NCAA Division I Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers
Quality-Point Analysis

Background.

Based on research used by the NCAA Division I Academic Consultants gathered through the NCAA Academic Performance Census, the NCAA Division I Academics/Eligibility/Compliance Cabinet endorsed quality points as a way to guide staff and committee perceptions of a student-athlete's academic record.

Based on a directive approved annually by the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet, quality points are one of several factors, including mitigating circumstances, the size of waiver request, and overall academic record considered by the staff and subcommittee when evaluating a progress-toward-degree waiver request.

The analysis of quality points allows the staff and NCAA Division I Committee on Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers to project a student-athlete's likelihood of graduation within five years through research, rather than basing the decision on prior decisions of the Committee on Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers or the committee members' perception of a student-athlete's academic record.

How to Calculate the Quality-Point Analysis (QPA).

Total number of credits earned times (***x***) cumulative grade-point average = total quality points.

Example:

Julie earned 40 total credits with a 2.000 grade-point average after attending the institution for two academic years.

Total number of credits earned = 40.
Grade-point average = 2.000.

40 ***x*** 2.000 = 80 quality points.

How is the QPA Used?

The staff, after calculating the student-athlete's quality points, will determine the student-athlete's predicated probability of graduation by using the range charts on the subsequent pages:

Range Chart – Semesters.

Quality Points After One Year of Enrollment		Quality Points After Two Years of Enrollment	
Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points	Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points
Less than 25%	Less than 29	Less than 25%	Less than 76
Less than 33%	Less than 41	Less than 33%	Less than 91
Above 50%	Above 61	Above 50%	Above 116

Quality Points After Three Years of Enrollment		Quality Points After Four Years of Enrollment	
Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points	Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points
Less than 25%	Less than 124	Less than 25%	Less than 174
Less than 33%	Less than 139	Less than 33%	Less than 189
Above 50%	Above 165	Above 50%	Above 215

Examples.

Below are several hypothetical situations to help understand how to calculate quality points for a student-athlete and to identify what the academic record of a student-athlete would look like based on earned quality points.

1. Student-athlete A completed his or her first year of collegiate enrollment and has 16 credit hours with a 1.710 grade-point average:

   Based on the student-athlete's quality points, he or she has less than a 25 percent predicated probability of graduating. Student-athlete A has 27.36 quality points (16 credit hours ***x*** 1.710 cumulative grade-point average = 27.36 quality points).

2. Student-athlete B completed his or her second year of collegiate enrollment and has 40 credit hours with a 2.200 grade-point average.

   Based on the student-athlete's quality points, he or she has a 25 to 33 percent predicated probability of graduating. Student-athlete B has 88 quality points (40 credit hours ***x*** 2.200 cumulative grade-point average = 88 quality points).

3. Student-athlete C completed his or her third year of collegiate enrollment and has 53 credit hours with a 3.000 grade-point average.

   Based on the student-athlete's quality points, he or she has a 33 to 50 percent predicated probability of graduating. Student-athlete C has 159 quality points (53 credit hours ***x*** 3.000 cumulative grade-point average = 159 quality points).

What About Quarter Schools?

The quality-point ranges (QPR) are based on semester hours so quarter hours must be converted into semester hours. Simply multiply the student-athlete's total number of quarter hours by the cumulative grade-point average. The resulting number is then multiplied by 2/3.

Example:

Jean earned 36 quarter hours in three full-time quarters with a 2.000 grade-point average.

36 ***x*** 2.000 = 72 quality points.
72 ***x*** 2/3 = 48 quality points (This is the quality point to be compared to the QPR located in the charts.)

Midyear Analysis.

For those waivers in which the student-athlete has a deficiency at midyear (e.g., midyear enrollee, missed term, six-hour deficiency), a midyear QPR must be identified using the range charts.

Example:

Tasha has completed 30 credit hours in three full-time semesters with a 2.500 grade-point average and has 75 quality points. Based on the calculation, the QPR for midyear between years one and two, the student-athlete has a 33 to 50 percent chance of graduating from the certifying institution.

Midyear Range Chart.

Midyear Quality Points During Year One of Enrollment		Midyear Quality Points During Year Two Enrollment	
Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points	Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points
Less than 25%	Less than 14	Less than 25%	Less than 52
Less than 33%	Less than 20	Less than 33%	Less than 66
Above 50%	Above 30	Above 50%	Above 88

Midyear Quality Points During Year Three of Enrollment		Midyear Quality Points During Year Four of Enrollment	
Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points	Total Predicted Probability of Graduation	Total Quality Points
Less than 25%	Less than 100	Less than 25%	Less than 149
Less than 33%	Less than 115	Less than 33%	Less than 164
Above 50%	Above 140	Above 50%	Above 190

What About Transfers?

Generally, for a two-year or a four-year transfer student, two QPAs should be calculated. The first is an overall QPA for all institutions attended. Credits earned at the certifying institution and credits which transferred into the certifying institution are used in the calculation. Credits earned at the previous institution that did not transfer are not used. The second QPA is calculated for the credit hours earned subsequent to enrolling at the institution the student is currently attending. Using this approach, both the student-athlete's overall progress and the progress at the current institution can be considered.

Example:

George attended a two-year college for two years and earned 48 transferable-credit hours. He has attended the certifying institution for one academic year and earned 20 credit hours. His overall grade-point average is 2.300 (the two-year college grade-point average does not transfer to the institution).

68 ***x*** 2.300 = 156.4 total quality points.
20 ***x*** 2.300 = 46 quality points at the certifying institution.

The total quality points should be compared to the year three (going into year four) QPR in the QPR tables. Based on the QPR tables, the student-athlete has a 33 to 50 percent chance of graduating overall. The certifying institution quality points should be compared to the year one (going into year two) QPR, as the student-athlete has only spent one academic year at the certifying institution. This analysis indicates the student-athlete also has a 33 to 50 percent chance of graduating from the certifying institution.

*NOTE: In situations where the waiver is being filed for a student-athlete in order to meet the one-time transfer exception, a QPA should be conducted for the previous institution, as generally no data exists to conduct a QPA at the certifying institution.