



NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-6
Limitations on the Number of Coaches and Off-Campus Recruiters -- Football
Question and Answer Document

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-6 introduced into the June 2024 legislative cycle. Currently, the proposal would apply only in football; however, other NCAA Division I Council standing committees will be provided the opportunity to review the proposal and may request that the council include other sports in the proposal.

NCAA Division I institutions should note that the proposal permits any institutional staff member to provide technical and tactical instruction to football student-athletes during practice and competition. The proposal does not permit an institution to hire outside consultants to coach student-athletes, does not permit an institution to set up satellite recruiting offices and does not permit institutions to hire staff members whose sole responsibility is to recruit off campus.

Question No. 1: In football, may any institutional staff member provide technical and tactical instruction (e.g., signal plays, call plays, conduct drills) to a student-athlete?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 2: In football, may any institutional staff member contact or evaluate prospective student-athletes off campus?

Answer: No, only those institutional staff members designated as off-campus recruiters (up to 11 in football bowl subdivision and up to 13 in football championship subdivision) may contact or evaluate prospective student-athletes off-campus.

Question No. 3: May an institution employ an individual who will be involved with recruiting or evaluating prospective student-athletes if the individual does not reside in the institution's general locale?

Answer: No. Such an individual would be considered an athletics talent scout. Per NCAA Bylaw 13.1.2.8.1, an institution may not employ an individual who will be involved with recruiting or evaluating prospective student-athletes if the individual does not reside in the institution's general locale.

Question No. 4: In bowl subdivision football, what is the impact of the proposal on legislation related to hiring an individual associated with a prospective student-athlete (IAWP)?

Answer: If an IAWP is employed by the institution in any athletics position other than an off-campus recruiter 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. 5: May any other individual outside the institution (e.g., consultant, professional instructor) provide technical or tactical instruction to a student-athlete?

Answer: No. The legislation is specific to indicate only institutional staff members may provide technical or tactical instruction related to football student-athletes or countable coaches.

Question No. 6: May an institution hire an outside individual to provide feedback, recommendations and other guidance to the institution's coaching staff (e.g., review game film, formulate game or practices plans)?

Answer: Yes. However, at no point may the outside individual provide technical or tactical instruction to the institution's student-athletes.

Question No. 7: May a student-athlete, on their own initiative, hire an outside individual as a coach (e.g., QB consultant) to provide tactical or technical instruction?

Answer: Yes, provided the institution is not involved in any way in arranging the activity, the institutional coaching staff members do not observe the activity and the activity does not occur at the institution's facility.

Question No. 8: In bowl subdivision football, may a graduate student coach work at institutional or noninstitutional camps at another four-year, NCAA member institution's camps and clinics?

Answer: Yes, in bowl subdivision football, an institution's graduate student coach who has successfully completed the rules education requirement may be employed in any capacity only by the institution's camps or another four-year, NCAA member institution's camps.

Question No. 9: In bowl subdivision football, may an individual not authorized to recruit off-campus (other than a graduate student coach) work noninstitutional or another four-year, NCAA member institution's camps and clinics?

Answer: No.

Question No. 10: In championship subdivision football, may any institutional staff member conduct (observe, participate) an on-campus evaluation with a prospective student-athlete?

Answer: No. Only those individuals authorized to recruit off-campus may conduct (observe, participate) an on-campus evaluation of a prospective student-athlete. Student managers and video staff (for whom filming [e.g., practices] is part of their regular responsibilities) are permitted to film an on-campus evaluation.

Question No. 11: In bowl subdivision football, may a strength and conditioning coach that provides technical or tactical instruction to a student-athlete observe voluntary strength and conditioning activities?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 12: In bowl subdivision football, may a strength and conditioning coach observe voluntary non-strength and conditioning activities (e.g., 7 on 7, captains' practice)?

Answer: No. A strength and conditioning coach observing such an activity would result in a countable athletically related activity and must be included in the daily or weekly hour limitations.