



NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-65
Single-Sport Conference

Question and Answer Document

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in understanding the application of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-65, which, if adopted in January 2025, will establish requirements for Division I single-sport conferences.

Question No. 1: What is the rationale for the proposal to be introduced at this time?

Answer: The moratorium on new single-sport conferences expires in February 2025. This proposal seeks to clarify the overall definition of a single-sport conference, establish membership composition requirements, and ensure equitable championship access for student-athletes. Given the impact on championship bracket integrity, this proposal codifies requirements for single-sport conferences, providing clarity and ensuring that Division I single-sport conferences are composed primarily of Division I members.

Question No. 2: If one organization sponsors one sport for both genders (e.g., men's and women's ice hockey), may the organization be considered a single-sport conference?

Answer: No, each sport would be considered as a separate single-sport conference.

Question No. 3: Does an organization that currently sponsors more than one single-sport conference need to file a new application for each existing single-sport conference?

Answer: No. An organization that administered more than one sport as of the 2023-24 academic year must declare each single-sport conference and pay annual dues for each single-sport conference but will not need to file separate applications.

Question No. 4: Does an organization that currently administers more than one sport need to file a new application for each single-sport conference added after 2023-24?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 5: Is the proposed requirement related to active Division I membership sport-specific?

Answer: Yes. For purposes of meeting this requirement, an ice hockey program that is a Division I program, either because the institution itself is a Division I active member institution or because it has met the multidivision classification legislation, would count as Division I.

Question No. 6: Does the requirement that a Division I single-sport conference be composed of at least six active members, with at least 75 percent of members active Division I members, apply to sports in which the only championship opportunity is a National Collegiate Championship?

Answer: No.

Question No. 7: When does the two-year waiting period for eligibility to be considered for an automatic qualification begin?

Answer: Once a single-sport conference's application has been accepted and the conference has been elected as a single-sport conference, the two-year period would begin. For example, if the conference is elected for the 2025-26 academic year, the conference's first year would be 2025-26, the second year would be 2026-27, and the single-sport conference could first be considered for automatic qualification for 2027-28.

Question No. 8: What is the conference competition requirement?

Answer: All single-sport conference members must participate in conference competition. This can include regular-season and/or conference championship competition.

Question No. 9: How does this proposal affect football and basketball?

Answer: This proposal does not include football and basketball.