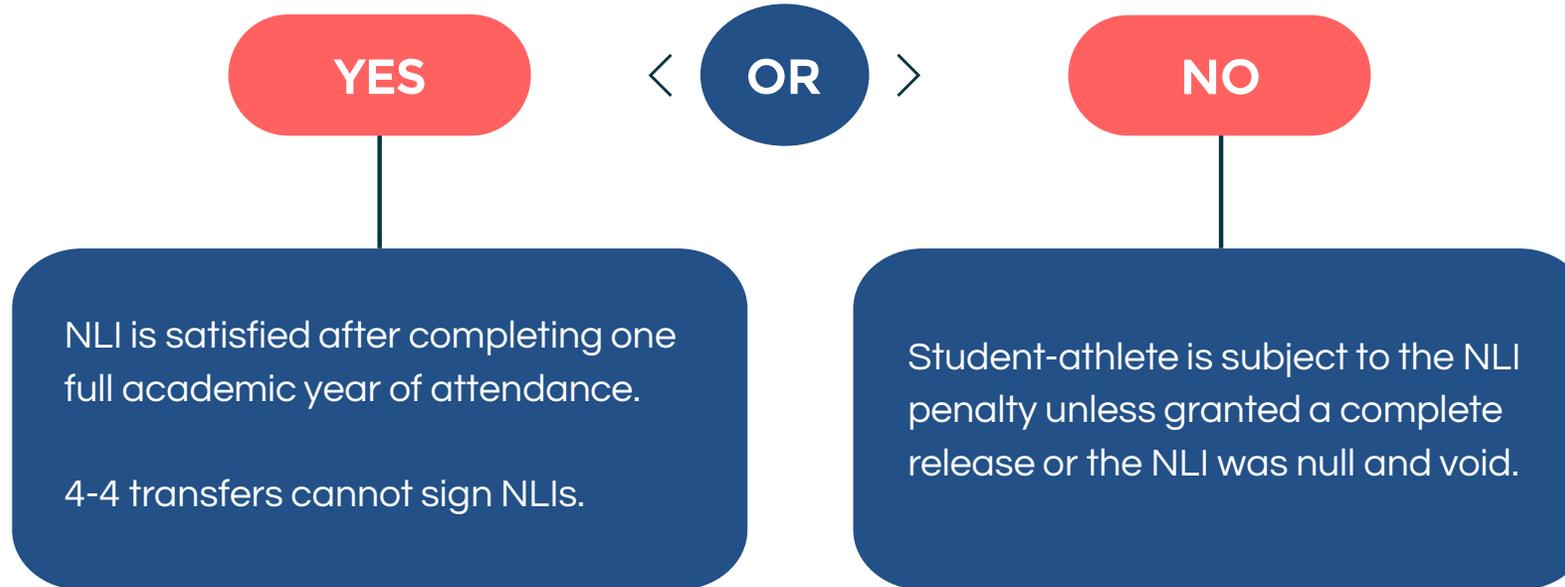
## 2-4 TRANSFERS

Does the PSA have a valid NLI signed before two-year enrollment?



# 4-4 TRANSFERS

Has the student-athlete completed one full academic year of attendance?



NLI Recruiting Ban does not apply to 4-4 transfers.  
The student-athlete would be subject to the notification of transfer  
(entered in the transfer portal).

## 4-2-4 TRANSFERS

PSA signed NLI before enrolling at the first four-year institution.  
Did the PSA satisfy the NLI requirements?

YES

< OR >

NO

PSA can sign another NLI since the PSA is transferring from a two-year college.

PSA must graduate from the two-year college to fulfill the NLI.

Another NLI can be signed before graduation. If graduation does not occur, the second NLI is null and void.

# COVID-19 IMPACT ON NLI

Due to COVID-19, there have been an increase in the following NLI areas:

**DELAYED ENROLLMENT** – The most common COVID-19 reasons for delaying enrollment are financial, health and safety, non-entry into the United States for international signees and spring sport student-athletes returning for an extra season impacting the signee's position on team.

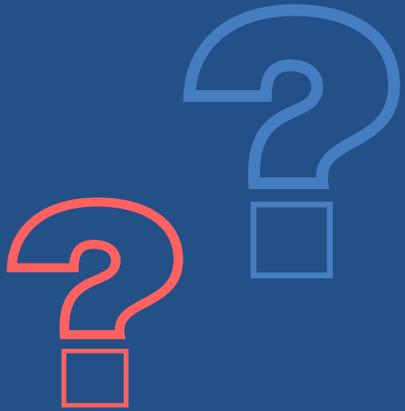
**NLI RECRUITING BAN VIOLATIONS** – It is important for a coach to check with the compliance office regarding the NLI status of a PSA even if the PSA tells the coach he/she did not sign an NLI.

**NLI RELEASE REQUESTS** – NLI signees submitting release requests are identifying COVID-19 related reasons. It is the institution's decision to provide a complete release or no release decision.

Due to COVID-19, there have been an increase in the following NLI areas:

**TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS** – NLI signees intending to transfer from their two-year college may choose to complete another academic year at their two-year college due to the NJCAA season extension. The signing institution will need to determine if they will keep the NLI binding by providing the athletic aid for the signee the next academic year.

**DISCONTINUED SPORT** – When an institution discontinues a sport for the upcoming year, the compliance office must null and void the NLI for the NLI signees by selecting discontinued sport in the null and void submission located in the NLI Portal. Other coaches cannot communicate with the signee until the record shows as null and void.



# TEST YOUR NLI KNOWLEDGE!



[CLICK TO START](#)

KAHOOT GAME PIN: **05025603**

OR CONTINUE TO THE END OF THE NLI SESSION



T H A N K Y O U !



[speal@ncaa.org](mailto:speal@ncaa.org)



317-223-0705



[www.national-letter.org](http://www.national-letter.org)



@NLIinsider