



2022-23 NCAA Division I Council-Governance Legislative Proposals
Question and Answer Document
Updated: December 16, 2022

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of selected proposals introduced into the 2022-23 NCAA Division I Council-Governance legislative cycle. During the Council's October 27, 2022, videoconference, NCAA Division I Proposal Nos. 2022-28, 2022-29, 2022-30 and 2022-32 were slated for a January vote.

Proposal No. 2022-28 (Athletics Personnel and Recruiting – Limitations on the Number of Coaches and Off-Campus Recruiters and Recruiting Coordination Functions)

Question No. 1: What is the purpose of amending the definition of a countable coach; eliminating the volunteer coach designation; the championship subdivision football, swimming and diving and women's rowing graduate assistant coach designation; and eliminating the recruiting coordination functions legislation?

Answer: The NCAA Division I Transformation Committee charged the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee with reviewing existing NCAA legislation and determining whether the regulations remain necessary at the national level. Considering the changing landscape of intercollegiate athletics, the subcommittee determined that countable coach limits should continue to specify the maximum number of individuals necessary in each sport to support student-athletes. In this effort, the subcommittee determined that national regulation designating individuals as volunteer coaches or graduate assistant coaches in championship subdivision football, swimming and diving, and women's rowing is not necessary. Further, the subcommittee determined that the recruiting coordination functions legislation is not necessary at the national level, recognizing that all institutional staff members have been permitted to make telephone calls to prospective student-athletes during the past three years via blanket waivers. Finally, the subcommittee reviewed the countable coach definition and determined that limiting the number of individuals who make or assist in making tactical decisions during on-court or on-field practice or competition is an unmonitorable and unenforceable expectation and that coaching limits should be confined to those who provide technical or tactical instruction to student-athletes or engage in off-campus recruiting activities.

Question No. 2: May any institutional staff member (e.g., director of operations, video coordinator, manager) make or assist in making tactical decisions related to the sport during on-court or on-field practice or competition?

Answer: Yes. However, only countable coaches are permitted to provide technical or tactical instruction related to a sport to a student-athlete at any time. For example, during competition, a football offensive analyst may recommend to a countable coach that a specific play be called, relay information on a scouting report or communicate to a coach the next play on the call sheet, but only the countable coach may provide the instruction to student-athletes.

Question No. 3: May a noncoaching staff member with sports-specific responsibilities (e.g., director of operations, video coordinator) participate in on-court or on-field activities (e.g., assist with drills, serve as practice player, throw batting practice, signal plays)?

Answer: No. Bylaw 11.7.3 continues to prohibit participation in such activities.

Question No. 4: In bowl subdivision football, is a graduate student coach required to be appointed as a graduate assistant under the policies of the institution?

Answer: No. A graduate student coach is only required to be enrolled in graduate level coursework at the institution for which the individual serves as a graduate student coach.

Question No. 5: In bowl subdivision football, is a graduate student coach required to be admitted into a graduate degree program, graduate certificate program or other graduate level program?

Answer: No. A graduate student coach is only required to be enrolled in graduate level coursework at the institution for which the individual serves as a graduate student coach.

Question No. 6: In bowl subdivision football, is there a minimum number of semester- or quarter-hours in which a graduate student coach must be enrolled?

Answer: A graduate student coach is required to be enrolled in graduate level coursework at the institution the individual serves as a graduate student coach. Further, an individual may not serve as a graduate student coach for a period of more than two years unless the graduate student coach completes 24 semester- or 36 quarter-hours during the initial two-year period of enrollment. If the graduate student coach completes 24 semester- or 36 quarter-hours during the initial two-year period of enrollment, then the individual may serve as a graduate student coach for a third year, provided the graduate student coach continues to remain enrolled in graduate level coursework.

Question No. 7: In bowl subdivision football, may a graduate student coach fulfill coaching duties during required summer athletics activities if the graduate student coach is not enrolled in graduate level coursework during the summer?

Answer: Yes. A graduate student coach may fulfill coaching duties during required summer athletics activities, provided the graduate student coach was enrolled in graduate level coursework at the conclusion of the previous regular academic term (e.g., spring term) or is enrolled in graduate level coursework for the next regular academic term (e.g., fall term).

Question No. 8: In bowl subdivision football, may an institution appoint a midyear replacement graduate student coach who is not enrolled in graduate level coursework?

Answer: Yes; provided the individual qualifies for enrollment in graduate level coursework beginning with the next regular academic term.

Question No. 9: In bowl subdivision football, may an institution temporarily replace a graduate student coach who is unable to perform any or all duties due to extenuating circumstances with an individual who is not enrolled in graduate level coursework?

Answer: No.

Question No. 10: May an individual who initially enrolled full time at a collegiate institution more than seven years prior, but never completed the individual's first baccalaureate degree program, serve as a manager?

Answer: No. In order to serve as a manager, an individual shall be appointed as a manager within seven years of the individual's initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The institution may appoint an individual who initially enrolled full time at a collegiate institution more than seven years prior, but never completed the individual's first baccalaureate degree program to another position (e.g., noncoaching sport-specific staff member, countable coach) that does not specify a time period for when the individual must be appointed.

Question No. 11: May an individual who was appointed as a manager within seven years of the individual's initial full-time collegiate enrollment continue to serve as a manager beyond the seven-year time period?

Answer: Yes. The individual must continue to meet the remaining provisions of the manager legislation (e.g., enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student, does not provide instruction to student-athletes).

Question No. 12: May any institutional staff member (e.g., director of operations, video coordinator, manager) make telephone calls to prospective student-athletes (or prospective student-athletes' family members)?

Answer: Yes. Any institutional staff member may make a telephone call to a prospective student-athlete who has reached the first permissible date to receive a telephone call.

Question No. 13: Are institutional staff members who make telephone calls to prospective student-athletes, but do not engage in off-campus recruiting activities, required to receive annual rules education covering NCAA legislation from the staff members' institution?

Answer: No. The provisions of Bylaw 11.5.1 (Annual Rules Education Requirement) apply to individuals who engage in off-campus recruiting activities (evaluations and contacts).

Proposal No. 2022-29 (Athletics Personnel – Limitations on the Number of Coaches and Off-Campus Recruiters – Baseball, Ice Hockey and Softball)

Question No. 1: Why is Proposal No. 2022-29 a separate legislative proposal from NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2022-28?

Answer: Proposal No. 2022-28 is generally intended to increase the countable coach limits in each sport to offset the elimination of the volunteer assistant coach designation and, in championship subdivision football, swimming and diving, and women's rowing, the graduate assistant coach designation. In order to inform this effort, the Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee asked coaches associations and other sport-specific stakeholders in each sport to provide feedback on the appropriate number of countable coaches to best support the needs of Division I student-athletes.

Proposal No. 2022-29 reflects the feedback provided by stakeholders in baseball, ice hockey and softball to increase the current countable coach limits, by two countable coaches, in order to better support student-athlete health, safety and well-being based on the student-athlete to coach ratio.

Question No. 2: If Proposal No. 2022-28 is defeated, will the Council still consider Proposal No. 2022-29?

Answer: If Proposal No. 2022-28 is defeated, Proposal No. 2022-29 may still be considered. However, the recommended increase to the number of countable coaches is related to the provision in Proposal No. 2022-28 that would eliminate the volunteer coach designation. The Council will determine what action to take after considering Proposal No. 2022-28. A possible action would be to amend Proposal No. 2022-29 to only increase the limit on the number of countable coaches by one.

Proposal No. 2022-30 (Athletics Personnel and Recruiting – Limitations on the Number of Coaches and Off-Campus Recruiters – Basketball)

Question No. 1: In basketball, may an institution hire an individual associated with the prospective student-athlete (IAWP) into of the two new countable coach positions who may not engage in off-campus recruiting activities?

Answer: If an IAWP is employed by the institution into this position and, at the time of employment, a student-athlete who enrolled at the institution in the previous two years (and remains enrolled at the institution) was a prospective student-athlete by which the individual meets the definition of an IAWP or within two years after such employment, a prospective student-athlete by which the individual meets the definition of an IAWP enrolls as a full-time student in a regular academic term at the institution, the student-athlete becomes ineligible for intercollegiate competition unless eligibility is restored by the NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

Question No. 2: Is an institution required to designate the two additional countable coaches who may not engage in off-campus recruiting activities?

Answer: Yes. The two additional individuals are countable coaches who must be designated per Bylaw 11.7.1.

Question No. 3: May any of the six countable coaches contact and evaluate prospective student-athletes off campus, provided only four countable coaches are off campus at any given time?

Answer: No. The institution must designate the four countable coaches who may contact and evaluate prospective student-athletes off campus and the two countable coaches who may not.

Question No. 4: May an institution temporarily replace one of the two countable coaches who may not engage in off-campus recruiting activities if the staff member is unable to perform any or all duties because of extenuating circumstances?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 5: If Proposal No. 2022-28 is defeated, will the Council still consider Proposal No. 2022-30?

Answer: Yes. Proposal No. 2022-30 is independent from Proposal No. 2022-28.

Proposal No. 2022-32 (Recruiting – Official and Unofficial Visits)

Question No. 1: Who may receive transportation, meals, lodging and entertainment expenses during a prospective student-athlete's official visit to campus?

Answer: The prospective student-athlete and up to four individuals accompanying the prospective student-athlete may receive round-trip transportation, meals, lodging and entertainment expenses during a prospective student-athlete's official visit to campus.

Question No. 2: May the institution provide official visit expenses to a nonfamily member (e.g., scholastic coach, family friend) designated as one of the four individuals accompanying a prospective student-athlete on an official visit who may receive expenses?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 3: May an institution provide official visit expenses to another prospective student-athlete who has not reached the first permissible date to take an official visit as one of the four individuals accompanying a prospective student-athlete on an official visit?

Answer: If one of the four individuals is another prospective student-athlete who has not reached the first permissible date to take an official visit, that prospective student-athlete must meet the definition of a family member per Bylaw 13.02.8. The institution may not engage in any recruiting activity (e.g., recruiting conversations, photoshoot, etc.) with the prospective student-athlete family member who has not reached the first permissible date to take an official visit.

Question No. 4: May an institution provide official visits expenses to another prospective student-athlete who has reached the first permissible date to take an official visit as one of the four individuals accompanying a prospective student-athlete on an official visit?

Answer: Yes. However, the provision of expenses to another prospective student-athlete who has reached the first permissible date to take an official visit counts as that prospective student-athlete's one official visit to the institution.

Question No. 5: May an institution provide a prospective student-athlete more than one official visit (e.g., one official visit during the prospective student-athlete's junior year of high school and one official visit during the prospective student-athlete's senior year of high school)?

Answer: No. Proposal No. 2022-32 would eliminate the limit on the number of official visits an individual prospective student-athlete may take to different institutions during the recruiting process and the number of official visits an institution may provide on an annual basis in baseball, basketball and football. However, Proposal No. 2022-32 maintains that an institution may finance one visit to its campus for a prospective student-athlete before October 15 following completion of high school. An institution may provide an additional visit to a prospective student-athlete if a new head coach is hired, and the prospective student-athlete had previously received an official visit.

Question No. 6: May an institution provide a prospective student-athlete lodging expenses that do not count toward the two consecutive night maximum if a prospective student-athlete arrives in the locale of the institution too late to begin the official visit and no other action is taken to start the official visit (e.g., sit down meal with institution's coaching staff)?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 7: Does the cost of entertainment for a student host count against the \$60 per person entertainment maximum?

Answer: No.

Question No. 8: During an official visit, how does the institution calculate the maximum cost of entertainment that may be provided?

Answer: Proposal No. 2022-32 establishes a per person entertainment maximum for the actual costs of entertaining a prospective student-athlete and up to four individuals accompanying the prospective student-athlete. For example, if a prospective student-athlete is accompanied on an official visit by two individuals, the institution may provide entertainment not to exceed \$180 (\$60 per person) during the visit.

Proposal No. 2022-34 (Academic Eligibility – Freshman Academic Requirements – Elimination of Test-Score Requirements)

Question No. 1: Are standardized test scores currently required for NCAA initial eligibility?

Answer: Current legislated initial-eligibility standards require standardized test scores; however, this requirement was waived as part of the [COVID-19 alternative initial-eligibility standards](#) for students who initially enroll full time in 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 or 2023-24.

Question No. 2: Why was the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force created?

Answer: The NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force was created as part of the NCAA's [eight-point plan](#) to advance racial equity. It was comprised of 19 members (representing Divisions I and II institutions, conferences and student-athletes), and its charge was to review whether

standardized test scores should continue to be part of Divisions I and II initial-eligibility requirements.

Question No. 3: What did the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force consider as part of its review?

Answer: Throughout its work, the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force engaged several groups for feedback, including governance groups, the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, the National Association for College Admission Counseling and the testing agencies. The NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force also surveyed Divisions I and II membership for additional input. This input, as well as data presented by NCAA research staff and external bodies, helped inform the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force’s recommendation.

In [October 2021](#), the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force recommended to remove standardized test scores from Divisions I and II initial-eligibility requirements, noting that its recommendation aligns with the trend among NCAA schools to move away from requiring standardized test scores for admissions.

Question No. 4: Did the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics support the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force’s recommendation?

Answer: Yes. During its meeting on [Feb. 10, 2022](#), the Division I Committee on Academics supported the NCAA Standardized Test Score Task Force’s recommendation. The Division I Council then [sponsored](#) 2023 Convention legislation.

Question No. 5: If adopted, what would be the new legislated Division I initial-eligibility standards?

Answer: Similar to the COVID-19 alternative initial-eligibility requirements, standardized test scores would be removed from Division I initial-eligibility requirements, but all other current legislated requirements would remain, as follows:

Division I Initial-Eligibility Requirements	
<p>Qualifier Athletics aid, practice and competition.</p>	<p>Complete Academic Record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Core-course progression (10/7) before starting 7th semester;** » 16 core-course units in the required subject areas; » \geq 2.300 core-course GPA; and » Proof of graduation.
<p>Early Academic Qualifier Athletics aid, practice and competition.</p>	<p>Pre-7th Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 14 core-course units in the required subject areas; and

	» <u>≥</u> 3.000 core-course GPA.
--	-----------------------------------

Academic Redshirt Athletics aid (1st year) and practice (1st term).	Complete Academic Record: » 16 core-course units in the required subject areas; » \geq 2.000 core-course GPA; and » Proof of graduation.
---	--

***Students certified based solely on international credentials are exempt from the 10/7 core-course progression requirement.*

Question No. 6: If adopted, when would this proposal become effective?

Answer: If adopted, this proposal would apply to students who initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution on or after Aug. 1, 2023.

Question No. 7: If adopted, will students who previously met Division I COVID-19 alternative initial-eligibility requirements (qualifier, early academic qualifier, academic redshirt) be re-evaluated and have their final academic certification status changed?

Answer: Yes, if such students initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2023, and update their NCAA enrollment period to 2023-24 or beyond.

Question No. 8: Does this proposal include other Division I COVID-19 policies related to pass/fail grades, unofficial documents, nontraditional courses and the core-curriculum time limitation?

Answer: No. This proposal only applies to initial-eligibility requirements. Please review the [COVID-19 FAQ resource](#) for the application of COVID-19 policies to students who initially enroll full time during the 2023-24 academic year.

Question No. 9: If adopted, can institutions still submit initial-eligibility waivers for students who do not meet the new legislated initial-eligibility standards?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 10: If adopted, will standardized test scores be considered as part of automatic initial-eligibility waiver criteria and/or submitted initial-eligibility waivers?

Answer: If adopted, the Division I Committee on Academics will review initial-eligibility waiver policies related to standardized test scores.

Question No. 11: If adopted, will standardized test scores be removed throughout the legislation?

Answer: This proposal is specific to initial-eligibility requirements. If adopted, the impact to other areas in the legislation will be reviewed at a later date to determine whether legislative change is necessary.

Question No. 12: If adopted, will this proposal apply to the admissions requirements set by individual institutions?

Answer: No. This proposal is specific to initial-eligibility requirements, which are separate and distinct from admissions requirements that are determined and maintained by individual member institutions.