



2025 NFL Draft Opt-Out Rules

What you need to know:

The NCAA granted an extra year of eligibility for all players due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NFL considers the 2020 college football season as a season of participation for all football student-athletes who had remaining eligibility.

If a player who would otherwise be automatically eligible does not want to be considered for selection in the 2025 NFL Draft, he must submit notification via a fully-executed Opt-Out letter (see the attached document) to the NFL Player Personnel department via email (drafteligibility@nfl.com) by **Friday, February 7, 2025**.

Important Note:

Please note that any draft-eligible player who does not submit a fully executed Opt-Out letter to the NFL Player Personnel department by 11:59:59 p.m., New York time, on Friday, February 7 will be deemed eligible for selection in the 2023 NFL Draft.

- Any such player who decides to return to school after the February 7 deadline may be selected in the Draft, even if he has informed clubs that he does not wish to be selected.
- If such a player is selected and subsequently returns to school, the Selecting Club will hold the exclusive negotiating rights to sign the player through the 2024 NFL Draft at which point the Club shall have such exclusive rights as if the player were drafted in such Draft by such Club.

In certain instances, the NFL in its sole discretion, may choose to excuse a player who files a late notification from the above listed rule. The granting of such an exception is not automatic and should not be anticipated or expected.

Please reach out to the NFL Player Personnel Department at nflplayerpersonnel@nfl.com or 212-450-2215 with any questions.