



**October 2023 Division I Council-
Governance Official Notice
Legislation for consideration at the October
2023 NCAA Division I Council Meeting**

**DIVISION I
LEGISLATION**

THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
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Division I October 2023 Convention Official Notice

This publication contains the October 2023 NCAA proposals for consideration by the NCAA Division I Council during its October 3-4 meeting. All the proposals in this publication were properly sponsored by sport-oversight committees or introduced by the NCAA Division I Council.

In addition to the indices found at the end of this publication, users may use the "Bookmark" feature of the Adobe Reader to quickly scan the proposal numbers and titles and go directly to those proposals within the document. Users may also use the "Find" or "Search" feature to find particular proposals. The proposals are presented in the order of the proposal numbers.

[Note: In the following proposals, those letters and words that appear in *italics* and ~~strikethrough~~ are to be deleted; those letters and words that appear in **bold** and are underlined are to be added; and those words that appear in normal text are unchanged from the current Division I legislation.]

Playing and Practice Seasons

No. 2023-31 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- SPRING PRACTICE -- USE OF SPIDER PADS

Intent: In football, to specify that during noncontact spring practice sessions, protective equipment is restricted to helmets and spider pads.

Bylaws: Amend 17.11, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS and FCS, divided vote]

17.11 Football. Regulations for computing the football playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1. (See Figure 17-1 and Figure 17-2.)

[17.11.1 through 17.11.6 unchanged.]

17.11.7 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the playing season, except as set forth in this bylaw (see Bylaw 17.1.7.2):

[17.11.7.1 through 17.11.7.4 unchanged.]

17.11.7.5 Spring Practice. Fifteen postseason practice sessions [including intrasquad scrimmages and the spring game permitted in Bylaw 17.11.6.2-(a)] are permissible. An institution is not required to count as one of its 15 designated days any day during which countable athletically related activities are limited solely to required conditioning activities, review of game film and/or walk-throughs (see Bylaw 17.02.20). Practice sessions must meet the following conditions:

[17.11.7.5-(a) through 17.11.7.5-(c) unchanged.]

(d) ~~The~~ **During** noncontact practice sessions, ~~may involve headgear as the only piece of~~ protective equipment **is restricted to helmets and spider pads.**

[17.11.7.5-(e) through 17.11.7.5-(j) unchanged.]

[17.11.7.6 unchanged.]

[17.11.8 through 17.11.9 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Football Oversight Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Playing and Practice Seasons

Rationale: This proposal aligns the use of protective equipment during noncontact spring practice sessions with other noncontact practice sessions that occur throughout the football playing and practice season.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Student-Athlete Well-Being.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. The use of protective equipment during spring practice is nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. Equipment regulations are monitorable and enforceable.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal promotes student-athlete well-being and protection during spring practice.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023:	In Progress	
Aug 28, 2023:	In Progress	Adopted by Football Oversight Committee pending review by the Division I Council.
Aug 28, 2023:	Ready for Vote	

Financial Aid

No. 2023-32 RECRUITING AND FINANCIAL AID -- FOOTBALL -- INITIAL COUNTER AND ANNUAL SIGNING LIMITS

Intent: In football, to eliminate the annual limit on initial counters, and in bowl subdivision football, to eliminate the annual limit of 25 on the number of prospective student-athletes who may sign a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid and student-athletes who may sign a financial aid agreement for the first time.

A. Bylaws: Amend 13.9, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS only]

13.9 Letter-of-Intent Programs, Financial Aid Agreements and Offers.

[13.9.1 through 13.9.2 unchanged.]

13.9.3 Letter of Intent Restriction. A member institution may not participate in an institutional or conference athletics letter-of-intent program or issue an institutional or conference financial aid agreement that involves a signing date that precedes the initial regular (as opposed to early) signing date for the National Letter of Intent program in the same sport. However, an institution may permit a prospective student-athlete to sign an institutional or conference letter of intent during the National Letter of Intent early signing period in the applicable sport. [D]

[13.9.3.1 through 13.9.3.2 unchanged.]

~~13.9.3.3 Limitation on Number of National Letter of Intent/Offer of Financial Aid Signings -- Bowl Subdivision Football. In bowl subdivision football, there shall be an annual limit of 25 on the number of prospective student-athletes who may sign a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid and student-athletes who may sign a financial aid agreement for the first time. [D]~~

~~13.9.3.3.1 Application. A prospective student-athlete who signs a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid or a student-athlete who signs a financial aid agreement that specifies financial aid will be initially provided in the fall term of an academic year shall count toward the annual limit on signings for that academic year. A prospective student-athlete who signs a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid or a student-athlete who signs a financial aid agreement that specifies financial aid will be initially provided during the second or third term of the academic year may count toward the limit for that academic year or the limit for the next academic year.~~

~~13.9.3.3.2 Exception -- Agreement After One Year. A student-athlete who has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year may sign a financial aid agreement for the first time without counting toward the annual limit on signings.~~

~~13.9.3.3.3 Exception -- Incapacitating Injury or Illness. A prospective student-athlete or student-athlete who, prior to participation in athletically related activities, becomes injured or ill to the point that the individual apparently never again will be able to participate in intercollegiate athletics shall not count toward the institution's annual limit on signings.~~

B. Bylaws: Amend 15.02, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS and FCS, divided vote]

15.02 Definitions and Applications.

[15.02.1 through 15.02.2 unchanged.]

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.

~~15.02.3.1 Initial Counter. An "initial counter" is a counter who is receiving countable financial aid in a sport for the first time. (See Bylaw 15.5.6.3 in football for instances in which the institution is permitted to defer the counting of such financial aid until the following academic year.)~~

[15.02.3.2 renumbered as 15.02.3.1, unchanged.]

[15.02.4 through 15.02.10 unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 15.5.1, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS and FCS, divided vote]

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:

[15.5.1-(a) through 15.5.1-(b) unchanged.]

[15.5.1.1 through 15.5.1.9 unchanged.]

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. 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 *initial and* overall counter for the ensuing academic year. (See Bylaws 15.02.3 and 15.5.6.)

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.

~~15.5.1.11.1 Limitation on Number of National Letter of Intent/Offer of Financial Aid Signings – Bowl Subdivision Football. In bowl subdivision football, there shall be an annual limit of 25 on the number of prospective student-athletes who may sign a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid and student-athletes who may sign a financial aid agreement for the first time.~~

~~15.5.1.11.1.1 Application. A prospective student-athlete who signs a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid or a student-athlete who signs a financial aid agreement that specifies financial aid will be initially provided in the fall term of an academic year shall count toward the annual limit on signings for that academic year. A prospective student-athlete who signs a National Letter of Intent or an institutional offer of financial aid or a student-athlete who signs a financial aid agreement that specifies financial aid will be initially provided during the second or third term of the academic year may count toward the limit for that academic year or the limit for the next academic year.~~

~~15.5.1.11.1.2 Exception – Agreement After One Year. A student-athlete who has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year may sign a financial aid agreement for the first time without counting toward the annual limit on signings.~~

~~15.5.1.11.1.3 Exception – Incapacitating Injury or Illness. A prospective student-athlete or student-athlete who, prior to participation in athletically related activities, becomes injured or ill to the point that the individual apparently never again will be able to participate in intercollegiate athletics shall not count toward the institution's annual limit on signings.~~

D. Bylaws: Amend 15.5.6, as follows:

[FCS Dominant provision]

15.5.6 Football Limitations.

[15.5.6.1 unchanged.]

15.5.6.2 Championship Subdivision Football. There shall be *an annual limit of 30 on the number of initial counters (per Bylaw 15.02.3.1)*, 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 (*including initial counters*) in football at each Football Championship Subdivision institution.

15.5.6.2.1 Exception -- Championship Subdivision. Championship subdivision football programs that meet the following criteria are exempt from the championship subdivision football counter ~~and initial-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:

[15.5.6.2.1-(a) through 15.5.6.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

[15.5.6.3 through 15.5.6.4 unchanged.]

E. Bylaws: Amend 15.5.6, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS and FCS, divided vote]

15.5.6 Football Limitations.

15.5.6.1 Bowl Subdivision Football. There shall be ~~an annual limit of 25 on the number of initial counters (per Bylaw 15.02.3.1) and~~ an annual limit of 85 on the total number of counters ~~(including initial-counters)~~ in football at each institution.

[15.5.6.2 unchanged.]

~~15.5.6.3 Initial Counters -- Football (Also see Bylaw 15.02.3.1).~~

~~15.5.6.3.1 Recruited Student-Athlete Entering in Fall Term, Aided in First Year. A student-athlete recruited (see Bylaw 15.02.9) by the awarding institution who enters in the fall term and receives institutional financial aid (based in any degree on athletics ability) during the first academic year of residence shall be an initial counter for that year in football. Therefore, such aid shall not be awarded if the institution has reached its limit on the number of initial counters prior to the award of institutional financial aid to the student-athlete.~~

~~15.5.6.3.2 Recruited Student-Athlete Entering After Fall Term, Aided in First Year. A student-athlete recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9) by the awarding institution who enters after the first term of the academic year and immediately receives institutional financial aid (based in any degree on athletics ability) shall be an initial counter for either the current academic year (if the institution's annual limit has not been reached) or the next academic year. The student-athlete shall be included in the institution's total counter limit during the academic year in which the aid was first received.~~

~~15.5.6.3.3 Nonrecruited Student-Athlete Receiving Institutional Financial Aid During First Year. A student-athlete not recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.9) by the institution who receives institutional financial aid (based in any degree on athletics ability) after beginning football practice during the first year of enrollment becomes a counter but need not be counted as an initial counter until the next academic year if the institution has reached its initial limit for the year in question. However, the student-athlete shall be considered in the total counter limit for the academic year in which the aid was first received.~~

~~15.5.6.3.5 Aid First Awarded After First Year. A student-athlete who has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year may receive athletically related financial aid for the first time without such aid counting as an initial award, provided the aid falls within the overall grant limitation.~~

~~15.5.6.3.6 Recruited Student-Athlete, Varsity Competition. In accordance with Bylaw 15.5.1.1, a recruited student-athlete (per Bylaw 15.02.9) receiving institutional financial aid having been granted without regard in any degree to athletics ability becomes an initial counter in the first academic year in which the student-athlete competes on the varsity level. (See Bylaw 15.5.1.1.1.)~~

~~15.5.6.3.7 Returning Two-Year Transfer. A student-athlete who previously was an initial counter and who transferred to a two-year college shall not be an initial counter upon return to the original institution.~~

~~15.5.6.3.8 Delayed Initial Counter Who Does Not Return to School. A student-athlete who receives countable financial aid but whose status as an initial counter under this bylaw is delayed until the following academic year shall be counted against the initial limit the following academic year, regardless of whether the student-athlete reports for participation or attends the institution in that academic year.~~

~~15.5.6.3.9 Academic Study Abroad Replacement. A student-athlete who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team may replace a counter who is participating in a full-time study abroad program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.3 for the term or terms of participation without being counted as an initial counter.~~

~~15.5.6.3.10 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Replacement. A student-athlete who already has enrolled in the institution and is a member of the team may replace a counter who is~~

~~participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program pursuant to Bylaw 12.8.1.4 for the term or terms of participation without being counted as an initial counter.~~

15.5.6.43 Exceptions.

15.5.6.3.41 Midyear Replacement. 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 (~~an initial counter~~) and the replaced student-athlete shall not be a counter for the remainder of that academic year. ~~The initial counter shall be counted against the initial limit either for the year in which the aid is awarded (if the institution's annual limit has not been reached) or for the following academic year, or by a student-athlete who was an initial counter in a previous academic year and is returning to the institution after time spent on active duty in the armed services or on an official religious mission.~~ 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.

[15.5.6.4.1 through 15.5.6.4.6 renumbered as 15.5.6.3.2 through 15.5.6.3.7, unchanged.]

F. Bylaws: Amend 15.5.9, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS and FCS, divided vote]

15.5.9 Multisport Participants.

15.5.9.1 Football. 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.

~~15.5.9.1.1 Initial Counter. A counter who previously has not been counted in football shall be considered an initial counter even though the student-athlete already has received countable financial aid in another sport.~~

15.5.9.1.21 Championship Subdivision Football Exception. A counter who practices or competes in football at a Football Championship Subdivision institution that elects to use the football counter ~~and initial-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.

[15.5.9.2 through 15.5.9.7 unchanged.]

G. Bylaws: Amend 15.5.10, as follows:

[Federated provision, FBS and FCS, divided vote]

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. ~~A student-athlete shall be counted as an initial counter in football during the year in which the student-athlete first becomes countable in that sport, regardless of whether countable financial aid was received previously for another sport.~~

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Football Oversight Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Financial Aid

Rationale: When adopted, the annual signing and initial counter limits did not contemplate increased transfer activity resulting from the application of the one-time transfer exception. Roster depletion and management issues associated with increased transfer activity and coaching staff changes require institutions to increase the number of annual signees or initial counters above current limits. The overall counter limit provides the necessary safeguard for fair competition and roster management.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Fair Competition.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. The annual signing and initial counter limits are nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. The proposal reduces the monitoring burden on institutions to track initial counters and annual signees.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal may result in additional student-athletes receiving athletics aid.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):
None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

Recruiting

No. 2023-33 RECRUITING -- RECRUITING CALENDARS -- MEN'S LACROSSE -- EVALUATIONS DURING COACHES ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Intent: In men's lacrosse, to amend the recruiting calendar, as specified.

Bylaws: Amend 13.17, as follows:

13.17 Recruiting Calendars.

[13.17.1 through 13.17.6 unchanged.]

13.17.7 Men's Lacrosse. The following periods of recruiting shall apply to men's lacrosse:

[13.17.7-(a) through 13.17.7-(j) unchanged.]

(k) The Monday after Thanksgiving Day through December 23 **[except for (1) and (2) below]**: Quiet Period

(1) A coach may evaluate at the events (showcase and tournament) that are held in conjunction with the Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association Convention: Evaluation Period

(2) The first official day of the Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association Convention to 12:01 a.m. on the day after the adjournment of the convention: Dead Period

[13.17.7-(l) unchanged.]

[13.17.8 through 13.17.13 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Student-Athlete Experience Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Recruiting

Rationale: Establishing an evaluation period for specific events during the Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association Convention would promote prospective student-athlete well-being and health and safety through a reduction of the need to participate in multiple events for evaluation purposes during the week surrounding the coaches convention.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Responsible Recruiting Standards.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. This proposal would standardize evaluations that occur during the Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association Convention.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. This proposal does not change the monitoring burdens, which have existed in previous years when evaluations were permitted via blanket waivers.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal alleviates the pressure for coaches to attend and for prospective student-athletes to participate in multiple events in different areas during the week of the coaches convention.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

No. 2023-34 RECRUITING -- RECRUITING CALENDARS -- SOFTBALL -- ADDITIONAL DEAD PERIOD AND RECRUITING SHUTDOWNS

Intent: In softball, to revise the recruiting calendar, as specified.

Bylaws: Amend 13.17, as follows:

13.17 Recruiting Calendars.

[13.17.1 through 13.17.8 unchanged.]

13.17.9 Softball. The following periods of recruiting shall apply to softball:

[13.17.9-(a) unchanged.]

(b) The 10th Monday following the completion of the Division I Softball Championship through the Sunday immediately prior to Thanksgiving Day [except for (1) ~~and~~ **through (2-3)** below]: Evaluation Period

(1) August 28 through September 3: Dead Period

(~~1~~ **2**) Monday through Thursday of the week that includes the initial signing date of the National Letter of Intent: Dead Period

(~~2~~ **3**) Evaluations at nonscholastic practice or competition activities shall not occur except on Saturdays and Sundays during the six weekends prior to Thanksgiving Day.

(c) The Monday immediately prior to Thanksgiving Day through January ~~1-2~~ [except for (1) **through (4)** below]: Quiet Period

(1) The Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day through the Sunday after Thanksgiving Day: Recruiting Shutdown

(~~1~~ **2**) The first official day of the national convention of the National Fastpitch Coaches Association through the day of adjournment of the convention: Dead Period

(3) December 22-26: Recruiting Shutdown

(4) December 31 through January 2: Recruiting Shutdown

(d) January 2 through the Monday immediately prior to the Division I Softball Championship [except for (1) below]: Evaluation Period

(1) Evaluations at nonscholastic practice and competition activities are prohibited.

(e) The Tuesday immediately prior to the start of the Division I Softball Championship through the day of the final championship game: Dead Period

(f) The day after the completion of the Division I Softball Championship through July 31: Contact Period

(g) During high school regional and state championship competition that does not occur during a dead period: Evaluation Period

[13.17.10 through 13.17.13 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Student-Athlete Experience Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Recruiting

Rationale: The inclusion of an additional dead period and the creation of recruiting shutdowns aids in establishing a recruiting landscape in softball that prioritizes the well-being of coaches, prospective student-athletes and current student-athletes by creating meaningful time periods in which little or no recruiting activity may occur. This proposal also reduces the potential for unexpected unofficial visits taken by prospective student-athletes immediately on September 1 before the prospective student-athletes have had an opportunity to speak to coaches.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Responsible Recruiting Standards.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. The softball recruiting calendar is nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. Dead periods and recruiting shutdowns are established standards that are regularly monitored and enforced.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal provides prospective student-athletes and coaches necessary breaks in the recruiting process.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

Academic Eligibility

No. 2023-35 ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- ONE-TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION -- PERCENTAGE OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AT PREVIOUS INSTITUTION

Intent: To revise the one-time transfer exception to require a transfer student-athlete to have fulfilled percentage of degree requirements at the previous institution in order to meet the conditions of the exception.

Bylaws: Amend 14.5.5.1, as follows:

14.5.5.1 General Rule. A transfer student from a four-year institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition at a member institution until the student has fulfilled a residence requirement of one full academic year (two full semesters or three full quarters) at the certifying institution.

[14.5.5.1.1 through 14.5.5.1.3 unchanged.]

14.5.5.2.10 One-Time Transfer Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all the following conditions are met (for postgraduate students, see Bylaw 14.6.1):

- (a) The student has not transferred previously from one four-year institution unless, in the previous transfer, the student-athlete received an exception per Bylaw 14.5.5.2.6 (discontinued/nonsponsored sport exception);
- (b) At the time of transfer to the certifying institution (see Bylaw 14.5.2), the student would have been academically eligible had the student remained at the institution from which the student transferred, ~~except that the student is not required to have fulfilled the necessary percentage of degree requirements at the previous institution;~~

- (c) The head coach of the certifying institution and the student shall certify that no athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interest communicated or made contact with the student-athlete, or any individual associated with the student (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process (see Bylaw 13.1.1.3); and
- (d) An undergraduate student must have provided written notification of transfer to the institution during a period specified for the applicable sport in Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1-(a) through (d) (see Figure 13-1), unless the student-athlete met an exception per Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1.1 or transferred from a non-Division I four-year collegiate institution (e.g., Division II, NAIA, foreign collegiate institution); and

[14.5.5.2.10-(e) unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Committee on Academics)

Effective Date: August 1, 2024; applicable to transfer student-athletes seeking to apply the one-time transfer exception during the 2024-25 academic year and thereafter.

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Academic Eligibility

Rationale: In August 2022, the Board of Directors referred the review of whether student-athletes should be required to meet percentage-of-degree requirements at their previous institutions in order to use the one-time transfer exception to the Committee on Academics. Student-athletes making meaningful progress toward graduation is one of the goals of NCAA progress-toward-degree requirements. All student-athletes should be making such progress, regardless of their intent to transfer. Requiring student-athletes to meet all progress-toward-degree requirements, including percentage-of-degree benchmarks, will help to ensure that student-athletes continue to focus on academics after they have decided to transfer. Also, when a student-athlete leaves an institution meeting all progress-toward-degree requirements except the percentage of degree benchmark, the institution the student leaves loses the Academic Progress Rate eligibility point and the Academic Progress Rate retention point because the student leaves ineligible. This has an adverse effect on the leaving institution while the student-athlete is currently permitted to use the one-time transfer exception and compete during the first year at the new institution. Requiring completion of the percentage-of-degree benchmark would eliminate this inconsistency and align the one-time transfer exception with the academic eligibility standard to receive athletically related financial aid during a four-year transfer student-athlete's first year at another institution.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Sound Academic Standards.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. Legislation related to transfers is significant to the entire Division I membership.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Division I institutions already monitor whether an undergraduate student-athlete who transfers would have met percentage-of-degree requirements had they remained enrolled for purposes of APR reporting requirements.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: The proposal is intended to encourage undergraduate student-athletes to continue to focus on academic progress even if they decide to transfer.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023:	In Progress
Aug 28, 2023:	Ready for Vote

Recruiting

No. 2023-36 RECRUITING AND ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY -- NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER WINDOWS -- REDUCE FROM 60 DAYS TO 30 DAYS

Intent: To reduce, from 60 days to 30 days, the duration of the notification of transfer windows for undergraduate four-year transfer student-athletes.

Bylaws: Amend 13.1.1.3, as follows:

13.1.1.3 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall not communicate or make contact with the student-athlete of another NCAA Division I institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete of an NCAA Division II or Division III institution, or an NAIA four-year collegiate institution, an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall comply with the rule of the applicable division or the NAIA rule for making contact with a student-athlete. [See Bylaw 19.1.3-(f).]

13.1.1.3.1 Notification of Transfer -- Undergraduate Student-Athletes. A student-athlete may initiate the notification of transfer process by providing the student-athlete's institution with a written notification of transfer and completing an educational module related to transferring. Notification of transfer must be initiated during a period specified for the applicable sport (see also Figure 13-1) or after the final period for the sport concludes and before August 1 of the next academic year. If notification of transfer is provided during a specified period or after the final period for the sport concludes and before August 1, the student-athlete's institution shall enter the student-athlete's information into the national transfer database within two business days of receipt of a written notification of transfer from the student-athlete or receipt of confirmation of the student-athlete's completion of the educational module, whichever occurs later. A student-athlete who initiates notification of transfer after the final period for their sport concludes and before August 1 of the next academic year is not eligible to use the one-time transfer exception unless an exception applies [see Bylaw 14.5.5.2.10-(d)]. [D]

(a) In fall sports, the student must provide written notification of transfer during:

(1) A ~~45~~ **15** consecutive-day period beginning the day after championship selections are made in the sport; or

(i) Exception -- Participants in FCS Championship Game. Student-athletes who are members of the two teams that qualify for NCAA Division I Football Championship game may provide written notification of transfer during a 14 consecutive-day period beginning the day after the championship game.

(ii) Exception -- Participants in the College Football Playoff Championship Game. Student-athletes who are members of the two teams that qualify for College Football Playoff Championship game may provide written notification of transfer during a period that extends 14 consecutive days beginning the day after the championship game.

(2) May 1-15.

(i) Exception -- Football. In football, the student must provide written notification of transfer April 15-30.

(b) In winter sports, a student must provide written notification of transfer during a ~~60~~ **30** consecutive-day period beginning the day after championship selections are made in the sport.

(c) In spring sports, the student must provide written notification of transfer during:

(1) December 1-15; or

(2) A ~~45~~ **15** consecutive-day period beginning the day after championship selections are made in the sport.

(d) In emerging sports for women, the student must provide written notification of transfer during the applicable period (~~45~~ **15** consecutive-day period or May 1-15 for fall sports or ~~60~~ **30** consecutive-day period for winter and spring sports) beginning the day after selections are made for a recognized national intercollegiate championship event in the sport.

[13.1.1.3.1.1 unchanged.]

[13.1.1.3.2 through 13.1.1.3.7 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council

Effective Date: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Recruiting

Rationale: When the Board of Directors incorporated windows into the notification of transfer process, there was recognition that the timing and duration of the new windows would need to be monitored and, potentially, adjusted. In April, the Council requested data from the Transfer Portal be made available to assist the Council and relevant standing committees with assessment of the notification of transfer windows. In June, the Council reviewed the early trends regarding when undergraduate four-year student-athletes entered the Transfer Portal during the 2022-23 academic year. Based on these initial trends, this proposal would reduce the duration of the transfer windows from 60 days to 30 days. The purpose of establishing notification of transfer windows was to provide greater stability and predictability for when student-athletes indicate their intent to transfer, and early trends suggest the majority of student-athletes who entered the Transfer portal did so in fewer than 60 days. Select committees and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will continue to discuss the proposed modification and may recommend amendments to the proposal for the Council to consider.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Responsible Recruiting Standards.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. The notification of transfer windows impact when the majority of undergraduate student-athletes have the opportunity to initiate the notification of transfer process.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. The proposal would simply reduce the duration of the notification of transfer windows.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: Student-athletes who are not transferring will have knowledge of those who intend to remain on their teams at an earlier point in time.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

Financial Aid

No. 2023-37 FINANCIAL AID -- UNDERGRADUATE FOUR-YEAR TRANSFERS -- VOLUNTARY WITHDRAW FOR NONATHLETICS REASONS

Intent: To eliminate the requirement that athletics aid offered to an undergraduate four-year transfer who voluntarily withdraws from the institution for nonathletically related reasons shall count against institutional financial aid limits, as specified.

Bylaws: Amend 15, as follows:

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:

[15.5.1-(a) through 15.5.1-(b) unchanged.]

[15.5.1.1 unchanged.]

15.5.1.2 Undergraduate Four-Year Transfers. An undergraduate four-year 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).

15.5.1.2.1 Exceptions. An undergraduate four-year transfer student shall not be considered a counter for the subsequent academic year if:

(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; or

(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 voluntarily withdraws from the institution for nonathletically related reasons.

15.5.1.2.1 Return to Institution. If an undergraduate four-year transfer student-athlete voluntarily withdraws for nonathletics reasons and subsequently practices or competes at the certifying institution, 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.

[15.5.1.3 through 15.5.1.11 unchanged.]

15.5.2 Head-Count Sports Other Than Football and Basketball.

[15.5.2.1 through 15.5.2.2 unchanged.]

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 withdrew for athletically related reasons**) who voluntarily withdraws (*e.g., transfer, official religious mission*) 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.

[15.5.2.4 through 15.5.2.8 unchanged.]

15.5.3 Equivalency Sports.

[15.5.3.1 unchanged.]

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.

[15.5.3.2 unchanged.]

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.

[15.5.4.1 through 15.5.4.3 unchanged.]

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 withdrew for athletically related reasons**) who voluntarily withdraws (*e.g., transfer, official religious mission*) 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.

15.5.5 Basketball Limitations.

[15.5.5.1 through 15.5.5.2 unchanged.]

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 withdrew for athletically related reasons**) who voluntarily withdraws (*e.g., transfer, official religious mission*) 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.

[15.5.5.4 unchanged.]

15.5.6 Football Limitations.

[15.5.6.1 through 15.5.6.4 unchanged.]

15.5.6.4.2 Voluntary Withdrawal From the Institution During the Academic Year. An institution may replace a counter (other than an undergraduate four-year transfer **who withdrew for athletically related reasons**) who voluntarily withdraws (*e.g., transfer, official religious mission*) 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 ~~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.

[15.5.6.4.3 through 15.5.6.4.6 unchanged.]

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.

[15.5.7.1 through 15.5.7.2 unchanged.]

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 withdrew for athletically related reasons**) who voluntarily withdraws (*e.g., transfer, official religious mission*) 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.

15.5.8 Women's Beach Volleyball Limitations.

[15.5.8.1 through 15.5.8.4 unchanged.]

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 withdrew for athletically related reasons**) who voluntarily withdraws (*e.g., transfer, official religious mission*) 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.

[15.5.9 through 15.5.11 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Legislative Committee)

Effective Date: August 1, 2024

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Financial Aid

Rationale: Before adoption of the undergraduate four-year transfer legislation financial aid provisions, a student-athlete generally did not trigger student-athlete status until receiving benefits of their scholarship. Although counter status is an academic year analysis, replacement legislation often allows the athletics aid of nontransfers to be reawarded to another recipient in head count sports. Allowing institutions to replace the aid of undergraduate four-year transfers in this same manner promotes the well-being of student-athletes remaining on the roster. This proposal would not remove the institution's obligation to provide athletics aid to undergraduate four-year transfers through graduation or exhaustion of the period of eligibility. If the student-athlete reenrolls, the institution remains obligated to provide athletics aid, and if the student participates in intercollegiate athletics after reenrollment, such aid would be countable against institutional team limits. This proposal would not extend to circumstances in which the undergraduate four-year transfer withdraws from the institution for athletically related reasons (e.g., academic ineligibility, injury, runoff), or in which an undergraduate four-year transfer withdraws from the team and remains enrolled.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Student-Athlete Well-Being.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. Financial aid legislation for undergraduate four-year transfer student-athletes is nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. This proposal alleviates a monitoring burden associated with the financial aid provisions of undergraduate four-year transfer legislation.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal would allow institutions to reaward financial aid to current student-athletes.

Estimated Budget Impact: Dependent on institutional decision-making.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

Executive Regulations

No. 2023-38 EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS -- ADMINISTRATION OF NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CONFERENCE OPPONENTS -- WOMEN'S BOWLING

Intent: In women's bowling, to specify that if five or more teams from one conference are in the NCAA championship, competition may occur between conference opponents during the first two rounds; further, if four or fewer teams from one conference are in the championship, conference opponents shall be avoided in the first round.

Administrative: Amend 31, as follows:

31 Executive Regulations

[31.01 through 31.02 unchanged.]

31.1 Administration of NCAA Championships.

[31.1.1 through 31.1.2 unchanged.]

31.1.3 Sites and Dates. The governing sports committees recommend to the applicable sport oversight committee or the Competition Oversight Committee the sites and dates for all NCAA championships.

[31.1.3.1 unchanged.]

31.1.3.2 Site Selection. The governing sports committees shall evaluate prospective sites for NCAA championships in terms of the specific criteria approved by the applicable sport oversight committee or the Competition Oversight Committee. The division championships committees may assign specific priorities to these criteria for their respective championships. These criteria shall be specified in the appropriate championships handbooks. A governing sports committee that desires to use additional criteria shall obtain approval before doing so.

[31.1.3.2.1 through 31.1.3.2.4 unchanged.]

31.1.3.2.5 Nonrevenue Championships Site Assignment. In championships that do not generate revenue and for which only 25 percent of the bracket is seeded, seeded teams shall have the opportunity to host preliminary rounds. Conference opponents shall be avoided in the first two rounds of the championships.

31.1.3.2.5.1 Exception -- Women's Bowling. In women's bowling, if five or more teams from one conference are in the championship, competition may occur between conference opponents during the first two rounds. If four or fewer teams from one conference are in the championship, conference opponents shall be avoided in the first round.

[31.1.3.3 unchanged.]

[31.1.4 through 31.1.13 unchanged.]

[31.2 through 31.9 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Competition Oversight Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate; to begin with the 2024 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship.

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Executive Regulations

Rationale: The separation of conference opponents is a bracketing priority intended to maintain the quality of the championships experience. Eliminating the prohibition on conference matchups within the small field size of women's bowling (17) helps to protect the integrity of the championship bracket. The sport committee is encouraged to avoid the same pairings in the first round from year to year.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Fair Competition.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. Proposals related to the administration of the championships are nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. This proposal includes no additional monitoring burdens.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal would enhance the quality of the championships experience and protect the integrity of the championships bracket.

Estimated Budget Impact: None.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):
None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

Playing and Practice Seasons

No. 2023-39 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- WOMEN'S ROWING -- WINTER-TRAINING SESSION

Intent: In women's rowing, to eliminate the requirement of travel for an institution to engage in a winter training session.

Bylaws: Amend 17.17, as follows:

17.17 Women's Rowing. Regulations for computing the rowing playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1. (See Figure 17-1 and Figure 17-2.) The following regulations apply independently to open and lightweight rowing programs.

17.17.1 Length of Playing Season. The length of an institution's playing season in rowing shall be limited to a 156-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required off days (see Bylaws 17.1.7.4, 17.1.7.6 and 17.1.7.7) and official vacation, holiday and final-examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.

17.17.1.1 Winter-Training **Trip Session**. A single winter-training **trip session**, for practice only, shall be permitted between the segments, provided the **trip session** does not exceed two weeks and is counted as part of the 156-day playing and practice season.

[17.17.2 through 17.17.9 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Student-Athlete Experience Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Playing and Practice Seasons

Rationale: Current legislation allows rowing teams to engage in a winter training trip between their two playing segments. The trip must be for practice only and count toward the 156-day playing and practice season. However, current legislation requires institutions to travel away from campus in order to engage in winter training. Institutions and their rowing programs should be afforded the opportunity to engage in winter training that best fits the location, circumstances and resources of each institution.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Fair Competition.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. This proposal expands the opportunities for women's rowing student-athletes to engage in winter training.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. This proposal does not require an additional monitoring burden.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: Yes. This proposal permits student-athletes to engage in a training opportunity without requiring travel away from the locale of the institution.

Estimated Budget Impact: Dependent on institutional decisions.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

Division Membership

No. 2023-40 DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- RECLASSIFICATION OF FOOTBALL SUBDIVISION -- FCS TO FBS -- APPLICATION FEE

Intent: To increase the application fee to petition for reclassification to the Football Bowl Subdivision, as specified.

Bylaws: Amend 20, as follows:

20 Division Membership

[20.01 through 20.5 unchanged.]

20.6 Multidivision Classification/Reclassification of Football Subdivision.

[20.6.1 unchanged.]

20.6.2 Football Subdivision Reclassification Options. A member of Division I may petition to be classified in football in the Football Bowl Subdivision or the Football Championship Subdivision.

20.6.2.1 Reclassification from Football Championship Subdivision to Football Bowl Subdivision.

[20.6.2.1.1 unchanged.]

20.6.2.1.2 Notification/Application Requirement. The chancellor or president from a Football Championship Subdivision institution that intends to petition for reclassification to the Football Bowl Subdivision, per Bylaw 20.6.2, shall submit to the national office written notice of the institution's intention to reclassify and a completed application. The notice and application shall be received in the national office (by mail or electronic transmission) not later than June 1 two years prior to the August 1 when the institution intends to reclassify to the Football Bowl Subdivision. Any form received after June 1 shall be postmarked not later than May 25. The notice and application shall be accompanied by ~~a \$5,000 fee and~~ a strategic plan that addresses the Division I philosophy statement (see Bylaw 20.10.2) and any requirements set forth by the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee. ~~If the institution fails to qualify for membership in the Football Bowl Subdivision, the application fee shall be refunded, less any expenditure for educational costs related to the reclassification process.~~

20.6.2.1.2.1 Application Fee. A \$5 million fee shall accompany the application. If the institution fails to qualify for membership in the Football Bowl Subdivision, the application fee shall be refunded to the institution on a prorated basis -- 50 percent through year one and no refund thereafter.

[20.6.2.1.3 through 20.6.2.1.5 unchanged.]

[20.6.3 through 20.6.4 unchanged.]

[20.7 through 20.10 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Strategic Vision and Planning Committee)

Effective Date: Immediate for institutions applying to reclassify to FBS after June 1, 2023.

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Division Membership

Rationale: An increased fee for reclassification from the Football Championship Subdivision to the Football Bowl Subdivision is appropriate and will assist in establishing a meaningful distinction between the subdivisions. A meaningful distinction between subdivisions will promote the continued health and stability of both subdivisions. The application fee is based on the anticipated NCAA revenue distribution benefits and costs associated with supporting FBS football. The proposed fee represents the difference between the average of FBS grant-in-aid and FCS grant-in-aid revenue distribution benefits aggregated over ten years. The grant-in-aid differential, coupled with the general administrative costs in support of FBS make the \$5 million fee an appropriate requirement for institutions interested in moving to FBS. The amount of the application fee should be reevaluated on a regular basis.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Value-Based Legislation.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. Requirements for reclassification from the Football Championship Subdivision to Football Bowl Subdivision are nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. This proposal does not create additional monitoring burdens.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: This proposal helps ensure that institutions reclassifying from FCS to FBS have adequate resources to meet enhanced requirements to support student-athletes.

Estimated Budget Impact: Increased costs associated with reclassification from FCS to FBS.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

No. 2023-41 DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- FOOTBALL BOWL SUBDIVISION REQUIREMENTS -- FINANCIAL AID AND ATTENDANCE

Intent: In bowl subdivision football, to eliminate attendance requirements and increase minimum financial aid requirements, as specified.

A. Bylaws: Amend 20, as follows: *(August 1, 2027 for current members of FBS or institutions that initiated the reclassification process by June 1, 2023; Upon the conclusion of the two-year reclassification period for institutions applying to reclassify to FBS after June 1, 2023.)*

[Federated provision, FBS only]

20 Division Membership

[20.01 through 20.9 unchanged.]

20.10 Division I Membership.

[20.10.1 through 20.10.2 unchanged.]

20.10.3 Financial Aid Requirements.

[20.10.3.1 unchanged.]

20.10.3.2 Minimum Awards. A member of Division I **that is not a member of the Football Bowl Subdivision (for FBS financial aid requirements, see Bylaw 20.10.9.4)** shall provide institutional financial assistance that equals one of the following:

[20.10.3.2-(a) through 20.10.3.2-(d) unchanged.]

[20.10.3.2.1 through 20.10.3.2.10 unchanged.]

[20.10.4 through 20.10.8 unchanged.]

20.10.9 Football Bowl Subdivision Requirements. An institution classified in the Football Bowl Subdivision shall meet the additional requirements listed below.

[20.10.9.1 through 20.10.9.3 unchanged.]

20.10.9.4 ~~Additional~~ Financial Aid Requirements. The institution shall satisfy the following ~~additional~~ financial aid requirements:

- (a) ~~Provide~~ **Award** an average of at least 90 percent of the permissible maximum number of overall ~~football~~ grants-in-aid (**see Bylaw 15.5**) per year during a rolling two-year period **in all sports used to meet the sports sponsorship requirement (Bylaw 20.10.9.1)**; and
- (b) Annually ~~offer~~ **award** a minimum of ~~200~~ **210** athletics grants-in-aids ~~or~~ **and** expend at least \$4 ~~6~~ million on grants-in-aid to student-athletes in athletics programs.

20.10.9.4.1 Type of Financial Aid Counted. The institution shall count only athletically related financial aid (as defined in Bylaw 15.02.5.1) awarded to counters (as defined in Bylaw 15.02.3).

20.10.9.4.2 Exception – National Service Academies. The national service academies are exempt from all financial aid requirements set forth in Bylaw 20.10.9.

[20.10.9.5 through 20.10.9.6 unchanged.]

[20.10.10 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 20.10, as follows: (*Immediate*)

[Federated provision, FBS only]

20.10 Division I Membership.

[20.10.1 through 20.10.8 unchanged.]

20.10.9 Football Bowl Subdivision Requirements. An institution classified in the Football Bowl Subdivision shall meet the additional requirements listed below.

[20.10.9.1 through 20.10.9.2 unchanged.]

~~20.10.9.3 Football Attendance Requirements. Once every two years on a rolling basis, the institution shall average at least 15,000 in actual or paid attendance for all home football games.~~

~~20.10.9.3.1 Counting Attendance.~~

~~20.10.9.3.1.1 Actual Attendance. For purposes of computing actual attendance figures, an individual may be counted if any one of the following conditions applies:~~

- ~~(a) Attendees are issued tickets that are collected on admission to the game and retained;~~
- ~~(b) Attendees enter through and are counted by a turnstile that is monitored by a representative of the department of athletics who verifies in writing the accuracy of the count on a per-game basis; or~~
- ~~(c) Attendees enter through a gate at which a representative of the department of athletics counts them individually with a manual counter, and the representative provides a written statement verifying the accuracy of the count on a per-game basis.~~

~~20.10.9.3.1.2 Paid Attendance. For purposes of computing paid attendance figures, tickets must be sold for at least one-third of the highest regular established ticket price as established prior to the season, regardless of whether they are used for admission. Tickets sold at less than one-third of the highest regular established price may be counted as paid attendance only if they are used for admission. Student attendance may be counted as paid attendance if the student pays at least one-third of the highest regular established ticket price or, if the student actually attends the game and any one of the following conditions applies:~~

- ~~(a) The student paid an athletics fee;~~

- ~~(b) The student paid an institutional fee of which a certain portion was allocated to the department of intercollegiate athletics; or~~
- ~~(c) The student paid no athletics fee, but the institution allocated to the department of intercollegiate athletics a certain portion of tuition income or general operating funds as the equivalent of a student athletics fee.~~

~~20.10.9.3.1.2.1 Student Attendance. Student attendance must be verified through one of the following methods:~~

- ~~(a) Such students are issued tickets that are collected on admission to the game and retained;~~
- ~~(b) Such students enter through and are counted by a turnstile (which is not used by others in attendance) that is monitored by a representative of the department of athletics who verifies in writing the accuracy of the count on a per-game basis; or~~
- ~~(c) Such students enter through a gate (that is not used by others in attendance) at which a representative of the department of athletics counts them individually with a manual counter, and the representative provides a written statement verifying the accuracy of the count on a per-game basis.~~

~~20.10.9.3.1.2.1.1 Noncounted Students. Student-athletes and cheerleaders scheduled by the institution to be at the game and students performing services at the stadium (e.g., concessionaires, ticket takers, parking-lot attendants, ushers, grounds keepers) shall not be counted toward meeting the attendance requirements.~~

~~20.10.9.3.1.2.2 Exchange of Tickets With Opponent. For an institution to meet the Football Bowl Subdivision attendance requirements, tickets for a football contest obtained by an institution through an exchange agreement or a purchase agreement with another institution may be used only if sold for at least one-third of the highest regular established ticket price and are used to attend the game.~~

~~20.10.9.3.2 Certified Audit. In meeting the football-attendance requirements of the Football Bowl Subdivision, an institution must undertake an annual certified audit verifying its football attendance. The audited football-attendance figures must be received in the NCAA national office not later than the February 15 following the completion of the football season, and NCAA national office staff shall verify compliance with all the Football Bowl Subdivision attendance requirements. The certified audit and materials (including the ticket manifest) must be available for inspection for a four-year period.~~

[20.10.9.4 through 20.10.9.6 renumbered as 20.10.9.3 through 20.10.9.5, unchanged.]

[20.10.10 unchanged.]

Source: NCAA Division I Council (Strategic Vision and Planning Committee)

Effective Date:

Section A: August 1, 2027 for current members of FBS or institutions that initiated the reclassification process by June 1, 2023; Upon the conclusion of the two-year reclassification period for institutions applying to reclassify to FBS after June 1, 2023.

Section B: Immediate

Category: Amendment

Topical Area: Division Membership

Rationale: Current football attendance requirements are ineffective and should be eliminated and replaced with meaningful requirements that more effectively distinguish between the football subdivisions and link the Football Bowl Subdivision membership criteria more directly to the student-athlete experience. Requiring FBS institutions to provide 90 percent of the total maximum grants-in-aid across the 16 sports used for sport sponsorship will provide greater opportunities for student-athletes to receive aid and will ensure that FBS institutions are investing in athletics programs and student-athletes in sports in addition to football. Based on an examination of the minimum financial aid requirements for FBS, including a comprehensive review of relevant financial aid data, increasing the overall minimum requirements for financial aid will create a meaningful distinction between the two football subdivisions. The recommended increase in minimums will impact roughly 10 percent of current FBS members, while fewer than 10 Football Championship Subdivision members would meet the benchmarks based on current expenditures. A delayed effective date of the financial aid requirements is important to provide the

opportunity for current FBS members to move into alignment. FBS financial aid requirements should be reviewed on a regular basis.

Division I Commitment addressed by proposal: The Commitment to Value-Based Legislation.

Is the proposal consequential or nationally significant?: Yes. Division I membership requirements are nationally significant.

Is the proposal enforceable and how do the merits outweigh monitoring burdens?: Yes. Mechanisms are already in place to monitor membership requirements and the provision of financial aid.

How does the proposal support student-athlete success/well-being?: The proposal will require some institutions to provide additional financial aid to student-athletes.

Estimated Budget Impact: Additional scholarship costs at some institutions.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

Position Statement(s):

None

History:

Jul 11, 2023: In Progress

Aug 28, 2023: Ready for Vote

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