



DIVISION I

2024-25 MANUAL

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II. ORGANIZATION OF THE NCAA MANUAL

Divisions I, II and III each have a separate Manual that contains legislation specific to the applicable division and does not contain legislation pertaining only to one or both of the other divisions. However, legislation that includes references to one or both of the other divisions will appear in its entirety. In addition, since each division's Manual does not contain legislation specific to the other divisions, some bylaws may have gaps in the numbering sequence.

Constitution

Articles 1 through 6 are the constitution, which consists of information relevant to the organization of the Association and the more important principles for the conduct of intercollegiate athletics.

Preamble

- Article 1** Principles
- Article 2** Organization
- Article 3** Finance
- Article 4** Rules, Compliance and Accountability
- Article 5** Amendments to the Constitution
- Article 6** Institutional Control

Operating Bylaws

Articles 8 through 21 are the operating bylaws, which consist of legislation adopted by the membership to promote the principles enunciated in the constitution and to achieve the Association's purposes.

- Article 8** Institutional Control
- Article 9** Legislative Authority and Process
- Article 10** Ethical Conduct
- Article 11** Conduct and Employment of Athletics Personnel
- Article 12** Athletics Eligibility
- Article 13** Recruiting
- Article 14** Academic Eligibility
- Article 15** Financial Aid
- Article 16** Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes
- Article 17** Playing and Practice Seasons
- Article 18** Championships and Postseason Football
- Article 19** Infractions Program
- Article 20** Division Membership
- Article 21** Governance Structure and Committees
- Article 22** Name, Image and Likeness
- Article 23** Designated Enforcement Entity and Neutral Arbitration Process

Administrative Bylaw

Article 31 is an administrative bylaw, which sets forth policies and procedures for the implementation of the NCAA championships and the business of the Association. Amendments to Article 31 may be adopted by the Board of Directors or Council for the efficient administration of the activities that they govern. The bylaw also may be amended through the regular legislative process.

Article 31 Executive Regulations

The legislation included in the Division I Manual is also available online via the NCAA Legislative Services Database for the Internet (LSDBi) at www.NCAA.org. The LSDBi Manual is updated throughout the year to reflect any adopted legislation, modifications of wording, incorporations and editorial revisions. Therefore, the LSDBi Manual includes the most up-to-date legislation available and a mechanism for quickly searching and locating legislation through a variety of user-friendly methods.

Custom Manuals may be produced and printed from LSDBi. Users may select entire articles or specific constitutional provisions and bylaws to include in an abridged format. For example, a user may produce an abridged Manual that only includes legislation that is specific to a particular sport.

III. VOTING REQUIREMENTS FOR MANUAL

The Manual presents all regulations on a given subject in logical order. As a result, different paragraphs in the same sections may carry different voting requirements. The following terms define voting requirements currently in effect in the Manual:

- **Constitution** — Provisions in the constitution, Articles 1 through 6, require a two-thirds majority vote of the total membership (present and voting) for adoption or amendment.
- **Area of Autonomy** — An area of autonomy is a legislative provision that provides legislative flexibility to the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference and Southeastern Conference and their member institutions. The abovementioned conferences are granted autonomy in these areas to permit the use of resources to advance the legitimate educational or athletics-related needs of student-athletes and for legislative changes that will otherwise enhance student-athlete well-being. The requirements for adoption, amendment and expansion of the areas of autonomy are set forth in Bylaw 9.2.2.1. A legislative provision that is an area of autonomy is identified by a capital letter A in brackets and bold font immediately after the title of the provision.
- **Common provision** — Legislation that is derived from the common bylaws (9, 10, 12 and 13) in the 1988-89 Manual. All such legislation is identified by a pound sign [#] in brackets and bold font immediately after the title of the provision and requires a majority vote of each of the three divisions, voting separately, for adoption or amendment.
- **Federated provision** — Legislation that is derived from divided bylaws in the 1988-89 Manual. Such legislation can be adopted or amended by a majority vote of one or more of the subdivisions voting separately.
- **Division dominant** — A division dominant provision is one that applies to all members of Division I and is of sufficient importance to the division that it requires a two-thirds majority vote of all delegates present and voting at an annual or special Convention. Division dominant provisions are identified by a diamond symbol [◆] in brackets and bold font immediately after the title of the provision.
- **Football Championship Subdivision Dominant** — A Football Championship Subdivision dominant provision is a regulation that applies only to the Football Championship Subdivision and is of sufficient importance to the subdivision that it requires a two-thirds majority vote for adoption or to be amended pursuant to the legislative process set forth in Bylaw 9.2.2.2. Football Championship Subdivision dominant provisions are identified by the initialization FCSD in brackets and bold font immediately after the title of the provision.
- **Settlement provision** - A settlement provision is a regulation established to implement the terms of the House v. NCAA Settlement. Enforcement of all settlement provisions will be managed by the designated enforcement entity and subject to neutral arbitration, as specified in Article 23.

Symbols Designating Voting Requirements and Subdivisions for Which Federated Legislation Is Applicable

Provision	Symbol
Area of Autonomy	A
Common	#
Division dominant	◆
Federated	
Football Bowl Subdivision	FBS
Football Championship Subdivision	FCS
Football Bowl Subdivision and Championship Subdivision	FBS/FCS
Football Championship Subdivision Dominant.	FCSD
Settlement	S

IV. DE MINIMIS AND RESTITUTION VIOLATIONS

- **De Minimis** — Violations of articles designated by a capital letter D in brackets and bold font **[D]** at the end of the legislative language shall be considered institutional violations; however, the involved prospective student-athlete's or student-athlete's eligibility shall not be affected.
- **Restitution** — For violations of articles designated by a capital letter R in brackets and bold font **[R]** at the end of the legislative language, if the value of the benefit provided to the individual (prospective or enrolled student-athlete) is \$200 or less, the eligibility of the individual shall not be affected conditioned upon the individual repaying the value of the benefit to a charity of their choice. The individual, however, shall remain ineligible from the time the institution has knowledge of the receipt of the impermissible benefit until the individual repays the benefit. Violations of such provisions remain institutional violations and documentation of the individual's repayment shall be forwarded to the enforcement services staff with the institution's self-report of the violation.

V. DIAGRAMS AND TABLES

Diagrams and tables are included as supplements to the text to help present the content of certain regulations in a clear and concise manner. They are presented as "Figures" and are listed on the page immediately before this user's guide.

VI. LEGISLATION THAT IS SHADED

Legislation, incorporations of interpretations, editorial revisions and modifications of wording approved or adopted after August 1, 2024, are set off by a gray background and include an adoption or revision date.

VII. NOTATION OF LEGISLATION WITH DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE

Legislation with a delayed effective date is enclosed in a box and set off by a gray background.

Financial Aid

15.01 General Principles.

15.01.1 Institutional Financial Aid Permitted. A student-athlete may receive scholarships or educational grants-in-aid administered by (see Bylaw 15.02.1) an educational institution that do not conflict with the governing legislation of this Association. (See Bylaws 15.01.6.1, 16.3, 16.4 and 16.12.) *(Revised: 5/26/09)*

15.01.1.1 Financial Aid to Attend Another Institution. An institution may not provide financial aid to a student-athlete to attend another institution, except as specifically authorized by NCAA legislation. *(Adopted: 1/16/93)*

15.01.1.1.1 Exception -- Scholarship to Attend Vocational School. A conference or an institution may provide a scholarship to a student-athlete to attend a vocational school. Such a scholarship may be provided in addition to a full grant-in-aid and shall not be limited. *(Adopted: 8/12/20, Revised: 10/6/21)*

15.01.2 Improper Financial Aid. Any student-athlete who receives financial aid other than that permitted by the Association shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics.

15.01.3 Financial Aid Not Administered by Institution. Any student who receives financial aid other than that administered by the student-athlete's institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics competition, unless it is specifically approved under the Association's rules of amateurism (see Bylaw 12) or the aid is: *(Revised: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

- (a) Received from one upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent; or
- (b) Awarded solely on bases having no relationship to athletics ability; or
- (c) Awarded through an established and continuing program to aid students under the conditions listed in Bylaw 15.2.6.4.

15.01.4 Contributions by Donor. An individual may contribute funds to finance a scholarship or grant-in-aid for a particular sport, but the decision as to how such funds are to be allocated in the sport shall rest exclusively with the institution. It is not permissible for a donor to contribute funds to finance a scholarship or grant-in-aid for a particular student-athlete.

15.01.5 Eligibility of Student-Athletes for Institutional Financial Aid. A student-athlete must meet applicable NCAA (see Bylaw 14), conference and institutional regulations to be eligible for institutional financial aid. If these regulations are met, the student-athlete may be awarded institutional financial aid during any term in which a student-athlete is in regular attendance [was enrolled initially in a minimum full-time program of studies as defined by the certifying institution during that term (see Bylaw 14.2.2.1.3 for final term exception, Bylaw 14.2.2.1.4 for final term before experiential learning requirement exception and Bylaw 15.2.8 for summer-term exception)] under the following circumstances: *(Revised: 6/8/99, 1/9/06 effective 8/1/07, 10/27/11, 5/16/18)*

- (a) The student-athlete is an undergraduate with eligibility remaining under Bylaw 12.8 (five-year rule); or
- (b) The student-athlete is a graduate student eligible under Bylaw 14.6.

[Note: See Bylaw 14.5.5.3 for financial aid implications related to the academic eligibility of four-year college transfers.]

15.01.5.1 Exception -- Part-Time Enrollment After Exhausted Eligibility. An institution may provide financial aid to a student-athlete who has exhausted eligibility in the student-athlete's sport and is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided: *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

- (a) The student-athlete is carrying for credit the courses necessary to complete degree requirements; or
- (b) The student-athlete is carrying for credit all the degree-applicable courses necessary to complete degree requirements that are offered by the institution during that term.

15.01.5.2 Exception -- Former Student-Athletes. [A] Institutional financial aid may be awarded to a former student-athlete for any term during which the individual is enrolled (full time or part time). *(Adopted: 10/27/11, Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.01.5.2.1 Degree-Completion Program. [A] An institution that provides athletically related financial aid to student-athletes shall provide, at a minimum, tuition and fees, and course-related books to a former student-athlete who requests financial aid to complete the individual's first baccalaureate degree, provided: *(Adopted: 8/8/18 effective 8/1/19, Revised: 4/26/23 effective 8/1/24)*

- (a) The former student-athlete received athletically related financial aid in a head count sport or received athletically related financial aid that resulted in the student-athlete receiving (through athletics aid and other aid combined) the value of full tuition and fees, room and board and required course-related books while previously enrolled in a regular term at the institution;

- (b) Fewer than 10 years have elapsed since the former student-athlete's departure from the institution;
- (c) The former student-athlete's most recent enrollment as a full-time student occurred at the institution;
- (d) The former student-athlete was previously enrolled as a full-time student at the institution for a minimum of two academic years (four semesters or six quarters);
- (e) The former student-athlete meets all institutional admissions and financial aid requirements;
- (f) The former student-athlete has exhausted other available degree completion funding options (e.g., funds from a professional league or contract); and
- (g) The former student-athlete is in good academic standing at the institution and meets NCAA and institutional progress-toward-degree requirements. This requirement applies to initial and continuing eligibility for degree completion funds.

15.01.5.3 Exception -- Former Student-Athletes -- Other Institutions. [A] A conference or an institution may provide a post-eligibility scholarship to a former student-athlete to complete an undergraduate or graduate degree at any school. Such a scholarship may be provided in addition to a full grant-in-aid and shall not be limited. *(Adopted: 8/12/20, Revised: 10/6/21)*

15.01.5.4 Effect of Violation of Conference Rule. A violation of Bylaw 15.01.5 that relates only to a conference rule shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 8.01.3; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. *(Adopted: 10/27/06)*

15.01.6 Maximum Institutional Financial Aid to Individual. [A] An institution shall not award financial aid to a student-athlete that exceeds the cost of attendance that normally is incurred by students enrolled in a comparable program at that institution (see Bylaw 15.1), except as specifically authorized by NCAA legislation. *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 8/12/20)*

15.01.6.1 Student Assistance Fund. The receipt of money from the NCAA Student Assistance Fund for student-athletes is not included in determining the permissible amount of financial aid that a member institution may award to a student-athlete. Member institutions and conferences shall not use money received from the fund to finance salaries and benefits; tuition and fees, living expenses, and required course-related books during a regular term (other than summer school) for student-athletes with remaining eligibility; capital improvements; stipends; competition-related travel expenses for student-athletes who are ineligible for competition (e.g., nonqualifier, transfer student-athlete); and outside athletics development opportunities (e.g., participation in a sports camp or clinic, private sports-related instruction, greens fees, batting cage rental, outside foreign tour expenses) for current student-athletes with remaining eligibility. *(Adopted: 4/24/03, Revised: 1/8/07, 2/24/12, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15, 10/5/16, 3/28/17, 7/31/23)*

15.01.7 Sport-by-Sport Financial Aid Limitations. Division I may establish limitations on the number of financial aid awards a member institution may provide to countable student-athletes (counters) (see Bylaw 15.5).

15.01.8 Additional Financial Aid Limitations. The Committee on Academics shall have the authority to determine the circumstances that would require an institution or team that fails to satisfy the academic performance program to apply additional financial aid limitations. The Committee on Academics shall establish and annually publish to the membership such circumstances (see Bylaw 14.8). *(Adopted: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.02 Definitions and Applications.

15.02.1 Administered By. Financial aid is administered by an institution if the institution, through its regular committee or other agency for the awarding of financial aid to students generally, makes the final determination of the student-athlete who is to receive the award and of its value.

15.02.2 Cost of Attendance. The "cost of attendance" is an amount calculated by an institutional financial aid office, using federal regulations, that includes the total cost of tuition and fees, living expenses, books and supplies, transportation, and other expenses related to attendance at the institution. *(Adopted: 1/11/94, Revised: 7/31/23)*

15.02.2.1 Calculation of Cost of Attendance. An institution must calculate the cost of attendance for student-athletes in accordance with the cost-of-attendance policies and procedures that are used for students in general. Accordingly, if an institution's policy allows for students' direct and indirect costs (e.g., tuition, fees, living expenses, books, supplies, transportation, child care, miscellaneous personal expenses) to be adjusted on an individual basis from the institution's standard cost figure, it is permissible to make the same adjustment for student-athletes, provided the adjustment is documented and is available on an equitable basis to all students with similar circumstances who request an adjustment. *(Adopted: 1/11/94, Revised: 7/31/23)*

15.02.3 Counter. A "counter" includes any individual who is receiving institutional financial aid that is countable against the aid limitations in a sport. Unless an exception is satisfied, once a student-athlete becomes a counter, the student-athlete remains a counter for the entire academic year. Further, an undergraduate four-year transfer awarded or issued athletically related financial aid in the academic year of initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution shall be a counter for the period of the award (see Bylaw 15.3.3.3) unless a provision of Bylaw 15.5.1.2.1 is met. *(Revised: 11/14/22, 1/11/23)*

15.02.3.1 Replacement of Counter. An institution may apply a legislated exception to replace a counter who is no longer participating with the program and the replaced student-athlete shall not be a counter for the remainder of the academic year.

(Adopted: 11/14/22)

15.02.4 Family Member. A family member is an individual with any of the following relationships to the prospective student-athlete: spouse, parent or legal guardian, child, sibling, grandparent, domestic partner or any individual whose close association with the prospective student-athlete is the practical equivalent of a family relationship. *(Adopted: 4/25/18)*

15.02.5 Financial Aid. "Financial aid" is funds provided to student-athletes from various sources to pay or assist in paying their cost of education at the institution. As used in NCAA legislation, "financial aid" includes all institutional financial aid and other permissible financial aid as set forth below. (See Bylaws 15.01.6.1, 16.2, 16.3 and 16.4.) *(Revised: 5/26/09)*

15.02.5.1 Athletically Related Financial Aid. Athletically related financial aid is financial aid that is awarded on any basis that is related to athletics ability, participation or achievement. If an application process specifically requests athletics participation or achievements as criteria for consideration in determining whether an applicant receives financial aid, aid received pursuant to such a process is athletically related financial aid. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14)*

15.02.5.2 Institutional Financial Aid. The following sources of financial aid are considered to be institutional financial aid: *(Revised: 1/11/94 effective 8/1/94, 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 4/26/01 effective 8/1/01, 10/31/02 effective 8/1/03, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

(a) All funds administered by the institution, which include but are not limited to the following:

- (1) Scholarships;
- (2) Grants;
- (3) Tuition waivers;
- (4) Employee dependent tuition benefits, unless the employee has been employed as a full-time faculty/staff member for a minimum of five years; and
- (5) Loans.

(b) Aid from government or private sources for which the institution is responsible for selecting the recipient or determining the amount of aid, or providing matching or supplementary funds for a previously determined recipient.

15.02.5.3 Other Permissible Financial Aid. The following sources of financial aid are also permitted: *(Adopted: 1/10/95 effective 8/1/95, Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 10/17/19)*

- (a) Financial aid received from anyone upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent;
- (b) Financial aid awarded solely on bases having no relationship to athletics ability;
- (c) Financial aid awarded through an established and continuing outside program as outlined in Bylaw 15.2.6.4; and
- (d) Educational expenses awarded by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, which count against an institution's sport-by-sport financial aid limitations and against the individual's maximum limit on financial aid.

15.02.5.4 Exempted Institutional Financial Aid. The following institutional financial aid is exempt and is not counted in determining the institution's financial aid limitations: *(Revised: 1/10/91, 1/10/92, 4/25/02, 10/31/02 effective 8/1/03, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17, 7/27/20 effective 8/1/20 for institutional merit-based and need-based awards received by a student-athlete on or after 8/1/20)*

- (a) An institutional need-based grant awarded based solely on demonstrated financial need, as determined for all students by the institution's financial aid office using methodologies that conform to federal, state and institutional guidelines. However, such aid is not exempted for purposes of determining a football or basketball student-athlete's counter status pursuant to Bylaw 15.5.1.1;
- (b) A nondiscretionary institutional merit-based award with no relationship to athletics ability awarded based on documented criteria that apply to all students. However, such aid is not exempt for purposes of determining a football or basketball student-athlete's counter status pursuant to Bylaw 15.5.1.1;

- (c) An honorary award for outstanding academic achievement or an established institutional research grant that meets the criteria set forth in Bylaw 15.02.7 (and must be included in determining if the student-athlete's cost of attendance has been met);
- (d) A postgraduate scholarship awarded by an institution in accordance with Bylaw 16.1.4.1.1;
- (e) Federal government grants awarded based on a student's demonstrated financial need [e.g., Supplemental Educational Opportunities Grant (SEOG)], regardless of whether the institution is responsible for selecting the recipient or determining the amount of aid, or providing matching or supplementary funds for a previously determined recipient;
- (f) State government grants awarded based on a student's demonstrated financial need, regardless of whether the institution is responsible for selecting the recipient or determining the amount of aid, or providing matching or supplementary funds for a previously determined recipient, provided the aid is administered in accordance with the federal methodology for determining a student's financial need and has no relationship to athletics ability. However, such aid is not exempt for purposes of determining a football or basketball student-athlete's counter status pursuant to Bylaw 15.5.1.1;
- (g) State government merit-based grants, regardless of whether the institution is responsible for selecting the recipient or determining the amount of aid, or providing matching or supplementary funds for a previously determined recipient, provided the aid is awarded consistent with the criteria of Bylaws 15.5.3.2.4.1, 15.5.3.2.4.2 or 15.5.3.2.4.3 and has no relationship to athletics ability. However, such aid is not exempt for purposes of determining a football or basketball student-athlete's counter status pursuant to Bylaw 15.5.1.1; and
- (h) Contributions made by the institution and matching payments made by the Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program [see Bylaw 15.2.5.1-(e)].

15.02.5.5 Exempted Government Grants. Government grants listed in Bylaw 15.2.5.1 shall not be included when determining the cost of attendance for a student-athlete. *(Revised: 1/11/89, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04)*

15.02.5.6 Operation Gold Grant. Funds administered by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee pursuant to its Operation Gold Grant program shall not be included when determining the cost of attendance for a student-athlete. *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 10/17/19)*

15.02.6 Full Grant-in-Aid. [A] A full grant-in-aid is financial aid that consists of tuition and fees, living expenses, books and other expenses related to attendance at the institution up to the cost of attendance established pursuant to Bylaws 15.02.2 and 15.02.2.1. *(Revised: 8/7/14, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15)*

15.02.7 Honorary Academic Award/Research Grant. An honorary academic award for outstanding academic achievement or a research grant is an award that meets the following criteria: *(Revised: 1/10/91, 1/10/92, 10/28/04, 1/14/08 effective 8/1/08)*

- (a) The award or grant is a standing scholarship award or an established research grant;
- (b) The basis for the award or grant shall be the candidate's academic record at the awarding institution;
- (c) The award or grant shall be determined by competition among the students of a particular class or college of the institution. Competition for the award or grant may include additional objective criteria unrelated to athletics abilities (e.g., financial need); and
- (d) The award or grant is included in determining if the student-athlete's cost-of-attendance limitation has been met.

15.02.8 Period of Award. The period of award begins when the student-athlete receives any benefits as a part of the student's grant-in-aid on the first day of classes for a particular academic term, or the first day of practice, whichever is earlier, and continues until the conclusion of the period set forth in the financial aid agreement. The period of award of a multiyear grant-in-aid awarded to an individual other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who receives or is issued athletically related financial aid in the academic year of initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution may include one or more academic years of no athletically related financial aid after the first academic year in which athletically related aid is provided, including the final year of the award (e.g., 50 percent in year one, zero percent in year two, 50 percent in year three; 50 percent in year one, zero percent in year two, zero percent in year three). An athletics grant-in-aid shall not be awarded in excess of the student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility. *(Revised: 10/27/11, 9/29/15, 11/14/22, 1/11/23)*

15.02.9 Recruited Student-Athlete. For purposes of Bylaw 15, a recruited student-athlete is a student-athlete who, as a prospective student-athlete: *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, Revised: 4/25/18)*

- (a) Was provided an official visit to the institution's campus;

- (b) Had an arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with a member of the institution's coaching staff (including a coach's arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with the prospective student-athlete or the prospective student-athlete's family members); or
- (c) Was issued a National Letter of Intent or a written offer of athletically related financial aid by the institution for a regular academic term.

15.02.10 Signature. For purposes of Bylaw 15, a signature includes an electronic authorization (e.g., electronic signature). *(Adopted: 3/5/12)*

15.1 Maximum Limit on Financial Aid -- Individual. [A] A student-athlete shall not be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics if the student-athlete receives financial aid that exceeds the value of the cost of attendance as defined in Bylaw 15.02.2. A student-athlete may receive institutional financial aid based on athletics ability (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) and educational expenses awarded per Bylaw 15.2.6.5 up to the value of a full grant-in-aid, plus any other financial aid up to the cost of attendance. (See Bylaws 15.01.6.1, 16.3, 16.4 and 16.12.) *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 5/26/09, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 8/7/14)*

15.1.1 Exception for Pell Grant. [A] A student-athlete who receives a Pell Grant may receive financial aid equivalent to the limitation set forth in Bylaw 15.1 or the value of a full grant-in-aid plus the Pell Grant, whichever is greater. *(Adopted: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.1.2 Types of Aid Included in Limit. In determining whether a student-athlete's financial aid exceeds the cost of attendance, all institutional financial aid (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) and all funds received from the following and similar sources shall be included (see Bylaws 15.02.5.4, 15.02.5.5 and 15.02.5.6 for types of financial aid that are exempt from a student-athlete's individual limit): *(Revised: 1/11/94 effective 8/1/94, 1/10/95 effective 8/1/95, 10/31/02 effective 8/1/03, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 10/17/19)*

- (a) **Government Grants.** Government grants for educational purposes, except for those listed in Bylaw 15.2.5;
- (b) **Other Scholarships and Grants.** Other outside scholarships or grants-in-aid;
- (c) **Gifts.** The value of gifts given to a student-athlete following completion of eligibility in appreciation for or recognition of the student-athlete's athletics accomplishments;
- (d) **Professional Sports Stipend.** Any bonus or salary (no matter when received or contracted for) from a professional sports organization;
- (e) **Athletics Participation Compensation.** Any other income (no matter when received or contracted for) from participation in an athletics event (except funds that are administered by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee pursuant to its Operation Gold Grant Program) unless eligibility has been exhausted in that sport; and
- (f) **Loans.** Loans, except legitimate loans that are based upon a regular repayment schedule, available to all students and administered on the same basis for all students.

15.1.3 Reduction When Excess Aid Is Awarded. In the event that a student-athlete's financial aid from the sources listed in Bylaw 15.1.2, which includes institutional financial aid, will exceed the cost of attendance for the balance of the academic year, the institution shall reduce institutional financial aid so as not to exceed the cost of attendance. Payments credited to a student-athlete's account that are not refundable by the institution to the scholarship office or other appropriate institutional agency shall not become the student's obligation. *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04)*

15.2 Elements of Financial Aid.

15.2.1 Tuition and Fees. An institution may provide a student-athlete financial aid that includes the actual cost of tuition and required institutional fees.

15.2.1.1 Permissible Fees. A student-athlete may be awarded financial aid that covers the payment of fees for a course in which the student-athlete is enrolled, if the course is part of the institution's regular curriculum (included in the institution's catalog of classes), and the institution pays these same fees for other students enrolled in the course who receive fees as a part of a grant-in-aid or scholarship.

15.2.1.2 Optional Fees. An institution may not pay fees for services offered on an optional basis to the student body in general.

15.2.1.3 Noninstitutional Fees and Expenses. Fees paid by an institution are confined to required institutional fees and do not include noninstitutional fees or expenses (e.g., the cost of typing reports for student-athletes).

15.2.2 Living Expenses. An institution may provide a student-athlete financial aid that includes the cost of housing and food, based on the official allowance for housing as listed in the institution's official publication (e.g., catalog) and a food

allowance that consists of three meals per day or the institution's maximum meal plan that is available to all students, whichever is greater. *(Revised: 10/28/99 effective 8/1/00, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14, 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.1 Living Expenses Stipend. An institution may provide the student-athlete an amount equal to the institution's official on-campus housing allowance, the average of the housing costs of all of its students living on campus or the cost of housing as calculated based on its policies and procedures for calculating the cost of attendance for all students. The institution also may provide the student-athlete an amount that is equivalent to the value of the maximum meal plan that is available to all students or the cost of meals as calculated based on its policies and procedures for calculating the cost of attendance for all students. *(Revised: 1/10/92, 11/12/97, 10/28/99 effective 8/1/00, 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14, 8/3/22, 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.1.1 Determination of Off-Campus Housing Rates. An institution with several official on-campus housing rates may use the average of the room cost for all students living on campus (based on a weighted average for all students who reside in on-campus facilities) or the cost of housing as calculated based on its policies and procedures for calculating the cost of attendance for all students. *(Revised: 11/12/97, 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.1.2 Institution With No On-Campus Housing and Meal Facilities. If an institution does not provide an official dollar amount for living expenses and does not have on-campus student housing and meal facilities, the figure provided to student-athletes for off-campus student living expenses shall be the amount determined by the institution's office of financial aid as being commensurate with the average cost a student at that institution normally would incur living and eating in off-campus facilities. *(Revised: 11/12/97, 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.1.3 Married Student Housing. Married student-athletes who live in noninstitutional housing are permitted to receive the same living expenses allowance that is provided to married students with on-campus housing. If the institution does not provide on-campus housing and meal facilities for married students but has other on-campus dormitory facilities, it must use the provisions of Bylaw 15.2.2.1 in determining the amount of living expenses a married student-athlete who lives in noninstitutional facilities may receive. *(Adopted: 1/10/92, Revised: 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.1.4 Cost-Free Apartment. It is permissible for the institution to arrange for a cost-free, off-campus apartment rather than to give a student-athlete an amount equal to the institution's official housing allowance or the cost of housing as calculated based on its policies and procedures for calculating the cost of attendance for all students, provided the apartment is not rented by the institution at a reduced rate. However, if the actual rental rate is more than the institutional housing allowance, the student-athlete shall pay the additional amount from the student-athlete's own resources. *(Revised: 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.2 Facility Designated by Institution. It is permissible for the institution to require a grant-in-aid recipient to obtain housing and food in a facility designated by the institution, provided the requirement is contained in the written statement outlining the amount, duration, conditions and terms of the financial aid agreement (see Bylaw 15.3.2.2). *(Revised: 7/31/23)*

15.2.2.3 Food Stamps. A grant-in-aid recipient who lives and eats off campus may use the money provided for food to obtain governmental food stamps, provided the stamps are available to the student body in general. Additionally, the student-athlete must be eligible for such stamps without any special arrangements on the part of athletics department personnel or representatives of the institution's athletics interests. *(Revised: 7/31/23)*

15.2.3 Books. A member institution may provide a student-athlete financial aid that covers the actual cost of required course-related books. **[R]** *(Revised: 4/24/03 effective 8/1/03)*

15.2.3.1 Dollar Limit. There is no dollar limit for books a student-athlete may receive, provided each book is required for a course in which the student-athlete is enrolled. The institution may provide the student-athlete with cash to purchase books, as long as the amount of cash provided is equal to the actual cost of the books purchased. **[R]** *(Revised: 4/24/03 effective 8/1/03)*

15.2.4 Other Expenses Related to Attendance. An institution may provide a student-athlete financial aid that covers other expenses related to attendance in combination with other permissible elements of financial aid (per Bylaw 15.2) up to the cost of attendance (see Bylaws 15.02.2 and 15.1). (See Bylaws 15.01.6.1, 16.3, 16.4 and 16.12.) *(Adopted: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, Revised: 5/26/09)*

15.2.5 Government Grants. Government grants for educational purposes shall be included when determining the permissible amount of the cost of attendance for a student-athlete, except for those listed in Bylaw 15.2.5.1. *(Revised: 1/11/89, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 4/21/05)*

15.2.5.1 Exempted Government Grants. The following government grants for educational purposes shall not be included when determining the permissible amount of the cost of attendance of a student-athlete: *(Adopted: 1/11/89, 1/9/96)*

effective 8/1/96, 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 4/26/01, Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 1/10/05, 4/28/05, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17)

- (a) **AmeriCorps Program.** Benefits received by student-athletes under the AmeriCorps Program;
- (b) **Disabled Veterans.** State government awards to disabled veterans;
- (c) **Military Reserve Training Programs.** Payments to student-athletes for participation in military reserve training programs;
- (d) **Montgomery G.I. Bill.** Benefits received by student-athletes under the Montgomery Bill -- Active Duty and the Montgomery G.I. Bill -- Selected Reserve;
- (e) **Post-9/11 G.I. Bill.** Benefits received under the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, including matching payments made by the Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program;
- (f) **Special U.S. Government Entitlement Programs.** Payments by the U.S. government under the terms of the Dependents Education Assistance Program (DEAP), Social Security Insurance Program [including the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors (REPS)] or Non-Service-Connected Veteran's Death Pension Program;
- (g) **U.S. Military Annuitant Pay.** United States Military Annuitant Pay or other family member service-related death benefits received by student-athletes from the United States Military.
- (h) **U.S. Navy Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Program.** Benefits received by student-athletes under the U.S. Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Program (NUPOC);
- (i) **Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP).** Benefits received by student-athletes under the VEAP;
- (j) **Vocational Rehabilitation for Service-Disabled Veterans Program.** Benefits received by student-athletes under the Vocational Rehabilitation for Service-Disabled Veterans Program; or
- (k) **Welfare Benefits.** Welfare benefits received from a state or federal government.

15.2.6 Financial Aid From Outside Sources.

15.2.6.1 Family Members. A student-athlete may receive financial aid from anyone upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent. *(Revised: 4/25/18)*

15.2.6.1.1 Prepaid College Tuition Plans. A state-sponsored or private prepaid college tuition plan, purchased by a family member and paid to an institution on behalf of a student-athlete, is not considered aid from an outside source. Such aid is considered financial aid from someone upon whom the student-athlete is naturally or legally dependent. *(Revised: 6/10/04)*

15.2.6.2 No Relationship to Athletics Ability. A student-athlete may receive financial aid awarded solely on bases having no relationship to athletics ability.

15.2.6.3 Athletically Related Financial Aid From an Established and Continuing Program -- Up to \$1,000. A student-athlete may receive up to a total of \$1,000 of athletically related outside financial aid per academic year, without restrictions, through one or more established and continuing programs to aid students. *(Adopted: 5/1/19 effective 8/1/19)*

15.2.6.4 Athletically Related Financial Aid From an Established and Continuing Program -- Aid Exceeding \$1,000. Each academic year, after a student-athlete has received \$1,000 of athletically related outside financial aid, the student-athlete may receive additional athletically related outside financial aid through an established and continuing program to aid students without the additional aid counting in the institution's financial aid limitations, provided: *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, Revised: 4/23/14, 5/1/19 effective 8/1/19, 7/2/19 effective 8/1/19)*

- (a) The recipient's choice of institutions is not restricted by the donor of the aid;
- (b) There is no direct connection between the donor and the student-athlete's institution; and
- (c) The financial aid is not provided by an outside sports team or organization that conducts a competitive sports program to an individual who is or has been a member of that team or organization.

If any of the conditions are not satisfied and the student-athlete receives the additional athletically related outside financial aid, the recipient shall be considered a counter per Bylaw 15.5.1, and the amount shall be applied to the maximum awards limitation of Bylaw 15.5 for the sport in question.

15.2.6.5 Educational Expenses -- Olympic Committee or National Governing Body. A student-athlete may receive educational expenses awarded by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or a U.S. national governing body (or, for international student-athletes, expenses awarded by the equivalent organization of a foreign country). The amount of the financial assistance shall be subject to the following limitations: *(Adopted: 1/10/95 effective 8/1/95, Revised: 10/28/97 effective 8/1/98, 11/1/00, 10/17/19)*

- (a) Disbursement of the aid shall be through the member institution for the recipient's educational expenses while attending that institution;
- (b) The recipient's choice of institutions shall not be restricted by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or a U.S. national governing body (or, for international student-athletes, expenses awarded by the equivalent organization of a foreign country);
- (c) The value of the award alone or in combination with other aid per Bylaw 15.1.2 shall not exceed the value of the individual's maximum limit on financial aid; and
- (d) The recipient shall be considered a counter per Bylaw 15.5.1, and the amount shall be applied to the maximum awards limitation of Bylaw 15.5 for the sport in question.

15.2.7 Employment. Earnings from a student-athlete's on- or off-campus employment that occurs at any time is exempt and is not counted in determining a student-athlete's cost of attendance or in the institution's financial aid limitations, provided: *(Revised: 10/31/02 effective 8/1/03, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04)*

- (a) The student-athlete's compensation does not include any remuneration for value or utility that the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame or personal following obtained because of athletics ability;
- (b) The student-athlete is compensated only for work actually performed; and
- (c) The student-athlete is compensated at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services (see Bylaw 12.4).

15.2.8 Summer Financial Aid. Summer financial aid may be awarded only to attend the awarding institution's summer term, summer school or summer-orientation program, provided the following conditions are met: *(Revised: 1/10/90, 1/10/92)*

- (a) The student has been in residence a minimum of one term during the regular academic year;
- (b) The student is attending a summer term, summer school or summer-orientation program and financial aid is administered pursuant to Bylaw 15.2.8.1.2, 15.2.8.1.3 or 15.2.8.1.4; or
- (c) The student is a two-year or a four-year college transfer student and is receiving aid to attend the awarding institution's summer-orientation program.

15.2.8.1 General Stipulations. A student-athlete who is eligible for institutional financial aid during the summer is not required to be enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies. However, the student-athlete may not receive financial aid that exceeds the cost of attendance in that summer term. A student-athlete may receive institutional financial aid based on athletics ability (per Bylaws 15.02.5.1 and 15.02.5.2) and educational expenses awarded (per Bylaw 15.2.6.5) up to the value of a full grant-in-aid, plus any other financial aid up to the cost of attendance. (See Bylaws 15.01.6.1, 16.3, 16.4 and 16.12.) *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 5/26/09, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.2.8.1.1 Exception for Pell Grant. A student-athlete who receives a Pell Grant may receive financial aid equivalent to the limitation set forth in Bylaw 15.2.8.1 or the value of a full grant-in-aid plus the Pell Grant, whichever is greater. *(Adopted: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04)*

15.2.8.1.2 Enrolled Student-Athletes. After initial, full-time enrollment during a regular academic year, a student-athlete shall not receive athletically related financial aid to attend the certifying institution's summer term or summer school unless the student-athlete received such athletically related aid from the certifying institution during any previous academic year at that institution or the student-athlete has been awarded athletically related financial aid for the following academic year. *(Adopted: 1/10/90 effective 8/1/90, Revised: 1/10/91, 1/10/92, 11/12/97, 4/26/12, 4/28/16, 1/22/20)*

15.2.8.1.2.1 Attendance During Only One Term of Previous Academic Year. A student-athlete who attended the institution on a full-time basis for only one regular term during the previous academic year may receive financial aid during the following summer term. *(Adopted: 1/10/92, Revised: 4/28/16)*

15.2.8.1.2.2 Exception for Nonqualifiers. A nonqualifier may receive athletically related financial aid to attend an institution's summer term or summer school after the first academic year of residence under the following conditions: *(Adopted: 1/10/92, Revised: 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 4/28/16)*

- (a) The student-athlete has satisfied progress-toward-degree requirements and, thus, would be eligible for competition for the succeeding year (the student-athlete must have successfully satisfied the applicable requirements of Bylaw 14.4.3 and be in good academic standing at the institution); and
- (b) The student-athlete has been awarded athletically related financial aid for the succeeding academic year.

15.2.8.1.3 Prior to Initial, Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment -- Institutional Nonathletics Aid. The following conditions apply to the awarding of institutional nonathletics financial aid to a prospective student-athlete to

attend an institution in the summer prior to the prospective student-athlete's initial, full-time collegiate enrollment: **[D]** *(Revised: 1/10/90, 1/10/92, 4/26/01, 3/10/04, 4/29/04, 1/10/05 effective 5/1/05, 3/4/05, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 1/14/12, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14)*

- (a) The recipient shall be admitted to the awarding member institution in accordance with regular, published entrance requirements;
- (b) The recipient, if recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9), is subject to NCAA transfer provisions pursuant to Bylaw 14.5.2-(f); and
- (c) During the summer term or orientation period, the recipient shall not engage in any countable athletically related activities except for those activities specifically permitted in Bylaws 13 and 17 (see Bylaws 13.11.3.10, 17.1.1 and 17.1.1.1).

15.2.8.1.4 Prior to Initial, Full-Time Enrollment at the Certifying Institution -- Athletics Aid. The following conditions apply to the awarding of athletically related financial aid to a prospective student-athlete (including a prospective student-athlete not certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center as a qualifier) or student-athlete to attend an institution in the summer prior to initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution: *(Adopted: 4/27/00 effective 8/1/00, Revised: 9/6/00, 4/26/01, 6/21/01, 3/10/04, 4/29/04, 1/10/05 effective 5/1/05, 3/14/05, 5/9/07, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 1/14/12, 4/26/17, 1/23/20)*

- (a) The recipient shall be admitted to the awarding member institution in accordance with regular, published entrance requirements;
- (b) The recipient is enrolled in a minimum of three hours of academic course work (other than physical education activity courses) that is acceptable degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Remedial, tutorial and noncredit courses may be used to satisfy the minimum three-hour requirement, provided the course or courses are considered by the institution to be prerequisites for specific courses acceptable for any degree program and are given the same academic weight as other courses offered by the institution;
- (c) The recipient, if recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9), is subject to NCAA transfer provisions pursuant to Bylaw 14.5.2-(f), unless admission to the institution as a full-time student is denied;
- (d) During the summer term or orientation period, the recipient shall not engage in any countable athletically related activities except for those activities specifically permitted in Bylaws 13 and 17; and
- (e) Summer coursework is not used for the purpose of completing initial eligibility, transfer eligibility or progress-toward-degree requirements other than percentage-of-degree requirements per Bylaw 14.4.3.2. However, the hours earned during the summer prior to initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution may be used to satisfy the applicable progress-toward-degree requirements in following years (see Bylaw 14.4.3).

15.2.8.2 Branch School. An institution may not provide a student-athlete with financial aid to attend a summer session at a branch campus of the institution.

15.3 Terms and Conditions of Awarding Institutional Financial Aid. [A]

15.3.1 Eligibility of Student-Athletes for Financial Aid. [A] Institutional financial aid may be awarded for any term during which a student-athlete is in regular attendance as an undergraduate with eligibility remaining under Bylaw 12.8, or as a graduate eligible under Bylaw 14.6. *(Revised: 10/27/11, 8/7/14)*

15.3.1.1 Applicable Requirements. [A] A student-athlete must meet applicable NCAA (see Bylaw 14), conference and institutional regulations to be eligible for institutional financial aid (see Bylaws 15.01.5 and 15.01.6). A violation of this bylaw that relates only to a violation of a conference rule shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 8.01.3; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. *(Revised: 10/27/06, 8/7/14)*

15.3.1.2 Withdrawal From Institution. [A] A student-athlete who withdraws from the institution may not receive financial aid during the remainder of the term. *(Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.3.1.3 Retroactive Financial Aid. [A] Institutional financial aid awarded to an enrolled student-athlete after the first day of classes in any term may be made retroactive to the beginning of that academic year. *(Revised: 8/7/14, 1/20/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.3.1.4 Institutional Financial Aid to Professional Athlete. [A] It is permissible to award institutional financial aid to a student-athlete who is under contract to or currently receiving compensation from a professional sports organization in the same sport. A professional athlete in one sport may represent a member institution in a different sport and may receive institutional financial assistance in the second sport. *(Revised: 8/11/98, 4/26/01, 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, 10/27/11, 8/7/14)*

15.3.2 Terms of Institutional Financial Aid Award. [A]

15.3.2.1 Physical Condition of Student-Athlete. [A] Financial aid awarded to a prospective student-athlete may not be conditioned on the recipient reporting in satisfactory physical condition. If a student-athlete has been accepted for admission and awarded financial aid, the institution shall be committed for the term of the original award, even if the student-athlete's physical condition prevents participation in intercollegiate athletics. *(Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.3.2.2 Written Statement Requirement. [A] The institutional agency making a financial aid award for a regular academic year or multiple regular academic years shall give the recipient a written statement of the amount, duration, conditions and terms of the award. The chair of the regular committee or other agency for the awarding of financial aid to students generally, or the chair's official designee, shall sign or electronically authorize (e.g., electronic signature) the written statement. The signature of the athletics director, attesting to the committee's award, does not satisfy this requirement. *(Revised: 3/10/04, 7/26/12, 8/7/14)*

15.3.2.3 Hearing Opportunity. [A] The institution's regular financial aid authority shall notify the student-athlete in writing of the opportunity for a hearing when institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability is to be reduced or canceled during the period of the award, or is reduced or not renewed for the following academic year or years. The institution shall have established reasonable procedures for promptly hearing such a request and shall not delegate the responsibility for conducting the hearing to the university's athletics department or its faculty athletics committee. The written notification of the opportunity for a hearing shall include a copy of the institution's established policies and procedures for conducting the required hearing, including the deadline by which a student-athlete must request such a hearing. *(Revised: 1/9/06 effective 8/1/06, 4/3/07, 4/23/08, 8/7/14)*

15.3.2.3.1 Reduction of a Multiyear Award. [A] A reduction of a multiyear award shall occur if the renewal period is for fewer years than the original agreement, unless the renewal includes the remaining years of the student-athlete's eligibility in all sports (e.g., five-year period of eligibility) or if the average amount of aid provided per year in the renewal is less than the average amount of aid provided per year in the original agreement, including any increases during the period of the original award. *(Adopted: 10/27/11 effective 8/1/12 awards may be executed before 8/1/12, Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.3.2.3.2 Athletics Department Staff as Member of Committee. [A] An institution's athletics department staff member may be a member of a committee (other than an athletics department or faculty athletics committee) that conducts hearings related to the nonrenewal or reduction of a student-athlete's financial aid. Under such circumstances, the athletics department staff member must be a standing member of the committee and may not serve as a member of a committee only for a specific student-athlete's hearing. *(Adopted: 4/3/07, Revised: 8/7/14)*

15.3.2.4 Release of Obligation to Provide Athletically Related Financial Aid. [A] Before becoming a counter for an academic year pursuant to a one-year or multiyear grant-in-aid, if a prospective student-athlete or student-athlete is awarded institutional financial aid unrelated to athletics that would count toward the team limit if the individual were a counter and that is equal to or greater than the amount of the individual's signed award of athletically related financial aid for the specific academic year, the prospective student-athlete or student-athlete may, on the individual's initiative, release the institution of its obligation to provide the athletically related financial aid for that academic year. *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, Revised: 10/27/11 effective 8/1/12 awards may be executed before 8/1/12, 8/7/14, 1/15/16 effective 8/1/16, 6/10/16, 6/12/19)*

15.3.3 Period of Institutional Financial Aid Award. [A]

15.3.3.1 Period of Award. [A] If a student's athletics ability is considered in any degree in awarding financial aid, such aid shall neither be awarded for a period less than one academic year nor for a period that would exceed the student's five-year period of eligibility (see Bylaws 12.8 and 15.01.5). One-year grants-in-aid shall be awarded (as set forth in the written statement per Bylaw 15.3.2.2) in equal amounts for each term of the academic year. (See Bylaw 15.02.8.) *(Revised: 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, 10/27/11 effective 8/1/12 awards may be executed before 8/1/12, 8/7/14, 9/29/15)*

15.3.3.1.1 One-Year Period. [A] An institution may award athletically related financial aid to a student-athlete for a period of less than one academic year only under the following circumstances: *(Adopted: 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, Revised: 5/9/06, 4/24/08 effective 8/1/08, 5/19/09, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 8/7/14, 1/15/16 effective 8/1/16)*

- (a) **Midyear Enrollment.** A student-athlete whose first full-time attendance at the certifying institution during a particular academic year occurs at midyear (e.g., the beginning of the second semester or second or third quarter of an academic year) may receive a financial aid award for the remainder of that academic year.
- (b) **Final Semester/Quarter.** A student-athlete may receive athletically related financial aid for less than one academic year, provided the student is in the final semester or final two quarters of the student's degree program

and the institution certifies that the student is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete the degree requirements.

- (c) **Graduated During Previous Academic Year and Will Exhaust Eligibility During the Following Fall Term.** A student-athlete who graduated during the previous academic year (including summer) and will exhaust athletics eligibility during the following fall term may be awarded athletically related financial aid for less than one academic year.
- (d) **One-Time Exception.** One time during a recruited student-athlete's enrollment at the certifying institution the student-athlete may be awarded athletics aid for less than a full academic year, provided the student-athlete has been enrolled full time at the certifying institution for at least one regular academic term and has not previously received athletically related financial aid from the certifying institution.
- (e) **Nonrecruited Student-Athlete Exception.** At any time during a student-athlete's enrollment at the certifying institution, the student-athlete may be awarded athletics aid for less than a full academic year, provided the student-athlete has been enrolled full time at the certifying institution for at least one regular academic term and was not recruited by the certifying institution.
- (f) **Eligibility Exhausted/Medical Noncounter.** A student-athlete who has exhausted eligibility and is exempt from counting (per Bylaw 15.5.1.6) in the institution's financial aid limit, or a student-athlete who is exempt from counting (per Bylaw 15.5.1.3) due to an injury or illness may receive athletically related financial aid for less than one academic year. If an institution awards aid under this provision, the institutional financial aid agreement shall include specific nonathletically related conditions (e.g., academic requirements) the student-athlete must satisfy in order for the aid to be renewed for the next academic term or terms. If the student-athlete satisfies the specified conditions, the institution shall award financial aid at the same amount for the next term or terms of the academic year. If the student-athlete does not satisfy the specified conditions, the student-athlete must be provided a hearing opportunity per Bylaw 15.3.2.3.

15.3.3.1.2 Effect of Violation. [A] A violation of Bylaw 15.3.3.1 in which financial aid is awarded for a period of less than one academic year shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 8.01.3; however, the prospective student-athlete or student-athlete's eligibility shall not be affected. (*Adopted: 10/29/09, Revised: 8/7/14*)

15.3.3.2 Regular Academic Year vs. Summer Term. [A] An institution may award financial aid to a student-athlete for one or more academic years or, pursuant to the exceptions set forth in Bylaw 15.3.3.1.1, part of one academic year. An institution also may award financial aid for a summer term or summer-orientation period, provided the conditions of Bylaw 15.2.8 have been met. (*Revised: 4/27/06 effective 8/1/06, 10/27/11 effective 8/1/12 awards may be executed before 8/1/12, 8/7/14*)

15.3.3.2.1 Summer Term as Additional Award. [A] It is necessary to make an additional award for a summer term; however, an institution is not required to provide the recipient with a written statement of the amount, duration, conditions or terms of the award. (*Revised: 10/27/11 effective 8/1/12, 7/26/12, 10/9/12, 8/7/14*)

15.3.3.3 Undergraduate Four-Year College Transfers. [A] If an undergraduate four-year college transfer student's athletics ability is considered in any degree in awarding financial aid and such aid is received or issued in the academic year of initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, such aid shall be awarded for a period no less than the student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility or until all requirements to receive a baccalaureate degree are completed, whichever occurs earlier. (*Adopted: 8/31/22 applicable to transfer student-athletes seeking eligibility during the 2023-24 academic year and thereafter, Revised: 11/14/22, 1/11/23*)

15.3.4 Reduction, Cancellation or Nonrenewal of Institutional Financial Aid. [A] (*Revised: 11/14/22, 4/26/23 effective 8/1/24*)

15.3.4.1 Reduction, Cancellation or Nonrenewal Permitted. [A] Institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability awarded to an individual other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who receives or is issued athletically related financial aid in the academic year of initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution may be reduced or canceled during the period of the award or reduced or not renewed for the following academic year or years of the student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility if the recipient: (*Revised: 1/10/92, 1/11/94, 1/10/95, 1/9/96, 12/13/05, 9/11/07, 8/7/14, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15, 6/19/18 effective 10/15/18, 11/14/22, 1/11/23*)

- (a) Is rendered ineligible for intercollegiate competition based on the recipient's action or inaction;
- (b) Fraudulently misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent or financial aid agreement (see Bylaw 15.3.4.1.3);
- (c) Engages in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty, as determined by the institution's regular student disciplinary authority;

- (d) Voluntarily (on the recipient's own initiative) withdraws from a sport at any time for personal reasons; however, the recipient's financial aid may not be awarded to another student-athlete in the academic term in which the aid is reduced or canceled;
- (e) Violates a nonathletically related condition outlined in the financial aid agreement or violates a documented institutional rule or policy (e.g., academics policies or standards, athletics department or team rules or policies); or
- (f) Provides written notification of transfer (see Bylaw 13.1.1.3) to the institution; however, the student-athlete's financial aid may not be reduced or canceled until the end of the regular academic term in which written notification of transfer is received. If a student-athlete provides written notification of transfer to the institution between regular academic terms (winter break, summer break) the institution may reduce or cancel the financial aid immediately.

15.3.4.1.1 Timing of Reduction or Cancellation. [A] Any reduction or cancellation of aid during the period of the award may occur only after the student-athlete has been provided an opportunity for a hearing per Bylaw 15.3.2.3 (other than as permitted in Bylaw 15.5.6.3.2). *(Adopted: 5/15/07, Revised: 4/23/08, 8/7/14)*

15.3.4.1.2 Undergraduate Four-Year College Transfers. [A] Institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability awarded to an undergraduate four-year college transfer student in the academic year of initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution may only be reduced or canceled during the period of the award if the recipient: *(Adopted: 8/31/22 applicable to transfer student-athletes seeking eligibility during the 2023-24 academic year and thereafter, Revised: 11/14/22, 1/11/23, 6/28/23)*

- (a) Transfers to another institution (see Bylaw 14.5.2);
- (b) Loses amateur status and is no longer eligible for intercollegiate competition in the applicable sport (see Bylaw 12.1.2);
- (c) Does not meet any conditions affecting transfer status at the certifying institution (for nonathletically related reasons) by the first regular term of the student-athlete's aid agreement; or
- (d) Is disqualified or suspended from receiving institutional financial aid by an institutional (as opposed to athletics department) proceeding (e.g., disciplinary process). However, the student shall remain a counter for the period of the award.

(See Bylaw 15.5.1.2.1 for exceptions to counter legislation for undergraduate four-year college transfers.)

15.3.4.1.3 Fraudulent Misrepresentation. [A] If a student-athlete is awarded institutional financial aid on the basis of declaring intention to participate in a particular sport by signing a letter of intent, application or tender, action on the part of the grantee not to participate (either by not reporting for practice or after making only token appearances as determined by the institution) would constitute fraudulent misrepresentation of information on the grantee's application, letter of intent or financial aid agreement. *(Revised: 1/11/94, 8/7/14, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15)*

15.3.4.2 Reduction or Cancellation Not Permitted -- During the Period of the Award. [A] Institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability may not be reduced or canceled during the period of its award: *(Adopted: 1/16/93, Revised: 1/11/94, 12/11/07, 1/14/08, 8/7/14, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15)*

- (a) On the basis of a student-athlete's athletics ability, performance or contribution to a team's success;
- (b) Because of an injury, illness, or physical or mental medical condition (except as permitted pursuant to Bylaw 15.3.4.1); or
- (c) For any other athletics reason.

15.3.4.2.1 Athletically Related Condition Prohibition. [A] An institution may not set forth an athletically related condition (e.g., financial aid contingent upon specified performance or playing a specific position) that would permit the institution to reduce or cancel the student-athlete's financial aid during the period of the award if the conditions are not satisfied. *(Adopted: 1/16/93, Revised: 1/11/94, 8/7/14)*

15.3.4.2.2 Decrease Not Permitted. [A] An institution may not decrease a prospective student-athlete's or a student-athlete's financial aid from the time the prospective student-athlete or student-athlete signs the financial aid award letter until the conclusion of the period set forth in the financial aid agreement, except under the conditions set forth in Bylaw 15.3.4.1. *(Adopted: 1/11/94, Revised: 4/2/03 effective 8/1/03, 8/7/14)*

15.3.4.3 Reduction or Nonrenewal Not Permitted -- After the Period of the Award. [A] If a student-athlete receives athletically related financial aid in the academic year of initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, the following factors shall not be considered in the reduction or nonrenewal of such aid for the following academic year or years of the student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility: *(Adopted: 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15)*

- (a) A student-athlete's athletics ability, performance or contribution to a team's success (e.g., financial aid contingent upon specified performance or playing a specific position);
- (b) An injury, illness, or physical or mental medical condition; or
- (c) Any other athletics reason.

15.3.5 Increase Permitted. [A] Institutional financial aid may be increased for any reason at any time. (*Adopted: 1/11/94, Revised: 2/26/03, 4/23/08, 10/27/11 effective 8/1/12 awards may be executed before 8/1/12, 8/7/14, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15*)

15.3.6 Renewals and Nonrenewals. [A]

15.3.6.1 Institutional Obligation. [A] The renewal of institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability shall be made on or before July 1 prior to the academic year in which it is to be effective. The institution shall promptly notify in writing each student-athlete who received an award the previous academic year and who has eligibility remaining in the sport in which financial aid was awarded the previous academic year (under Bylaw 12.8) whether the grant has been renewed or not renewed for the ensuing academic year. Notification of financial aid renewals and nonrenewals must come from the institution's regular financial aid authority and not from the institution's athletics department. (*Revised: 1/10/95, 8/7/14*)

15.3.6.2 Reconsideration of Nonrenewal. [A] It is permissible for an institution that has notified a student-athlete that the student-athlete will not be provided institutional financial aid for the next academic year subsequently to award financial aid to the student-athlete. (*Revised: 8/7/14*)

15.5 Maximum Institutional Grant-in-Aid Limitations by Sport.

15.5.1 Counters. A student-athlete shall be a counter and included in the maximum awards limitations set forth in this bylaw under the following conditions: (*Revised: 6/10/04, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 10/17/19*)

- (a) **Athletics Aid.** A student-athlete who receives financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability shall become a counter for the year during which the student-athlete receives the financial aid; or
- (b) **Educational Expenses -- Olympic Committee/National Governing Body.** A student-athlete who receives educational expenses awarded by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or a U.S. national governing body (or, for international student-athletes, expenses awarded by the equivalent organization of a foreign country) per Bylaw 15.2.6.5 shall become a counter for the year during which the student-athlete receives the aid.

15.5.1.1 Football or Basketball, Varsity Competition. In football or basketball, a student-athlete who was recruited (see Bylaw 15.02.9) by the awarding institution and who receives institutional financial aid (as set forth in Bylaw 15.02.5.2) granted without regard in any degree to athletics ability does not have to be counted until the student-athlete engages in varsity intercollegiate competition (as opposed to freshman, B-team, subvarsity, intramural or club competition) in those sports. (*Revised: 1/16/93 effective 8/1/93, 1/11/94, 6/20/04, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14*)

15.5.1.1.1 Exception -- Receipt of Institutional Academic Aid Only. In football or basketball, a student-athlete who was recruited (see Bylaw 15.02.9) by the awarding institution and whose only source of institutional financial aid is academic aid based solely on the recipient's academic record at the certifying institution, awarded independently of athletics interests and in amounts consistent with the pattern of all such awards made by the institution, may compete without counting in the institution's financial aid team limits, provided the student-athlete has completed at least one academic year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution and has achieved a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.000 (on a 4.000 scale) at the certifying institution. (*Adopted: 10/27/05 effective 8/1/06, Revised: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11*)

15.5.1.2 Undergraduate Four-Year College Transfers. An undergraduate four-year college transfer student who receives or is issued athletically related financial aid in the academic year of initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution shall be a counter for the period of the award (see Bylaw 15.3.3.3). (*Adopted: 8/31/22 applicable to transfer student-athletes seeking eligibility during the 2023-24 academic year and thereafter, Revised: 1/11/23*)

15.5.1.2.1 Exceptions. An undergraduate four-year transfer student shall not be considered a counter for the subsequent academic year if: (*Adopted: 8/31/22 applicable to transfer student-athletes seeking eligibility during the 2023-24 academic year and thereafter, Revised: 11/14/22, 6/28/23, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24*)

- (a) The individual becomes medically disqualified pursuant to Bylaw 15.5.1.3;
- (b) The individual transfers to another institution pursuant to Bylaw 14.5.2;
- (c) The individual loses amateur status and is no longer eligible for intercollegiate competition in the applicable sport pursuant to Bylaw 12.1.2; or
- (d) The individual's athletics aid is canceled pursuant to Bylaw 15.3.5.1.2-(c); or

(e) The individual voluntarily withdraws from the institution for nonathletically related reasons.

15.5.1.2.1.1 Return to Institution. If an undergraduate four-year transfer student-athlete who voluntarily withdraws for nonathletically related reasons reenrolls within the period of the original award (see Bylaw 15.3.3.3), the institution shall provide athletically related aid for the remainder of the period of the award. Such aid shall not count toward team limits unless the student-athlete practices or competes. If the student-athlete practices or competes, the institution shall be required to count the financial aid under the limitations of this bylaw in the sport in question during each academic year in which the financial aid was received since reenrollment. *(Adopted: 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.1.3 Counter Who Becomes Injured or Ill. A counter who becomes injured or ill to the point that the individual apparently never again will be able to participate in intercollegiate athletics shall not be considered a counter beginning with the academic year following the incapacitating injury or illness.

15.5.1.3.1 Incapacitating Injury or Illness. If an incapacitating injury or illness occurs prior to a prospective student-athlete's or a student-athlete's participation in athletically related activities and results in the student-athlete's inability to compete ever again, the student-athlete shall not be counted within the institution's maximum financial aid award limitations for the current, as well as later, academic years. However, if the incapacitating injury or illness occurs on or after the student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities in the sport, the student-athlete shall be counted in the institution's maximum financial aid limitations for the current academic year but need not be counted in later academic years. *(Adopted: 1/10/91, Revised: 3/26/04, 9/18/07)*

15.5.1.3.2 Change in Circumstances. If circumstances change and the student-athlete subsequently practices or competes at the institution at which the incapacitating injury or illness occurred, the student-athlete again shall become a counter, and the institution shall be required to count that financial aid under the limitations of this bylaw in the sport in question during each academic year in which the financial aid was received. *(Revised: 4/26/01 effective 8/1/01)*

15.5.1.4 Aid Not Renewed, Successful Appeal. If an institution does not renew financial aid for a counter in a following year, and a hearing before the institution's regular financial aid authority results in a successful appeal for restoration of aid, the student-athlete shall continue to be a counter if the individual continues to receive athletically related financial aid. However, the student-athlete shall not be a counter if the student-athlete receives institutionally arranged or awarded, nonathletically related financial aid available to all students, provided such financial aid was granted or arranged without regard in any degree to athletics ability. If the student-athlete ever participates again in intercollegiate athletics at that institution, the student-athlete will be considered to have been a counter during each year the financial aid was received.

15.5.1.5 Cancellation of Aid. Once an individual becomes a counter in a head-count sport (see Bylaws 15.5.2, 15.5.4, 15.5.5, 15.5.6, 15.5.7 and 15.5.8), the individual normally continues as a counter for the remainder of the academic year. However, if the individual (other than an undergraduate four-year college transfer) voluntarily withdraws from the team prior to the first day of classes or before the first contest of the season (whichever is earlier) and releases the institution from its obligation to provide financial aid, the individual no longer would be considered a counter (see Bylaws 15.5.2.2 and 15.5.6.3.2). *(Revised: 11/14/22)*

15.5.1.6 Eligibility Exhausted. A student-athlete receiving institutional financial aid after having exhausted eligibility in a sport is not a counter in that sport in later academic years following completion of eligibility in the sport. The student-athlete must be otherwise eligible for the aid and is not permitted to take part in organized, institutional practice sessions in that sport unless the individual has eligibility remaining under the five-year rule. (See Bylaw 15.3.1 for eligibility for financial aid.) For this provision to be applicable to an undergraduate four-year college transfer, the individual shall not have eligibility remaining in the individual's five-year period of eligibility. *(Revised: 1/10/91, 11/14/22)*

15.5.1.6.1 Cross Country/Track and Field. A student-athlete who is awarded athletically related financial aid and who has exhausted eligibility in either cross country, indoor track and field, or outdoor track and field, but has eligibility remaining in any of the other sports, is not a counter in the cross country/track and field financial aid limitations, provided the student-athlete subsequently does not practice or compete in any of the sports in which the student-athlete has eligibility remaining during the academic year in which the aid was awarded. *(Adopted: 6/26/01 effective 8/1/01)*

15.5.1.7 Student-Athlete Whose Five-Year Period of Eligibility Expires Midyear. In sports in which performance from the nonchampionship and championship segments is considered for NCAA championship qualification or selection, a student-athlete who receives athletically related financial aid is not a counter, provided: *(Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22)*

- (a) The student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility will expire before the NCAA championship in the applicable sport (e.g., end of fall semester); and
- (b) The student-athlete does not compete in the involved sport during that academic year.

For this provision to be applicable to an undergraduate four-year college transfer, the individual must have completed all requirements to receive a baccalaureate degree.

15.5.1.8 Aid After Departure of Head Coach. A student-athlete who receives athletically related institutional financial aid in academic years after the departure of a head coach from the institution is not a counter in a year in which the student-athlete does not participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided: (*Adopted: 4/29/10 effective 8/1/10, Revised: 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17, 5/1/19, 11/14/22, 6/28/23*)

- (a) The student-athlete participated in the applicable sport and received athletically related institutional financial aid during the coach's tenure at the institution; and
- (b) The student-athlete does not participate in the applicable sport beyond the next regular academic year (including completion of the championship season in spring sports) after the departure of the head coach.

15.5.1.8.1 Subsequent Participation. If the student-athlete subsequently participates in the applicable sport at the institution, the student-athlete shall become a counter for all years during which athletically related institutional aid was received. (*Adopted: 4/29/10 effective 8/1/10, Revised: 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17*)

15.5.1.9 Aid After Student-Athlete Becomes Permanently Ineligible. A student-athlete receiving institutional financial aid after becoming permanently ineligible due to a violation of NCAA regulations (e.g., amateurism legislation) may receive athletics aid during later academic years without counting in the institution's financial aid limitations, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible for the aid and does not practice or compete in intercollegiate athletics again. If circumstances change and the student-athlete practices or competes, the institution is required to count the financial aid received by the student-athlete during each academic year in which the aid was received (see Bylaw 15.3.1.4). (*Adopted: 1/11/94*)

15.5.1.10 Summer-Term Aid. Institutional financial aid received during a summer term is not countable in these limitations and does not make a student-athlete a counter.

15.5.1.10.1 Exception -- Football. [FBS/FCS] In football, an individual who receives athletically related financial aid during a summer term prior to initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution shall be an overall counter for the ensuing academic year. (See Bylaws 15.02.3 and 15.5.6.) (*Adopted: 1/14/12, Revised: 6/7/22, 10/4/23*)

15.5.1.11 Offers Exceeding Maximum Allowable Awards. An institution may offer more than the maximum number of permissible awards in a sport (per Bylaw 15.5) in anticipation that not all of the offers will be accepted, but the institution shall not exceed the awards limitation in the sport in question.

15.5.2 Head-Count Sports Other Than Football and Basketball.

15.5.2.1 Maximum Limits. An institution shall be limited in any academic year to the total number of counters (head count) in each of the following sports: (*Revised: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/92, 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96*)

Women's Gymnastics 12 Women's Tennis 8

Women's Volleyball 12

15.5.2.2 Preseason Voluntary Withdrawal. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons or who has not withdrawn from the institution) who voluntarily withdraws from the team in a head-count sport other than football or basketball by providing the financial aid to another student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. For this replacement to occur, the counter must withdraw prior to the first day of classes or before the first game of the season, whichever is earlier, and, for students other than an undergraduate four-year transfer, release the institution from its obligation to provide financial aid. The institution may not award the financial aid to another student-athlete in the academic term in which the aid was reduced or canceled. Further, if the financial aid is canceled before a regular academic term (e.g., preseason practice period), the aid may not be provided to another student-athlete during the ensuing academic term. (*Revised: 11/14/22, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24*)

15.5.2.3 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons) who voluntarily withdraws from the institution during the academic year by providing the financial aid to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. (*Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24*)

15.5.2.4 Midyear Replacement -- Women's Volleyball. In women's volleyball, the financial aid of a counter who graduates at midyear or who graduates during the previous academic year (including summer) may be provided to another student-athlete and the replaced student-athlete shall not be a counter for the remainder of that academic year. *(Adopted: 1/11/89, Revised: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, 11/14/22)*

15.5.2.5 Midyear Graduate Replacement -- Women's Gymnastics and Women's Tennis. In women's gymnastics and women's tennis, the financial aid of a counter who graduates at midyear with eligibility remaining and who does not return to the institution for the following academic term may be provided to another student-athlete. The replaced student-athlete shall not be a counter for the remainder of the academic year. *(Adopted: 4/26/07 effective 8/1/07, Revised: 11/14/22)*

15.5.2.6 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.2.7 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.2.8 Replacement of an Ineligible Student-Athlete. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year college transfer) whose aid is canceled because the student-athlete was rendered ineligible for intercollegiate competition during a particular academic term (e.g., fall semester, winter quarter) by providing the financial aid to another student in the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, spring quarter). *(Adopted: 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17, Revised: 11/14/22)*

15.5.3 Equivalency Sports.

15.5.3.1 Maximum Equivalency Limits.

15.5.3.1.1 Men's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) that an institution may provide in an academic year to counters in the following men's sports: *(Revised: 1/10/91, 1/10/92, 1/16/93 effective 8/1/93, 4/26/07 effective 8/1/08)*

Cross Country/Track and Field	12.6	Swimming and Diving	9.9
Fencing	4.5	Tennis	4.5
Golf	4.5	Volleyball	4.5
Gymnastics	6.3	Water Polo	4.5
Lacrosse	12.6	Wrestling	9.9
Rifle	3.6		
Skiing	6.3		
Soccer	9.9		

15.5.3.1.1.1 Minimum Equivalency Value -- Men's Wrestling. In men's wrestling, an institution shall provide each counter athletically related and other countable financial aid that is equal to or greater than 20 percent of an equivalency. *(Adopted: 6/30/22 effective 8/1/23 for student-athletes who initially enroll full time at a four-year collegiate institution on or after 8/1/23)*

15.5.3.1.1.1.1 Exception -- Need-Based Athletics Aid Only. In men's wrestling, an institution that awards athletically related financial aid based solely on demonstrated financial need, as determined for all students by the institution's financial aid office using methodologies that conform to federal, state and written institutional guidelines (including institutional financial aid that is considered athletically related financial aid based on the intervention of athletics department staff), is not subject to the 20 percent minimum equivalency value per counter. *(Adopted: 6/30/22 effective 8/1/23 for student-athletes who initially enroll full time at a four-year collegiate institution on or after 8/1/23)*

15.5.3.1.1.1.2 Exception -- Final Two Years of Eligibility and Not Previously Aided. An institution may provide less than 20 percent of an equivalency to a student-athlete, provided the student-athlete is in the final two years of eligibility and has not previously received athletically related financial aid in men's wrestling at any collegiate institution. *(Adopted: 6/30/22 effective 8/1/23 for student-athletes who initially enroll full time at a four-year collegiate institution on or after 8/1/23)*

15.5.3.1.2 Women's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in the following women's sports: *(Revised: 1/10/91, 1/10/92 effective 8/1/94, 1/16/93, 1/11/94 effective 9/1/94, 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96, 11/1/01 effective 8/1/02, 4/28/05 effective 8/1/05, 1/17/09 effective 8/1/09, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14, 6/23/20 effective 8/1/20, 4/26/23 effective 8/1/23, 1/10/24)*

Acrobatics and Tumbling	14	Rugby	12
Bowling	5	Skiing	7
Cross Country/Track and Field	18	Soccer	14
Equestrian	15	Softball	12
Fencing	5	Stunt	14
Field Hockey	12	Swimming and Diving	14
Golf	6	Triathlon	6.5
Lacrosse	12	Water Polo	8
Rowing	20	Wrestling	10

15.5.3.1.3 Maximum Equivalency Limits -- Institutions That Sponsor Cross Country but Do Not Sponsor Track and Field. There shall be a limit of five on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in men's cross country, if the institution does not sponsor indoor or outdoor track and field for men. There shall be a limit of six on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in women's cross country, if the institution does not sponsor indoor or outdoor track and field for women. *(Adopted: 1/10/91 effective 9/1/94, Revised: 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96)*

15.5.3.1.4 Midyear Replacement -- Cross Country, Field Hockey, Soccer, Track and Field and Men's Water Polo. In cross country, field hockey, soccer, track and field and men's water polo, financial aid equal to the countable financial aid provided to a counter who graduates at midyear or who graduates during the previous academic year (including summer) and has exhausted eligibility but remains enrolled at the institution may be provided to another student-athlete, who shall be a counter for the remainder of that academic year. Other financial aid provided to the student-athlete that would otherwise be countable is excluded from the team's maximum equivalency limits for the remainder of the academic year. *(Adopted: 1/22/20 effective 8/1/20, Revised: 11/14/22)*

15.5.3.1.5 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year -- Undergraduate Four-Year Transfer. Financial aid equal to the countable financial aid provided to an undergraduate four-year transfer who voluntarily withdraws from the institution for nonathletically related reasons during the academic year may be provided to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. *(Adopted: 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.3.2 Equivalency Computations. In equivalency sports, each institutional financial aid award (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) to a counter shall be computed as follows: *(Revised: 1/10/90, 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, 10/20/08, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15)*

- Once a student becomes a counter, the institution shall count all institutional aid (per Bylaw 15.02.5.2) received up to the value of a full grant-in-aid. Exempted government grants per Bylaw 15.2.5 and exempted institutional aid per Bylaw 15.02.5.4 specifically are excluded from this computation.
- A fraction shall be created, with the amount received by the student-athlete (up to the value of a full grant-in-aid) as the numerator and the full grant-in-aid value for that student-athlete as the denominator based on the actual cost or average cost of a full grant for all students at that institution.
- The sum of all fractional and maximum awards received by counters shall not exceed the total limit for the sport in question for the academic year as a whole.

15.5.3.2.1 Application to Autonomy Conferences. [A] A member institution of one of the conferences named in Bylaw 9.2.2.1.1 shall use a full grant-in-aid in its equivalency computations as defined in Bylaw 15.02.6. The elements of a grant-in-aid are tuition and fees, living expenses, books, and other expenses related to attendance at the institution. *(Adopted: 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15, Revised: 7/31/23)*

15.5.3.2.2 Application to Other Conferences. A member institution of a conference other than those named in Bylaw 9.2.2.1.1 may use a full grant-in-aid in its equivalency computations as defined in Bylaw 15.02.6 or one that consists of tuition and fees, living expenses, and required course-related books, subject to the discretion of its

conference pursuant to Bylaw 9.2.2.1.2.2. If the institution uses a full grant-in-aid that consists of tuition and fees, living expenses, and required course-related books, financial aid unrelated to athletics ability received by a student-athlete in excess of a full grant-in-aid shall not be included in the equivalency computation. (*Adopted: 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15, Revised: 7/31/23*)

15.5.3.2.3 Additional Requirements. The following additional requirements shall apply to equivalency computations: (*Revised: 10/20/08, 1/15/11, 10/18/11, 4/17/12 effective 8/1/12, 1/17/15 effective 8/1/15*)

- (a) An institution may use either the actual cost or average cost of any or all the elements (other than books) of the equivalency calculation, provided the same method is used in both the numerator and denominator for each element. Either method (or different combinations of methods among elements) may be used for each student-athlete on the same team or for separate teams generally.
- (b) In computing equivalencies for tuition and fees, it is not permissible to average the value of in-state and out-of-state tuition and fees to determine an average cost for tuition and fees.
- (c) Books shall count for calculation purposes as \$800 in the denominator. If a student-athlete receives any portion of a book allowance for the academic year, the institution must use \$800 in the denominator and numerator for books, regardless of the actual cost of the books. If a student-athlete is enrolled for less than a full academic year (e.g., one semester, one or two quarters) and receives any portion of a book allowance, the institution must use the amount in the numerator that is proportionate to the number of terms of enrollment (\$400 for semester systems, \$534 or \$267 for quarter systems).

15.5.3.2.4 Exceptions.

15.5.3.2.4.1 Academic Honor Awards -- Based on High School Record. Academic honor awards that are part of an institution's normal arrangements for academic scholarships, based solely on the recipient's high school record and awarded independently of athletics interests and in amounts consistent with the pattern of all such awards made by the institution, are exempt from an institution's equivalency computations, provided the recipient was ranked in the upper 10 percent of the high school graduating class or achieved a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.500 (based on a maximum of 4.000) or a minimum ACT sum score of 105 or a minimum SAT score of 1200 (critical reading and math) for SAT tests taken before March 1, 2016; or a minimum SAT score of 1270 (critical reading and math) for tests taken on or after March 1, 2016, based on the concordance determined by the College Board. (*Adopted: 1/12/99 effective 8/1/99, Revised: 1/14/08 effective 8/1/08, 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, 2/2/16*)

15.5.3.2.4.1.1 Additional Requirements. The following additional requirements shall be met: (*Adopted: 1/12/99 effective 8/1/99, Revised: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14*)

- (a) The awards may include additional, nonacademic criteria (e.g., interviews, essays, need analysis), provided the additional criteria are not based on athletics ability, participation or interests, and the awards are consistent with the pattern of all such awards provided to all students;
- (b) No quota of awards shall be designated for student-athletes;
- (c) Athletics participation shall not be required before or after collegiate enrollment;
- (d) No athletics department staff member shall be involved in designating the recipients of such awards; and
- (e) Any additional criteria shall not include athletics ability, participation or interests.

15.5.3.2.4.1.2 Renewals. The renewal of an academic honor award (per Bylaw 15.5.3.2.4.1) may be exempted from an institution's equivalency computation regardless of whether the recipient qualified for exemption in the initial academic year enrollment, provided: (*Adopted: 1/12/99 effective 8/1/99, Revised: 3/18/10*)

- (a) The recipient achieves a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.000 (based on a maximum of 4.000) at the certifying institution; and
- (b) The recipient meets all NCAA, conference and institutional progress-toward-degree requirements.

15.5.3.2.4.2 Academic Honor Awards -- Transfer Students. Academic honor awards that are part of an institution's normal arrangements for academic scholarships, either based solely on the recipient's cumulative academic record from all collegiate institutions previously attended or based on the recipient's high school record and cumulative academic record from all collegiate institutions previously attended, awarded independently of athletics interests and in amounts consistent with the pattern of all such awards made by the institution, may be exempted from a team's equivalency computation, provided the recipient achieved a cumulative transferable grade-

point average of at least 3.000 (based on a maximum of 4.000). *(Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, Revised: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.5.3.2.4.2.1 Calculation of Grade-Point Average. Grades earned in all courses that are normally transferable to an institution shall be considered in determining the grade-point average for meeting this exception, regardless of the grade earned or whether such grade makes the course unacceptable for transferable-degree credit. *(Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10)*

15.5.3.2.4.2.2 Renewals. The renewal of an academic honor award (per Bylaw 15.5.3.2.4.2) may be exempted from an institution's equivalency computation, provided: *(Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, Revised: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

- (a) The recipient achieves a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.000 (based on a maximum of 4.000) at the certifying institution; and
- (b) The recipient meets all NCAA, conference and institutional progress-toward-degree requirements.

15.5.3.2.4.3 Institutional Academic Scholarships. Institutional academic scholarships that are part of an institution's normal arrangements for academic scholarships, based solely on the recipient's academic record at the certifying institution, awarded independently of athletics interests and in amounts consistent with the pattern of all such awards made by the institution, are exempt from an institution's equivalency computation, provided the recipient has completed at least one academic year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution and has achieved a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.000 (on a 4.000 scale) at the certifying institution. *(Adopted: 10/27/05 effective 8/1/06, Revised: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.5.3.2.4.4 Academic Study Abroad Exception. All countable financial aid of a student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study-abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 is exempt from an institution's equivalency computation. Countable financial aid in an amount equal to the countable financial aid provided to the participating student-athlete may be provided to a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team for the term or terms of participation in the study-abroad program. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.3.2.4.5 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Exception. All countable financial aid of a student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 is exempt from an institution's equivalency computation. Countable financial aid in an amount equal to the countable financial aid provided to the participating student-athlete may be provided to a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team for the term or terms of participation in the internship or cooperative educational work experience program. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.3.2.5 Cancellation of Athletically Related Aid. If a student-athlete is dismissed from or voluntarily withdraws from a team and the student-athlete's athletically related financial aid is canceled (see Bylaws 15.3.2.3, 15.3.4.2 and 15.3.4.1) during an academic term, all other countable financial aid the student-athlete receives during the remainder of the term is countable toward the student-athlete's equivalency for the academic year; however, the institution is not required to count other countable financial aid toward the student-athlete's equivalency during any remaining terms of the academic year. If a student-athlete is dismissed from or voluntarily withdraws from a team and the student-athlete's athletically related financial aid is canceled at the end of an academic term, the institution is not required to count other countable financial aid toward the student-athlete's equivalency during any remaining terms of the academic year. *(Adopted: 12/13/05)*

15.5.4 Baseball Limitations. There shall be an annual limit of 11.7 on the value of financial aid awards (equivalencies) to counters and an annual limit of 27 on the total number of counters in baseball. *(Adopted: 4/26/07 effective 8/1/08)*

15.5.4.1 Minimum Equivalency Value. An institution shall provide each counter athletically related and other countable financial aid that is equal to or greater than 25 percent of an equivalency. *(Adopted: 4/26/07 effective 8/1/08 for student-athletes who initially enroll full time at any four-year collegiate institution on or after 8/1/08, Revised: 8/9/07)*

15.5.4.1.1 Exception -- Need-Based Athletics Aid Only. In baseball, an institution that awards athletically related financial aid based solely on demonstrated financial need, as determined for all students by the institution's financial aid office using methodologies that conform to federal, state and written institutional guidelines (including institutional financial aid that is considered athletically related financial aid based on the intervention of athletics department staff), is not subject to the 25 percent minimum equivalency value per counter. *(Adopted: 1/14/08 effective 8/1/08)*

15.5.4.1.2 Exception -- Final Year of Eligibility and Not Previously Aided. An institution may provide less than 25 percent of an equivalency to a student-athlete, provided the student-athlete is in the final year of eligibility and has not previously received athletically related financial aid in baseball at any collegiate institution. *(Adopted: 4/26/12 effective 8/1/12, Revised: 8/20/12)*

15.5.4.2 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.4.3 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.4.4 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons) who voluntarily withdraws from the institution during the academic year by providing the financial aid to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. *(Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.5 Basketball Limitations.

15.5.5.1 Men's Basketball. There shall be a limit of 13 on the total number of counters in men's basketball at each institution. *(Adopted: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/92, Revised: 4/27/00 effective 8/1/01, 11/1/01, 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04)*

15.5.5.1.1 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.5.1.2 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.5.2 Women's Basketball. There shall be an annual limit of 15 on the total number of counters in women's basketball at each institution. *(Adopted: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/92, Revised: 1/10/92 effective 8/1/93, 1/16/93)*

15.5.5.2.1 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.5.2.2 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.5.3 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons) who voluntarily withdraws from the institution during the academic year by providing the financial aid to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. *(Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.5.4 Replacement of an Ineligible Student-Athlete. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year college transfer) whose aid is canceled because the student-athlete was rendered ineligible for intercollegiate competition during a particular academic term (e.g., fall semester, winter quarter) by providing the financial aid to another student in the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, spring quarter). *(Adopted: 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17, Revised: 11/14/22)*

15.5.6 Football Limitations. [FBS/FCS]

15.5.6.1 Bowl Subdivision Football. [FBS] There shall be an annual limit of 85 on the total number of counters in football at each institution. *(Revised: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/92, 12/15/06, 10/4/23)*

15.5.6.2 Championship Subdivision Football. [FCSD] There shall be an annual limit of 63 on the value of financial aid awards (equivalencies) to counters and an annual limit of 85 on the total number of counters in football at each Football Championship Subdivision institution. *(Revised: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/92, 12/15/06, 10/4/23)*

15.5.6.2.1 Exception -- Championship Subdivision. [FCS] Championship subdivision football programs that meet the following criteria are exempt from the championship subdivision football counter requirements of Bylaws 15.5.1 and 15.5.6, regardless of multisport student-athletes who receive athletics aid in a sport other than football: *(Revised: 1/11/94 effective 8/1/94, 1/10/95, 10/31/02 effective 8/1/03, 12/15/06, 10/4/23)*

- (a) In football, the institution awards financial aid only to student-athletes who demonstrate financial need, except loans, academic honor awards, nonathletics achievement awards, or certain aid from outside sources may be provided without regard to financial need;
- (b) The institution uses methodologies for analyzing need that conform to federal, state and written institutional guidelines. The methodologies used to determine the need of a student-athlete must be consistent with the methodologies used by the institution's financial aid office for all students; and
- (c) The composition of the financial aid package offered to football student-athletes is consistent with the policy established for offering financial assistance to all students. The financial aid packages for football student-athletes also shall meet the following criteria:
 - (1) The institution shall not consider athletics ability as a criterion in the formulation of any football student-athlete's financial aid package; and
 - (2) The procedures used to award financial aid to football student-athletes must be the same as the existing financial aid procedures used for all students at the institution.

15.5.6.3 Exceptions. [FBS/FCS]

15.5.6.3.1 Midyear Replacement. [FBS/FCS] The financial aid of a counter who graduates at midyear or who graduates during the previous academic year (including summer) may be provided to another student-athlete and the replaced student-athlete shall not be a counter for the remainder of that academic year. In bowl subdivision football, an institution may use the midyear replacement exception only if it previously has provided financial aid during that academic year to the maximum number of overall counters (85 total counters). In championship subdivision football, an institution may use the midyear replacement exception only if it previously has provided financial aid during that academic year that equals the maximum number of overall equivalencies or overall counters. *(Revised: 4/20/99 effective 8/1/99, 6/8/99, 4/26/01 effective 8/1/01, 8/2/05, 12/15/06, 1/14/08 effective 8/1/08, 4/2/10, 1/15/11, 11/14/22, 10/4/23)*

15.5.6.3.2 Preseason Voluntary Withdrawal. [FBS/FCS] An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year college transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons or who has not withdrawn from the institution) who voluntarily withdraws from the football team by providing the financial aid to another student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the football squad. For this replacement to occur, the counter must withdraw prior to the first day of classes or the first game of the season, whichever is earlier, and, for students other than an undergraduate four-year transfer, provide the institution with a signed statement releasing the institution from its obligation to provide institutional financial aid and verifying the voluntary nature of the withdrawal. The institution may immediately (beginning with the fall term) award the financial aid to a student-athlete who has been a member of the team for at least one academic year and has not previously received athletically related financial aid. A student-athlete who has not been a member of the team for at least one academic year may not receive the financial aid during the fall term, but may receive it in an ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter quarter). *(Revised: 4/28/05 effective 8/1/05, 11/14/22, 1/18/24 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.6.3.3 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. [FBS/FCS] An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year college transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons) who voluntarily withdraws from the institution during the academic year by providing the financial aid to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. If the departing student-athlete is not an undergraduate four-year transfer, the replaced student-athlete's aid may be canceled upon the institution's receipt of a signed statement from the student-athlete releasing the institution from its obligation to provide institutional financial aid and verifying the voluntary nature of the withdrawal. If such a statement is received, a hearing opportunity (per Bylaw 15.3.2.3) is not required. *(Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22, 1/18/24 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.6.3.4 Replacement of an Ineligible Student-Athlete. [FBS/FCS] An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year college transfer) whose aid is canceled because the student-athlete was rendered

ineligible for intercollegiate competition during a particular academic term (e.g., fall semester, winter quarter) by providing the financial aid to another student in the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, spring quarter). *(Adopted: 4/26/17 effective 8/1/17, Revised: 11/14/22)*

15.5.6.3.5 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. [FBS/FCS] A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.6.3.6 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. [FBS/FCS] A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.6.3.7 Sprint Football. [FBS/FCS] Participants in sprint football programs who do not participate in the institution's regular varsity intercollegiate program shall not be counted in the institution's financial aid limitations.

15.5.7 Ice Hockey Limitations. There shall be an annual limit of 18 on the value of financial aid awards (equivalencies) to counters and an annual limit of 30 on the total number of counters in ice hockey at each institution. *(Adopted: 1/16/93 effective 8/1/93)*

15.5.7.1 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.7.2 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.7.3 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons) who voluntarily withdraws from the institution during the academic year by providing the financial aid to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. *(Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.8 Women's Beach Volleyball Limitations.

15.5.8.1 Institutions That Sponsor Women's Beach Volleyball and Women's Volleyball. If an institution sponsors women's beach volleyball and women's volleyball, there shall be an annual limit of six on the value of financial aid awards (equivalencies) provided to counters and an annual limit of 14 on the total number of counters in women's beach volleyball. *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.5.8.2 Institutions That Sponsor Women's Beach Volleyball but Do Not Sponsor Women's Volleyball. If an institution does not sponsor women's volleyball, there shall be an annual limit of eight on the value of financial aid awards (equivalencies) provided to counters and an annual limit of 14 on the total number of counters in women's beach volleyball. *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.5.8.3 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.8.4 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who is participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 may be replaced as a counter for the term or terms of participation by a student who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team. *(Adopted: 1/19/17 effective 8/1/17)*

15.5.8.5 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer who withdraws for athletically related reasons) who voluntarily withdraws from the institution during the academic year by providing the financial aid to another student-athlete, including an incoming student-athlete, beginning with the ensuing term (e.g., spring semester, winter or spring quarter) without making the second student-athlete a counter for the remainder of that academic year. *(Adopted: 4/25/18 effective 8/1/18, Revised: 11/14/22, 10/4/23 effective 8/1/24)*

15.5.9 Multisport Participants.

15.5.9.1 Football. [FBS/FCS] In football, a counter who was recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9) and/or offered financial aid to participate in football and who participates (practices or competes) in football and one or more sports (including basketball) shall be counted in football. A counter who was not recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9) and/or offered financial aid to participate in football and who competes in football and one or more sports (including basketball) shall be counted in football. *(Revised: 1/10/95 effective 8/1/95, 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96, 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.5.9.1.1 Championship Subdivision Football Exception. [FCS] A counter who practices or competes in football at a Football Championship Subdivision institution that elects to use the football counter exception set forth in Bylaw 15.5.6.2.1 and who practices or competes in another sport and receives countable financial aid in another sport shall be counted in the institution's financial aid limitations in the other sport. *(Adopted: 1/10/95, Revised: 12/15/06, 10/4/23)*

15.5.9.2 Basketball. A counter who practices or competes in basketball and one or more other sports (other than football) shall be counted in basketball.

15.5.9.3 Men's Ice Hockey. A counter who practices or competes in men's ice hockey and one or more other sports (other than football or basketball) shall be counted in men's ice hockey. *(Adopted: 1/16/93 effective 8/1/93)*

15.5.9.4 Men's Swimming and Diving/Men's Water Polo. A counter who practices or competes in both men's swimming and diving and men's water polo shall be counted in men's swimming and diving, unless the individual counts in football or basketball.

15.5.9.5 Women's Volleyball. A counter who practices or competes in women's volleyball and one or more other sports (other than basketball) shall be counted in women's volleyball.

15.5.9.5.1 Participation in Women's Volleyball in Second Year of Enrollment After Counter Status in Women's Beach Volleyball in First Year of Enrollment. A student-athlete who was a counter in women's beach volleyball during the student-athlete's initial year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution and participates (practices and competes) in women's volleyball during the student-athlete's second year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution shall be a counter in women's volleyball for the student-athlete's initial year of full-time enrollment at the certifying institution. *(Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

15.5.9.6 Two-Year Exception. If an individual has participated in a sport other than basketball or women's volleyball for two years or more since the individual's initial collegiate enrollment and would be involved only in basketball or women's volleyball practice sessions, such a student would not become a counter in those sports until the student actually competes as a member of the institution's intercollegiate team, at either the varsity or junior varsity level. *(Revised: 1/10/95 effective 8/1/95, 1/9/96 effective 8/1/96, 1/9/06 effective 8/1/06)*

15.5.9.7 Other Sports. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a counter who participates in two or more sports shall be counted in one of the sports but shall not be counted in the others.

15.5.9.7.1 Requirement to Qualify as Multisport Athlete. To be considered a multisport athlete under this section, an individual must meet all of the following requirements: *(Revised: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)*

- (a) The individual shall report and participate fully in regularly organized practice with each squad;
- (b) The individual shall participate where qualified in actual competition in each sport;
- (c) The individual shall be a member of each squad for the entire playing and practice season; and
- (d) If a recruited student-athlete (per Bylaw 15.02.9), the individual shall have been earnestly recruited to participate in the sport in which financial aid is counted (the institution recruiting the student-athlete shall have a reasonable basis to believe that the student-athlete is capable of participating in the institution's varsity intercollegiate program in that sport, including documentation of a record of previous participation in organized competition in the sport that supports the student-athlete's potential to participate in that sport in varsity intercollegiate competition).

15.5.10 Changes in Participation. If a student-athlete changes sports during an academic year, the student-athlete's financial aid shall be counted in the maximum limitations for the first sport for the remainder of the academic year. If the student-athlete continues to receive financial aid, the award shall be counted the next academic year against the maximum limitations in the second sport. *(Revised: 4/3/02, 10/4/23)*

15.5.11 Squad List.

15.5.11.1 Eligibility Requirement. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be included on the institution's squad-list form. **[D]**

15.5.11.2 Squad-List Form. The institution shall compile a list of the squad members in each sport on the first day of competition and shall indicate thereon the status of each member in the categories listed (see Bylaw 12.10.2). **[D]** *(Revised: 11/1/07 effective 8/1/08, 7/30/10, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14, 8/7/14)*

15.5.11.2.1 Procedures. The following procedures shall be used for the squad list: **[D]** *(Revised: 1/9/06 effective 8/1/06, 7/30/10, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/14)*

- (a) The form shall be available for examination upon request by an authorized representative of another member institution, the NCAA, and, if the institution is a member of a conference, an authorized representative of the conference;
- (b) A supplementary form may be filed to add names of persons not initially on the squad or to indicate a change of status;
- (c) A student-athlete's name must be on the official institutional form to qualify to represent the institution in intercollegiate athletics; and
- (d) The athletics director (or designee, who may not be a coaching staff member) shall sign the form for each sport. The head coach in each sport shall sign the form for the applicable sport.

15.5.11.3 Drug-Testing Consent-Form Requirement. Any student-athlete who signs a drug-testing consent form must be included on the institution's squad-list form, and any student-athlete who is included on the squad-list form must have signed a drug-testing consent form pursuant to Bylaw 12.7.3. **[D]** *(Adopted: 1/10/92 effective 8/1/92)*

15.5.11.3.1 Exception -- 14-Day Grace Period. An institution is not required to place a student-athlete who is trying out for a team on the squad-list form for 14 days from the first date the student engages in countable athletically related activities or until the institution's first competition, whichever occurs earlier. *(Adopted: 4/28/05)*

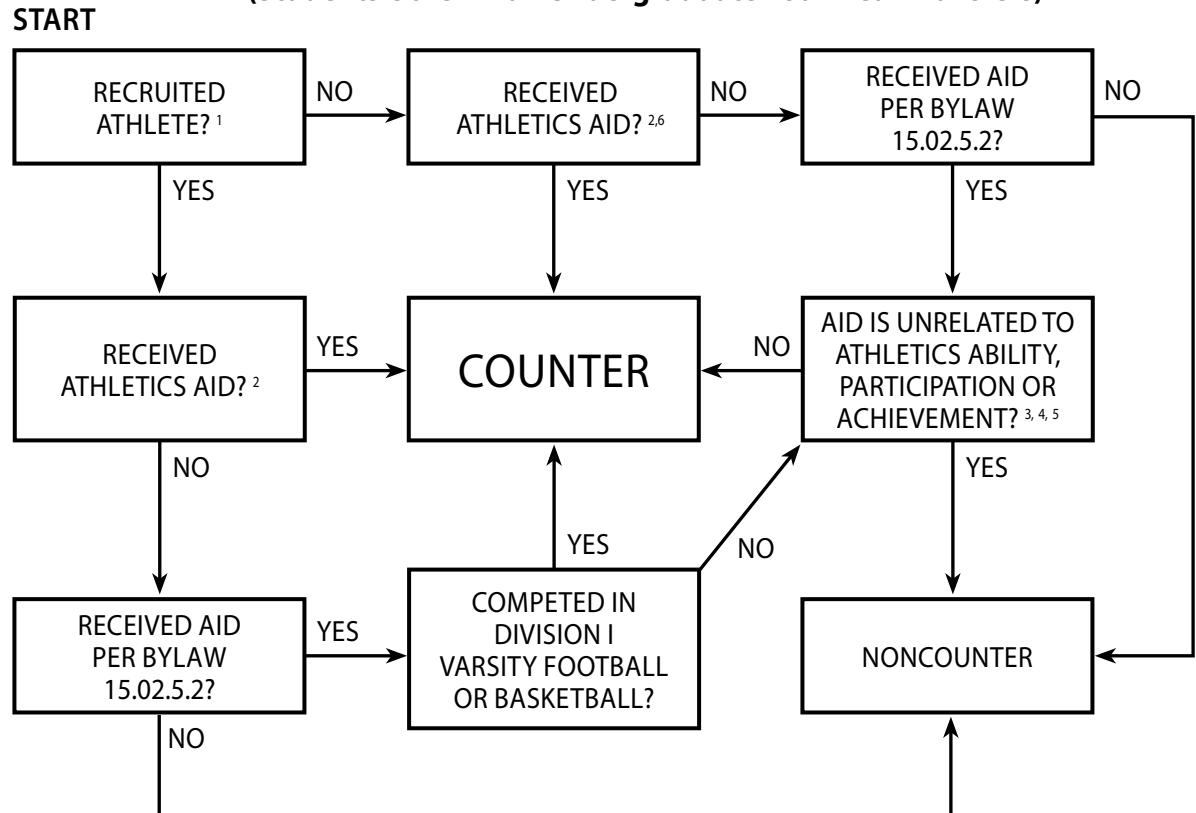
FIGURE 15-1
Financial Aid Limitations

Note: The individual financial aid limitation applies to all student-athletes. Only aid received by a counter must be certified to determine whether the aid is countable against the team financial aid limitation. A counter is a student-athlete who receives institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics, athletically related aid from a continuing and established program exceeding \$1,000 that does not meet the legislated criteria, educational expenses from an Olympic committee or national governing body, or for recruited football or basketball student-athletes who compete in varsity competition, any form of institutional or institutionally administered financial aid (e.g., institutionally administered government grants) unless otherwise exempt. An undergraduate four-year transfer who receives athletically related financial aid shall be a counter for the period of award (see Bylaw 15.3.3.3).

	Citation	Individual Limitation¹	Team Limitation²
Institutional Athletics Aid			
Aid based on athletics ability	15.02.5.1 15.02.5.2-(a) 15.1.2	Yes	Yes ⁴
Summer school financial aid	15.2.8	Yes ³	No
Student Assistance Fund	15.01.6.1	No	No
Postgraduate Scholarship	15.02.5.4-(d)	Yes	No
Institutional Awards, Nonathletic			
Aid Based Solely Upon Financial Need	15.02.5.4-(a)	Yes	No
Academic Honor Awards Based on high school record (and renewal) Transfer students (and renewal)	15.5.3.2.4.1 15.5.3.2.4.2	Yes Yes	No No
Institutional Academic Scholarships Based on record at the institution	15.5.3.2.4.3	Yes	No
Academic award, nondiscretionary	15.02.5.4-(b)	Yes	No
Research grants and honorary academic awards	15.02.5.4-(c) 15.02.7	Yes Yes	No No
Employee Tuition Benefit or Tuition Waiver	15.02.5.2-(a)	Yes	No ⁵
Other forms of institutional financial aid (e.g., leadership and community service awards)	15.02.5.2-(a)	Yes	Yes
Outside Scholarship Programs			
Outside aid for educational purposes, unrelated to athletics ability	15.2.6.2	Yes	No
Outside aid for educational purposes, related to athletics ability - up to \$1,000	15.2.6.3	Yes	No

Outside aid for educational purposes, related to athletic ability – exceeds \$1,000, meets criteria	15.2.6.4	Yes	No
Outside aid for educational purposes, related to athletics ability – exceeds \$1,000 and does not meet criteria	15.2.6.4	Yes	Yes ⁴
State and Federal Awards and Benefits			
Government grants, institutionally administered, unspecified	15.02.5.2-(b) 15.1.2-(a)	Yes	Yes
Government grants, institutionally administered, specified	15.02.5.4	Yes	No
Government grants, not institutionally administered, specified	15.02.5.5 15.2.5.1	No	No
Government grants, not institutionally administered, unspecified and unrelated to athletics	15.1.2-(a) 15.2.5	Yes	No
Pell Grant	15.1.1 15.2.5	Yes ⁶	No
Loans and Educational Savings Accounts			
Parent/guardian contribution	15.2.6.1	No	No
Loan, legitimate, repayment schedule	15.1.2-(f)	No	No
Compensation			
Educational Expenses—USOC or NGB	15.2.6.5 15.5.1-(b)	Yes	Yes ⁴
Operation Gold Grant	15.02.5.6	No	No
¹ The value of the cost of attendance as defined by Bylaw 15.02.2. See also Bylaw 15.1. ² See Bylaw 15.5 for the team financial aid limitation of a particular sport. ³ The individual limitation for the applicable summer term only. ⁴ Results in counter status. All other aid received by the recipient must be evaluated to determine whether the award is countable toward team financial aid limits. See also Bylaw 15.5.1.1. ⁵ Exempt if the student-athlete's parent or guardian has been employed as a full-time employee or staff member by the institution for at least five years. ⁶ Pell recipients may receive financial aid equivalent to cost of attendance or the value of a full grant-in-aid plus the Pell Grant, whichever is greater. ⁷ Compensation for athletics performance (i.e., pay-for-play) renders a student-athlete ineligible for intercollegiate competition.			

FIGURE 15-2
How to Determine a Counter
(Students Other Than Undergraduate Four-Year Transfers)



1. Per Bylaw 15.02.9.
2. In football, an individual who receives athletically related financial aid during the summer prior to initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution shall be an initial and overall counter for the ensuing academic year (Bylaw 15.5.1.9.1).
3. Recruited student-athlete (per Bylaw 15.02.9) who is a varsity football or basketball team member but does not compete: Financial aid must be unrelated to athletics ability (Bylaw 15.5.1.1).
4. Recruited student-athlete (per Bylaw 15.02.9) participating in sport other than football or basketball: Financial aid must be unrelated to athletics ability.
5. Nonrecruited student-athlete (see Bylaw 15.02.9) participating in any sport: Financial aid must be unrelated to athletics ability.
6. Includes athletically related financial aid from an established and continuing program that exceeds \$1,000 and does not meet the criteria outlined in Bylaw 15.2.6.4, and educational expenses from an Olympic committee or national governing body (per Bylaw 15.2.6.5).

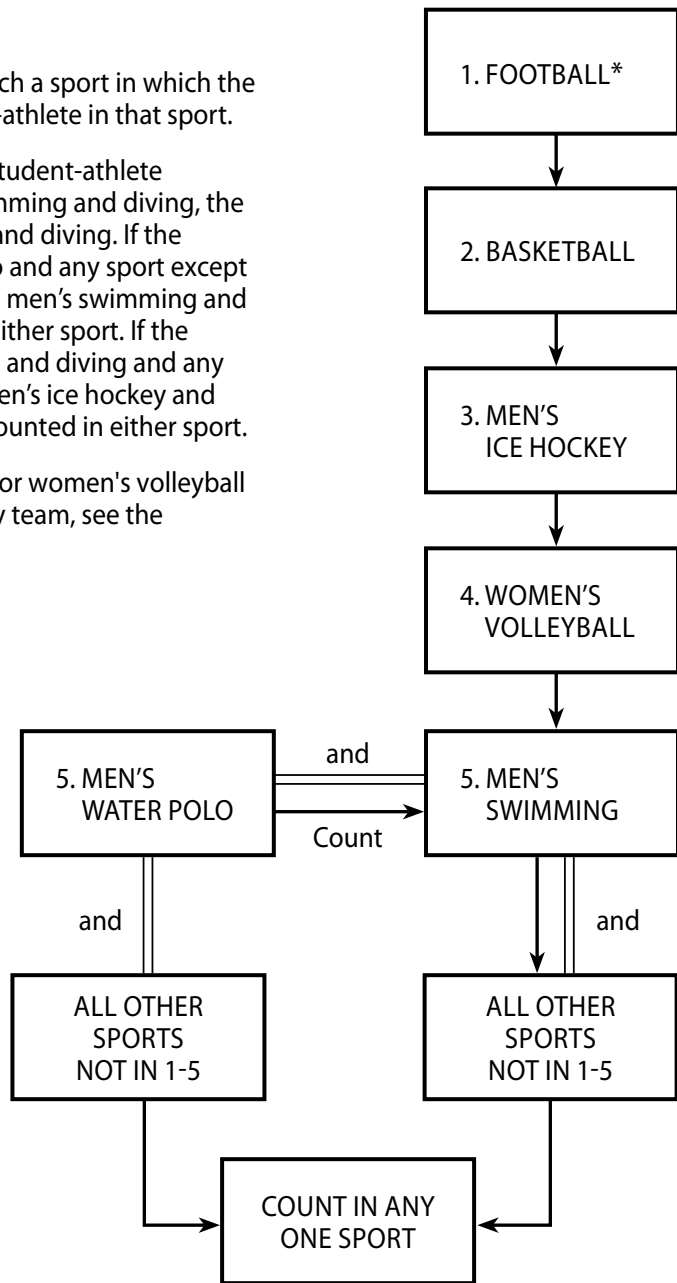
FIGURE 15-3
Where To Count Student-Athletes Who Participate
in More Than One Intercollegiate Sport

DIRECTIONS:

Start at 1, football, and keep going until you reach a sport in which the student-athlete participates. Count the student-athlete in that sport.

Note the alternatives for men's water polo. If a student-athlete participates in men's water polo and men's swimming and diving, the student-athlete is counted in men's swimming and diving. If the student-athlete participates in men's water polo and any sport except football, men's basketball, men's ice hockey and men's swimming and diving, the student-athlete may be counted in either sport. If the student-athlete participates in men's swimming and diving and any other sport except football, men's basketball, men's ice hockey and men's water polo, the student-athlete may be counted in either sport.

For student-athletes who practice in basketball or women's volleyball but do not compete on a junior varsity or varsity team, see the two-year exception in Bylaw 15.5.9.6.



*In football, a counter who was not recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9) and/or offered financial aid to participate in football and who competes in football and one or more sports (including basketball) must be counted in football (see Bylaw 15.5.9.1).