

NCAA 2025-2026 Division I Legislative Processes

The two legislative processes below outline how amendments to current Division I legislation can occur. Committee members collaborate with NCAA staff, member conferences and institutions and student-athletes throughout the decision-making process. The following information summarizes the steps required for enacting changes.



Conferences may submit concepts to an oversight committee or the Administrative Committee to consider for introduction as proposals.

Amendments to Division I Legislation

»»» LEVEL OF URGENCY »»»			
Division Dominant Legislative Process	Standard Legislative Process	Expedited Legislative Process	Emergency Legislative Process
Proposals that would amend division dominant provisions, including changes to revenue distribution funds or formulas and proposals impacting championships access.	Proposals that are considered through the standard legislative process. Such proposals do not require immediate action and may be more complex and may require more time and opportunities for review and feedback. Most proposals fall under this category.	Proposals that do not meet the definition of emergency, but using the standard process would cause disruption in the efficient administration of the impacted activity or function.	Proposals where significant values are at stake and the use of the standard legislative process is likely to cause significant harm or hardship to the Association or the Division I membership.
 Examples include the creation of new revenue distribution funds, such as the recently adopted women's basketball equal conference and performance funds.	 Examples include changes to recruiting legislation or introducing an emerging sport.	 Examples include amendments to playing season regulations.	 Examples include immediate health and safety concerns or deregulation of rules.
Proposal: Full Division I membership votes during an annual or special Convention. Voting: 2/3 majority of those present and voting. Outcomes: Considered final at the end of the meeting.	Proposal: At least 90 days' notice required before consideration during an Administrative Committee meeting. Voting: Simple majority. Outcomes: Options to 1) adopt, 2) defeat, 3) table or 4) amend (2/3 majority) and adopt.	Proposal: Can be adopted during any Administrative Committee meeting but requires at least 30 days' notice before consideration. Voting: 2/3 majority on 1) qualification as expedited and 2) merits of the proposal. Outcomes: Options to 1) adopt, 2) defeat or 3) introduce in standard legislative cycle.	Proposal: Can be adopted by the Board of Directors or Administrative Committee during any meeting. Voting: 80% majority on 1) qualification as emergency and 2) merits of the proposal. Outcomes: Considered final at the conclusion of the meeting, but the Board of Directors may override any action taken.