NCAA Division II Four-Year College Transfers

General Transfer Legislation

General Rule

Prior to being eligible for competition, a four-year college transfer SA must serve one full academic year in residence at certifying institution.

Eligibility for Aid and Practice

- If SA attended previous institution for at least one academic year, he/she may be eligible for financial aid and practice at certifying institution.
- If SA attended previous institution for less than one academic year and is partial qualifier or nonqualifier, receipt of financial aid and practice is governed by Bylaw 14.3.2.1.
 - Not eligible to use transfer exception to be immediately eligible to compete.

Eligibility to use Transfer Exceptions

- In order to use transfer exceptions, SA must not:
 - Be under disciplinary suspension at previous institution;
 - Have competed during segment that concludes with NCAA championship at previous institution; and
 - Have an unfulfilled residency requirement at previous institution.
 - Exception: Return to original institution without participation.

Bylaws 14.5.1.1, 14.5.5.3 and 14.5.5.4

Eligibility for Transfer Exception

- ▶ Staff interpretation [Reference: 7/24/14, Item No. 2]:
 - SA, who is a qualifier and serving a year in residence during initial year of enrollment due to organized competition violation who chooses to transfer prior to serving the year in residence, is not eligible for one-time transfer exception.

Eligibility for Transfer Exception

- ▶ Staff interpretation [Reference: 8/6/14, Item No. a]:
 - Partial qualifier or nonqualifier who received a fully approved initial-eligibility waiver to permit athletically related financial aid, practice and competition in initial year of full-time enrollment is considered a qualifier for purposes of application of two-year and four-year college transfer requirements.

Progress-Toward-Degree Requirement: Nine-Hour Rule

- To be eligible for competition, SA must complete nine hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term of full-time enrollment.
 - Must be degree applicable.
 - Must be transferable hours as certified by certifying institution.

Transfer Exceptions

- > SA must meet several conditions to satisfy one-time transfer exception.
- 1. SA must not have previously transferred from four-year institution.
- Exception: SA may still use one-time transfer exception if in previous transfer SA used discontinued/nonsponsored sport exception or previous transfer was due to loss of regional accreditation.

- 2. SA must be in good academic standing, meeting progress-toward-degree requirements at previous institution and academically eligible to return to previous institution.
- Good academic standing is defined by academic authorities at previous institution.

- If SA is transferring from NCAA or NAIA member institution, previous institution must certify in writing that it has no objection to SA being granted exception to transfer residence requirement.
- Institution must grant or deny SA's written request for a release within 14 consecutive calendar days of receipt. Failure to do so will result in the request being automatically granted.

- 5. Additional requirement only for those SAs who have <u>one season</u> or <u>two semesters/three quarters or fewer</u> remaining to complete his or her eligibility and has not earned a baccalaureate degree:
- Must have completed an average of 12 credit hours of transferrable degree credits for each full-time term attended and a 2.000 GPA in those credits.

- Official interpretation [Reference: 12/12/14, Item Ref. 14] incorporated effective immediate:
 - Transfer SA from Division I institution who meets all other requirements of one-time transfer exception may use exception on transfer to Division II institution even if SA does not fulfill percentage-of-degree requirements at previous Division I institution.

Discontinued Sport Exception

SA is not subject to year in residence provided previous institution discontinued or has publicly announced its plans to discontinue SA's sport.

Nonsponsored Sport Exception

- If SA's previous institution did not sponsor SA's sport while SA was in attendance, SA is not subject to year in residence.
 - To use this exception, SA must not have previously transferred from institution that sponsored sport.

Two-Year Nonparticipation/ Minimal Participation Exception

- > SA is not subject to year in residence if:
 - For a (consecutive) two-year period prior to SA's participation in countable athletically related activities at certifying institution:
 - SA has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities in involved sport beyond a 14 consecutive calendarday period; or
 - SA has not participated in organized amateur competition while enrolled full time.

Two-Year Nonparticipation/ Minimal Participation Exception

Official interpretation [Reference: 7/7/14, Item No. 15]:

• Participation on previous institution's club team triggers intercollegiate competition or noncollegiate amateur competition and must be counted when determining whether SA may use two-year nonparticipation exception.

Nonrecruited Student Exception

- > SA is not subject to year in residence if:
 - SA was not recruited by certifying institution;
 - SA has not received any athletically related financial aid; and
 - SA has not competed or participated in countable athletically related activities beyond a 14 consecutive calendar-day period at any previous institution.

Additional Transfer Exceptions

- ▶ Educational exchange exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.1).
- Exchange student exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.2).
- Discontinued academic program exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.3).
- Military service, religious mission exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.4).
- Return to original institution without participation/minimal participation exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.7).

Graduate Student-Athletes

Graduate Student Participation

- SA who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school, or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program at institution other than institution previously attended as undergraduate may compete provided SA has eligibility remaining.
 - Disciplinary suspension legislations applies to graduate students as well

Graduate Student Participation

- ▶ Staff interpretation [Reference: 10/8/14, Item No. a]:
 - SA may use exception on more than one occasion provided SA has eligibility remaining and regardless of whether SA previously transferred as undergraduate student.

Graduate Student Participation

- Staff interpretation [Reference: 10/25/13, Item No. b]:
 - Graduate student who transfers while disqualified or suspended from previous institution must complete one <u>calendar</u> year in residence at certifying institution.

Waivers

NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief Waivers

- If SA does not meet a four-year college transfer exception, consider if legislative relief is appropriate.
- Guidelines can be found on www.ncaa.org.
- ▶ Case precedent can be found in RSRO.

Questions

