



Regional Rules

Overview

- Review of new legislation.
- Review of current legislative hot topics.
- Application legislation to real world examples.
- Previously Approved Waiver Checklist.
- COVID-19 Fall 2020 Certifications.



Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options

Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options

Academic Eligibility

Previous Rule

- **Same institution:**
 1. Second degree, major or minor or general full-time coursework.
 2. General graduate work (e.g., nondegree-seeking).
 3. Graduate degree programs.
- **New institution:**
 1. Graduate degree programs.

New Rule

- All full-time postgraduate enrollment options are acceptable, regardless of whether SA remains at same school or enrolls at new school.
- August 1, 2020



Expansion of Population

Undergraduate
Institution

Full-time post-baccalaureate studies:

- Enrolled in second baccalaureate degree, major or minor; or
- Enrolled in general coursework towards any degree program.

Full-time graduate studies:

- Enrolled in general graduate work (e.g., nondegree-seeking, certificate program); or
- Enrolled in graduate degree program (e.g., degree-seeking).

New
Institution

Full-time post-baccalaureate studies:

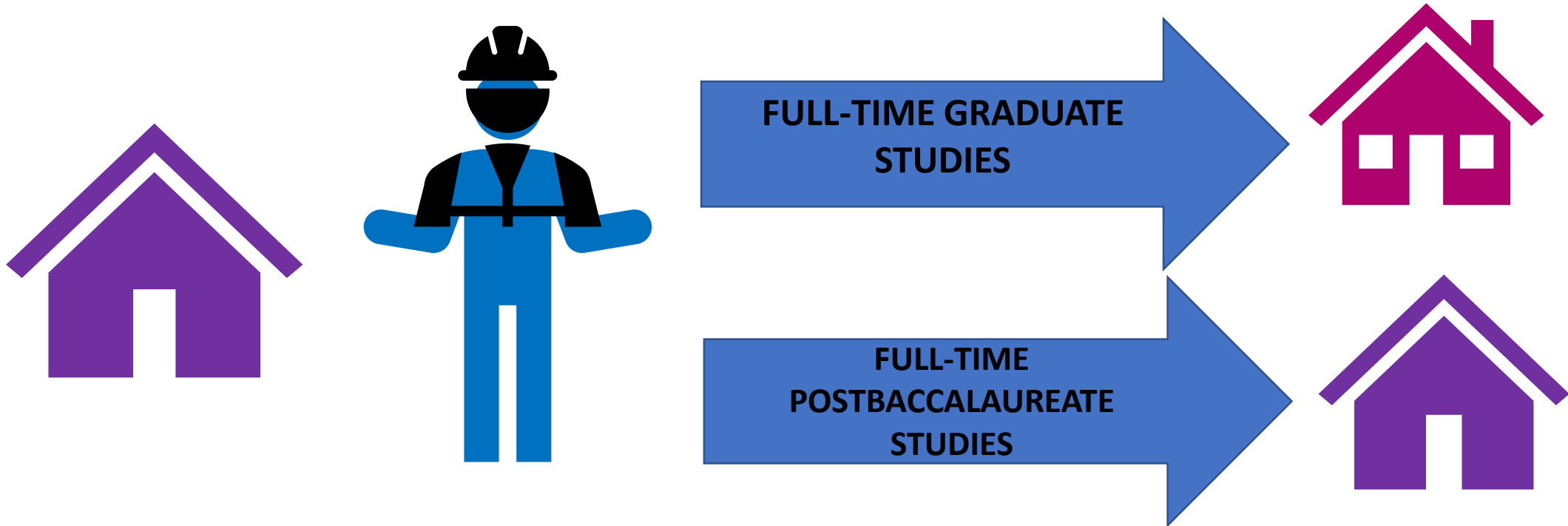
- Enrolled in second baccalaureate degree, major or minor; or
- Enrolled in general coursework towards any degree program.

Full-time graduate studies:

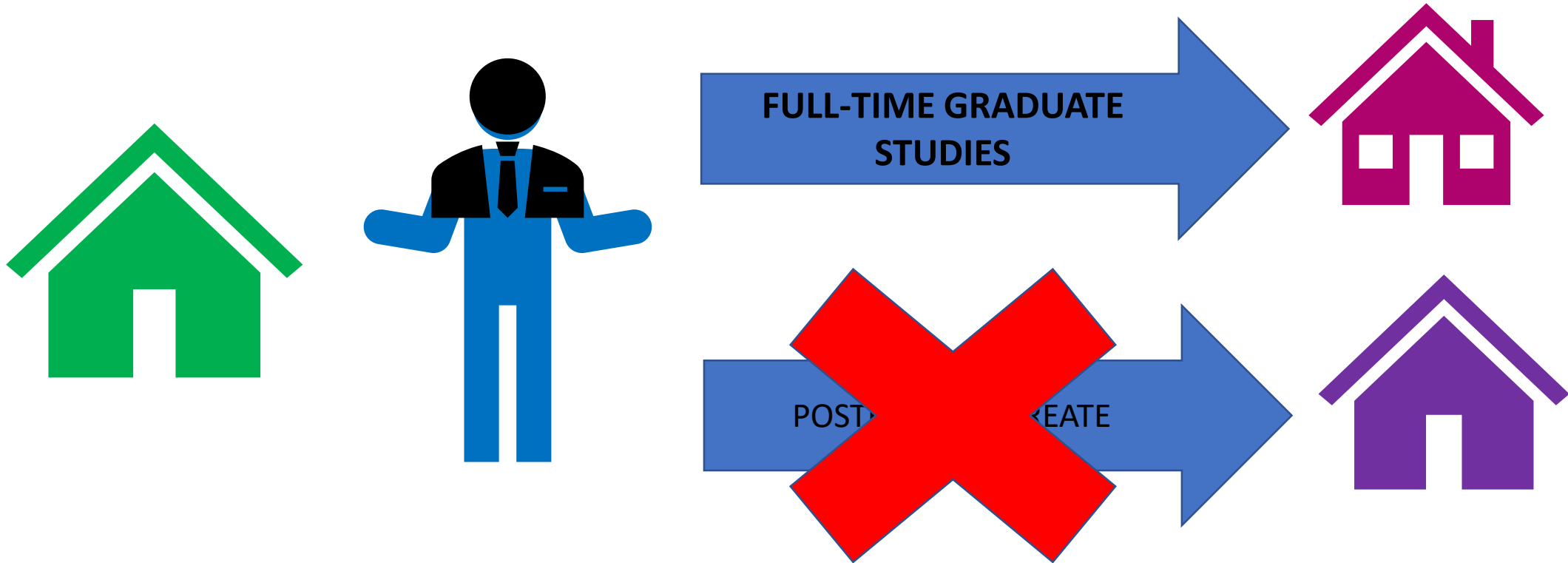
- Enrolled in general graduate work (e.g., nondegree-seeking, certificate program); or
- Enrolled in graduate degree program (e.g., degree-seeking).



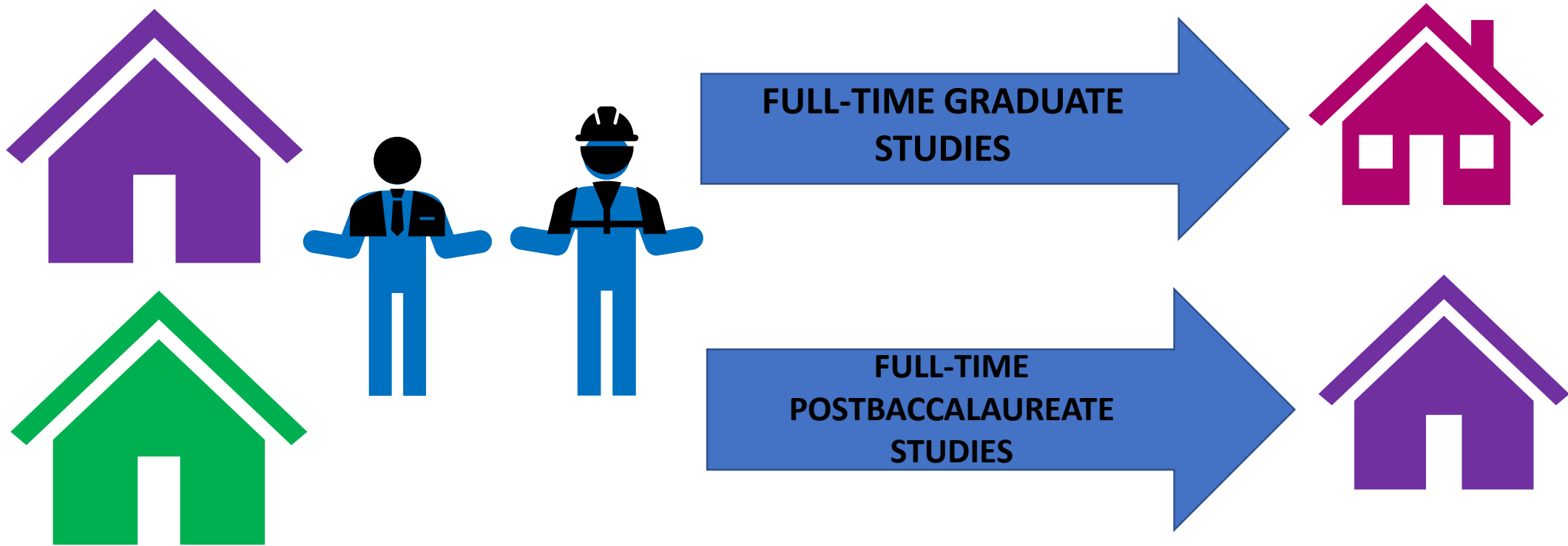
Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options Continuing Student



Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options Transfer Student



Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options Continuing and Transfer Student



Timing

August 1, 2020, for a SA who initially enrolls full-time at the certifying institution on or after August 1, 2020.



Timing

~~August 1, 2020, for a SA who initially enrolls full-time at the certifying institution on or after August 1, 2020.~~



CERTIFYING POSTGRADUATE STUDENT-ATHLETES





Regional Rules


Six-hour requirement


Full-time post baccalaureate studies:

- Enrolled in second baccalaureate degree, major or minor, or 
- Enrolled in general coursework towards any degree program. 

Full-time graduate studies:

- Enrolled in general graduate work (e.g., nondegree-seeking), or 
- Enrolled in graduate degree program (e.g., degree-seeking). 

 Must earn six hours towards specific degree or program requirements.

 No change – must pass six credit hours towards any degree.

Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options Key Take-A-Ways

- Student-athletes who have graduated with athletic eligibility remaining may enroll in any academic program available whether they remain at the same school or enroll at a new school.
- The student-athlete must be a regularly enrolled student in any academic program pursuant to the institution's policies.

Postgraduate Academic Enrollment Options Key Take-A-Ways

- All student-athletes must be enrolled full-time to participate in athletics (practice or competition). Full-time:
 - Undergraduate program: 12 credit hours.
 - Graduate program: defined by the institution.
- Student-athletes must fulfill the conditions of the one-time transfer exception.

Application of the Legislation

Summer Aid Prior to Full-Time Enrollment

- Bylaw 15.2.8.1.4
 - Permissive legislation.
 - Summer coursework can be used to meet percentage-of-degree requirements.
 - This legislation does not impact transfer eligibility requirements.



Missed Term Exception

- Bylaw 14.4.3.6-a
 - One-time exception.
 - Student-athlete cannot attend class during the term as a full-time student.
 - No outside competition.
 - Student-athlete meets all progress-toward-degree requirements for the terms in attendance.



Missed Term Exception

	Fall	Spring
2018-19	12 hours earned	Not enrolled
2019-20	Is SA eligible?	

This student-athlete is enrolling for the first time at any institution in 2018-19.

When certifying this student-athlete, could we use the missed term exception?

Yes, we are able to use the missed term exception in the first year of enrollment.

Missed Term Exception

- If a student-athlete uses the missed term exception, do you count the term when certifying progress toward degree?
 - Yes and no.
 - The term counts for certain credit hour requirements – six and 18-hour.
 - The term does NOT count for certifying 24/36 hour, percentage of degree or grade point average requirements.



Medical Absence Waiver

- Bylaw 14.4.3.7-a
 - Administered by the conference office.
 - Can be used if student-athlete misses the whole term or is unable to complete the term.
 - Must have medical documentation that student-athlete is unable to attend classes.
 - If approved, term will not count toward full-time enrollment.



Medical Absence Waiver

- Scenario:

- Student-athlete withdrew from institution in the spring 2020 term due to documented medical issues. Student-athlete was meeting progress-toward-degree requirements prior to the spring 2020 term.
- Student-athlete is unable to return to the institution fall 2020 due to ongoing medical issues.
- Institution is planning for student-athlete to return for the spring 2021 term. Could the student-athlete use a medical absence waiver for the spring 2020 term and missed-term exception for the fall 2020 to be eligible for the spring 2021 term?
 - Yes, provided the medical absence waiver is granted by the conference office, the institution could then use the missed-term exception for the fall 2020 term to certify the student-athlete for spring 2021.



Medical Absence Waiver

- Scenario:

- Student-athlete dropped to part-time in the spring 2020 term due to documented medical issues. Student-athlete was meeting progress-toward-degree requirements prior to the spring 2020 term.
- Can this student-athlete still use the medical absence waiver?
 - Yes, even though the student-athlete did not withdraw from school, the student-athlete can still qualify for the medical absence waiver.



PTD Previously Approved Waiver Checklist

Background

- Inception: July 2018.
- Efficiency.
- Common circumstances.

Background Continued

- Waiver is applied in lieu of a formal PTD waiver request through RSRO.
- Encompasses unforeseen circumstances.
- Reviewed annually by NCAA staff and COA.
- Verified through APP data review process.



Application

- Institutions can self-apply waiver relief if a SA:
 - Has a credit-hour, percentage or GPA deficiency.
 - Satisfies any of the established scenarios criteria listed within the previously approved waiver checklist.
 - Has competition pending at the certifying institution.

Established Scenarios

- High-achieving students.
- Restrictive degree programs.
- Less than full-time enrollment.
- Financial aid only for 4-4 transfer students.
- Personal hardships.
 - COVID-19 is considered a catastrophic event.

Required Documentation

- Academic recovery plan;
- Demonstrate SA will recover academically;
- Graduation timeline (term-by-term);
- Incorporates use of academic resources; and
- Requires signatures (SA and staff with academic oversight).

Best Practices

- Maintain all documentation used in self-application.
- Does not serve as a blanket waiver.
- Submit a waiver through RSRO if criteria not satisfied.



Resources

- [AMA COVID-19 Q&A.](#)
- [PTD Previously Approved Waiver Checklist.](#)
- NCAA staff members.

QUESTIONS?



Regional Rules

COVID-19 FALL 2020 CERTIFICATIONS

Fall 2020 Academic Certifications

- For continuing students who are academically ineligible, the following options are available:
 - If institution determines COVID-19 had a direct *or* indirect impact on SA's fall 2020 academic eligibility, it may self-apply relief using the previously approved waiver checklist;
 - If institution does not attribute the SA's academic deficiency directly or indirectly to COVID-19, but believes other mitigation exists, a traditional waiver may be filed with the NCAA staff via RSRO; or
 - Certify SA as academically ineligible to compete during Fall 2020.

Fall 2020 Academic Certifications

- Is an institution required to use the previously approved waiver checklist to certify all otherwise ineligible SAs for the 2020 fall term?
 - No.
- Must a SA have entered the 2020 spring term academically eligible in order to use the previously approved waiver checklist?
 - No.

Fall 2020 Academic Certifications

- ▶ If the previously approved waiver checklist is used to certify a SA as eligible for the 2020 fall term and that SA has another academic deficiency at the conclusion of the fall, what options do I have?
 - ▶ Certify the student-athlete as ineligible for competition, or
 - ▶ Request a traditional waiver from the NCAA staff via RSRO.
- ▶ What about an incoming transfer SA who fails to meet percentage of degree at my institution for fall 2020 due in part to COVID-19?
 - ▶ Request a traditional waiver from the NCAA staff via RSRO.



Case Study – Continuing Soccer SA

- Soccer SA is a full-time, sophomore during 2019-20 academic year.
 - Enters 2019 fall season academically eligible, having earned 28 credits during freshman year.

Fall 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020
Passed nine hours, failed three.	Passed six hours, dropped from six due to COVID-19.	Certifying institution does not conduct summer classes
Cumulative GPA: 2.100	Cumulative GPA: 2.400	Cumulative GPA: 2.400 Cumulative earned hours: 43

- SA enters 2020 fall term short of 18-hour rule and percentage of degree (i.e., 40%)
- What options does the certifying institution have?

Case Study – Transfer Soccer SA

- What happens if after the SA's sophomore year, the same SA decides to transfer to a new Division I institution for the 2020-21 academic year?

Fall 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020
Passed nine hours, failed three.	Passed six hours, dropped from six due to COVID-19.	Transfer institution does not conduct summer classes
Cumulative GPA: 2.100	Cumulative GPA: 2.400	Cumulative GPA: 2.400 Cumulative Hours earned: 43
	* SA enters Transfer Portal.	*35 hours accepted by transfer institution

- Can transfer institution apply the one-time transfer to certify SA and/or award athletics aid?
- What options does transfer institution have for rectifying SA's academic eligibility for fall 2020?



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