



2025 NCAA Convention Division II Legislative Proposals

Question and Answer Guide

(Last Updated: December 9, 2024)

Please note this is the final edition of the 2025 NCAA Convention Division II Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide. A hard-copy version of the guide will not be distributed at the Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Delegates should plan accordingly.

DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

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NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-1 -- National Collegiate Championships -- Women's Wrestling

Question No. 1: What are the current requirements to establish a National Collegiate Championship?

Answer: Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.5.2.2 (women's sports) a National Collegiate Championship may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.

Question No. 2: Do all three divisions need to adopt this proposal to establish a National Collegiate Championship for women's wrestling?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 3: If adopted, when would the first NCAA Women's Wrestling National Championship be conducted?

Answer: The women's wrestling committee would begin its work in 2025 to prepare for the first national collegiate championship in winter 2026.

Question No. 4: If women's wrestling is adopted as a National Collegiate Championship, is the division precluded from establishing a Division II Championship in the future?

Answer: No. A Division II championship may be established if 35 Division II institutions sponsor the sport at the varsity level and legislation is adopted by the membership.

Question No. 5: If this proposal is not adopted in all three divisions, can Division II adopt a divisional championship?

Answer: No. If there is only one championship offered, it must be a National Collegiate Championship.

Question No. 6: How are National Collegiate Championships funded?

Answer: National Collegiate Championships are included in the Division I championships budget and do not impact the Division II championships budget. The NCAA Board of Governors approved a budget for the Women's Wrestling National Collegiate Championship in April 2024 using Association-wide funds that will be allocated to the Division I championships budget.

Question No. 7: How will the six members of the NCAA Women's Wrestling Committee be selected?

Answer: Consistent with Bylaw 8.8.1.1 (method of selection) each Division's governance structure shall appoint members to serve on the committee. Only institutions that sponsor the sport of women's wrestling shall be represented on the committee. Per Bylaw 8.8.1.6 (term of office), committee members shall be appointed to four-year terms. A former member may be appointed to an additional term after a three-year time period has elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on the committee may not serve further on the committee.

Question No. 8: How many NCAA institutions sponsored women's wrestling during the 2023-24 academic year?

Answer: During the 2023-24 academic year, 76 schools sponsored women's wrestling.

Question No. 9: How many NCAA institutions are projected to sponsor women's wrestling during the 2024-25 academic year?

Answer: There are 93 projected programs across all three divisions in 2024-25. Four in Division I, 34 in Division II and 55 in Division III.

Question No. 10: If the sports sponsorship number for women's wrestling falls below 40 after a National Collegiate Championship is established, will the championship be automatically discontinued?

Answer: No. Bylaw 18.5.2.3.1 (exception -- Olympic sports) would apply to exempt the sport from the minimum sponsorship requirements. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport if it falls below the minimum sponsorship requirements.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-2 -- Recruiting and Playing and Practice Seasons -- Tryouts and General Playing-Season Regulations -- Mandatory Medical Examinations -- Timing of Medical Examination

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, a medical examination or evaluation must be administered within six months prior to a prospective student-athlete's and/or enrolled student's participation in a tryout and, for a student-athlete beginning their initial season of eligibility, within six months prior to their participation in any practice, competition or out-of-season conditioning activities.

In following years, an updated medical history must be administered within six months prior to a student-athlete's participation in any practice, competition or out-of-season conditioning activities for the applicable academic year.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, this proposal would extend the time period in which the medical examination and updated medical history must be conducted prior to participation in such activities from a six-month period to a one-year period.

Please note, Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examination) outlines the requirements that a student-athlete receive a medical examination before participation in their initial season of eligibility and an updated medical history in following years. Bylaw 17.1.5 is a common provision. Therefore, Bylaw 17.1.5 will not be amended until Divisions I and III approve the same changes.

Question No. 3: What is a common provision?

Answer: Per Bylaw 9.02.1.2 (common), a common provision is a regulation that applies to more than one of the divisions of the Association. It shall be adopted by each of the applicable divisions, acting separately pursuant to the divisional legislative process, and must be approved by all applicable divisions to be effective.

Question No. 4: Are Divisions I and III considering amending their respective legislation regarding mandatory medical examinations to mirror this proposal?

Answer: No. The Divisions I and III governance structures have not discussed similar changes at this time.

Question No. 5: Where can an institution get more information regarding medical examinations?

Answer: More information can be found in the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook at the following Web address: www.ncaa.org/health-safety.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-3 -- Eligibility -- Academic Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year -- Elimination of the 18-Semester/27-Quarter Hours Requirement

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, to meet progress-toward-degree requirements, a student-athlete must earn at least 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, this proposal will eliminate the requirement that a student-athlete must earn at least 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year.

Question No. 3: If adopted, will this proposal impact any other current progress-toward-degree requirements?

Answer: No.

Question No. 4: If adopted, what progress-toward-degree requirements must a student-athlete fulfill to be eligible?

Answer: To meet progress-toward-degree requirements, a student-athlete must be in good academic standing, earn nine-semester/eight-quarter hours of credit in the last full-time term of enrollment, earn at least 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit annually, and achieve a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of each fall term.

The following chart outlines the current rule, and the proposed legislative changes included in this proposal:

	Current Rule	Proposed Rule
Good Academic Standing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in good academic standing, as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students at the institution, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a member. A student-athlete shall maintain a grade-point average that places the individual in good academic standing, as established by the institution for all students who are at an equivalent stage of progress toward a degree. A student-athlete who is not in good academic standing is not eligible for competition even if the individual satisfies the progress-toward-degree requirements. 	No change.
Term-by-Term Credit Hour Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must earn nine-semester/eight-quarter hours of credit in the last regular full-time term of enrollment. 	No change.
Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year. 	Eliminate.
Annual Credit Hour Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must earn 24-semester/36-quarter hours of academic credit annually. 	No change.
Grade-Point Average Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must achieve a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of each fall term. 	No change.

Question No. 5:

May credit hours earned during an interim term (e.g., J-term, mini term) still be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit annually?

Answer:

Yes.

Question No. 6:

If adopted, is there a limit on the number of summer credit hours a student-athlete may use to satisfy the annual credit hour requirement?

Answer:

No. However, an institution may have an institutional policy limiting the number of summer hours a student-athlete may enroll in.

Please note, the term-by-term credit hour requirement still applies (see Scenario Nos. 2 and 4 below).

Question No. 7:

If adopted, will this proposal impact progress-toward-degree certifications for midyear transfer student-athletes?

Answer:

No.

Question No. 8: Will an institution still have the opportunity to file a progress-toward-degree waiver if a student-athlete does not satisfy progress-toward-degree requirements?

Answer: Yes.

The following scenarios are designed to assist the Division II membership with the application of Proposal No. 2025-3. In each scenario, the student-athlete is enrolled full-time and meets all other progress-toward-degree requirements, including good academic standing, term-by-term credit hour requirement and cumulative grade-point average. Additionally, in each scenario there are no institutional limits on the number of summer hours a student-athlete may enroll in.

Scenario No. 1: May a student-athlete earn zero credit hours in the 2024 fall semester, nine credit hours in the 2025 spring semester and 15 credit hours in the 2025 summer term to be eligible for competition during the 2025 fall semester?

Analysis: Yes. Since the student-athlete earned nine credit hours during the 2025 spring semester and 15 credit hours in the 2025 summer term, the student-athlete met the term-by-term requirement (nine credit hours) and the annual credit hour requirement (24 credit hours).

Scenario No. 2: May a student-athlete earn nine credit hours in the 2024 fall semester, zero credit hours in the 2025 spring semester and 15 credit hours in the 2025 summer term to be eligible for competition during the 2025 fall semester?

Analysis: No. Although the student-athlete met the annual credit hour requirement (24 credit hours), they did not meet the term-by-term requirement (nine credit hours) during their last regular full-time term of enrollment (i.e., 2025 spring semester).

Scenario No. 3: May a student-athlete earn zero credit hours in the 2025 spring semester, 15 credit hours in the 2025 summer term and nine credit hours during the 2025 fall semester to be eligible for competition during the 2026 spring semester?

Analysis: Yes. The student-athlete earned nine credit hours during their last regular full-time term of enrollment (i.e., 2025 fall semester) and 24 credit hours since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters (i.e., 2025 spring semester and 2025 fall semester).

Scenario No. 4: May a student-athlete earn three credit hours in the 2024 fall quarter, four credit hours in the 2025 winter quarter, five credit hours in the 2025 spring quarter and 24 credit hours in the 2025 summer term to be eligible for competition during the 2025 fall quarter?

Analysis: No. Although the student-athlete met the annual credit hour requirement (36 credit hours), they did not meet the term-by-term requirement (eight credit hours) during their last full-time term of enrollment (i.e., 2025 spring quarter).

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-4 -- Eligibility -- Transfer Regulations -- Two-Year College Transfers -- Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers -- Elimination of English, Math and Science Requirement for Qualifiers

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, a two-year college transfer that does not graduate from the two-year college or who is not a qualifier with one term of attendance at the two-year college, must satisfactorily complete and transfer in at least six-semester or eight-quarter hours of English, three-semester or four-quarter hours of math and three-semester or four-quarter hours of natural or physical science.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, a two-year college transfer that is a qualifier will no longer be required to satisfactorily complete and transfer in at least six-semester or eight-quarter hours of English, three-semester or four-quarter hours of math and three-semester or four-quarter hours of natural or physical science.

Question No. 3: If adopted, will a two-year college transfer that is a qualifier still be required to meet the remaining two-year college transfer requirements [see Bylaw 14.3.4.3 (eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- all other qualifiers and partial qualifiers)]?

Answer: Yes. If adopted, a qualifier would still need to satisfy the remaining two-year college transfer requirements, which includes, completing at least two semesters or three quarters of full-time enrollment at the two-year college, earning an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit for each full-time term of attendance at the two-year college and earning a minimum 2.200 transferable grade-point average.

The following chart outlines the current rule, and the proposed legislative changes included in this proposal:

	Current Rule	Proposed Rule
All Other Qualifiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two full-time semesters/three full-time quarters. 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit per full-time term of attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six-semester/eight-quarter hours of transferable English; Three-semester/four-quarter hours of transferable math; and Three-semester/four-quarter hours of transferable natural or physical science. Transferable GPA of 2.200. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two full-time semesters/three full-time quarters. 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit per full-time term of attendance. Transferable GPA of 2.200.

All Other Partial Qualifiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two full-time semesters/three full-time quarters. • 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit per full-time term of attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Six-semester/eight-quarter hours of transferable English; ○ Three-semester/four-quarter hours of transferable math; and ○ Three-semester/four-quarter hours of transferable natural or physical science. • Transferable GPA of 2.200. 	No change.
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Question No. 4: If adopted, will this proposal amend Bylaw 14.3.4.3.1 (use of physical education activity courses)?

Answer: No.

Question No. 5: If adopted, will this proposal impact any other two-year college transfer requirements?

Answer: No.

Question No. 6: If adopted, is this change applicable to a two-year college transfer that is a partial qualifier and does not graduate from the two-year college?

Answer: No.

Question No. 7: If adopted, will this proposal impact an institution's ability to certify a two-year college transfer student-athlete using Bylaw 14.3.4.1 (eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- graduation from two-year college)?

Answer: No.

Question No. 8: If adopted, will this proposal impact an institution's ability to certify a two-year college transfer student-athlete using Bylaw 14.3.4.2 (eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- qualifier with no four-year college attendance and only one term of attendance at a two-year college)?

Answer: No.

Question No. 9: Will a two-year college transfer student-athlete still be required to earn nine-semester/eight-quarter hours in their last full-time term to be immediately eligible for competition?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 10: Will an institution still have the opportunity to file a two-year college transfer waiver if a student-athlete does not satisfy the two-year college transfer requirements?

Answer: Yes.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-5 -- Eligibility -- Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition -- Participation During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, a student-athlete utilizes a season of competition when they participate in a contest during the academic year.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to 30% of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) without using a season of competition.

Question No. 3: If adopted, will a student-athlete in their initial year of collegiate enrollment use a season of competition if they participate in more than 30% of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons)?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 4: How would an institution calculate 30% of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons)?

Answer: The chart below outlines the current maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 and the respective 30% calculation. Any computation of the percentage that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 30% of the maximum allowable 26 contests in basketball shall be considered eight contests).

Please note, institutions are encouraged to reference Bylaw 17 regarding the calculation of dates of competition for multiday events.

Sport	Bylaw 17 Maximum	30% of Bylaw 17 Maximum
Acrobatics and Tumbling	12	4
Baseball	50	15
Basketball	26	8
Beach Volleyball	16	5
Women's Bowling	32	10
Cross Country	7	3

Women's Equestrian	15	5
Fencing	11	4
Field Hockey	18	6
Football	11	4
Golf	21	7
Gymnastics	13	4
Women's Ice Hockey	34	11
Men's Ice Hockey	32	10
Lacrosse	17	6
Rifle	13	4
Women's Rowing	20	6
Women's Rugby	16	5
Skiing	Alpine – 32 Nordic – 32	Alpine -10 Nordic - 10
Soccer	18	6
Softball	56	17
Stunt	16	5
Swimming and Diving	16	5
Tennis	25	8
Track and Field (Indoor/Outdoor)	18	3*
Track and Field (Indoor Only)	18	6
Track and Field (Outdoor Only)	18	6
Triathlon	6	2
Men's Volleyball	28	9
Women's Volleyball	26	8
Water Polo	21	7
Men's Wrestling	16	5
Women's Wrestling	16	5

*Please note, a student-athlete may participate in no more than three dates of competition in indoor track and field and no more than three dates of competition in outdoor track and field to qualify for the exception in each sport.

Question No. 5: If adopted, will participation in a preseason exhibition or scrimmage need to be included in the 30% calculation?

Answer: No.

Question No. 6: If adopted, how will this proposal impact a multisport student-athlete?

Answer: A multisport student-athlete would have access to the exception in each sport provided they meet the criteria.

For example, if a student-athlete participates in no more than six contests in soccer and more than 15 contests in baseball, they would qualify for the exception in soccer but would not qualify for the exception in baseball.

Question No. 7: If adopted, may the exception be applied retroactively?

Answer: No. If adopted, this proposal will apply to student-athletes in their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution during the 2025-26 academic year, and thereafter.

Question No. 8: If adopted, will any student-athlete, including transfers, have access to the exception?

Answer: No.

Question No. 9: If adopted, will a student-athlete who initially enrolls midyear at a Division II institution and remains at the institution for the following fall term have access to the exception?

Answer: It depends. A student-athlete participating in a fall sport may use the exception in the following fall term. However, a student-athlete participating in a winter or spring sport must use the exception during their initial spring term. They may not use the exception for participation that occurs in the following fall term.

Question No. 10: May the participation in the contests or dates of competition occur at any time?

Answer: Yes. There is not a restriction in place related to when the contests or dates of competition must occur, and they may take place during regular or postseason competition.

Question No. 11: If adopted, how will this proposal impact the application of Bylaw 14.4.3.4.1.7 (exception -- football)?

Answer: The current exception will be eliminated, and a football student-athlete would be able to participate in up to four contests during their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution.

Question No. 12: Does a student-athlete qualify for the exception if they compete on both the varsity and junior varsity teams and the student-athlete's total participation does not exceed 30% of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons)?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 13: Does a student-athlete qualify for the exception if they compete on both the varsity and junior varsity teams and the student-athlete's total participation exceeds 30% of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons)?

Answer: No.

Question No. 14: If a student-athlete participates in 30% or less of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) during their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution and is injured, does the institution need to file a medical hardship waiver?

Answer: No. The student-athlete did not use a season of competition, so a medical hardship waiver cannot be reviewed. If the student-athlete needs an extension of eligibility waiver at a later date due to having two denied participation opportunities outside of their control, the institution could submit the institution's squad list demonstrating the student-athlete was redshirted or contemporaneous medical documentation supporting the student-athlete was incapacitated the entire remainder of the season.

Question No. 15: If adopted, would this legislation impact the application of Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1.4 (waiver -- student-athlete who does not use season of competition during initial year of collegiate enrollment) for an extension of eligibility waiver?

Answer: No. Given a student-athlete representing a Division II institution during their initial year of collegiate enrollment could participate in up to 30% of the Bylaw 17 maximum and not trigger use of a season, that would effectively be a redshirt and if the student-athlete had an additional denied participation opportunity in a later year, they could still qualify for an extension of eligibility waiver.

Question No. 16: If this proposal is adopted, will NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-6 (Eligibility -
- Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule --
Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition -
- Up to Four Dates of Competition -- Men's Wrestling) be rendered moot?

Answer: Yes.

**NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-6 -- Eligibility -- Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition:
10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount
of Competition -- Up to Four Dates of Competition -- Men's Wrestling**

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, a men's wrestling student-athlete utilizes a season of competition when they participate in a date of competition during the academic year.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, a men's wrestling student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to four dates of competition without using a season of competition.

Question No. 3: If adopted, will a men's wrestling student-athlete in their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution use a season of competition if they participate in more than four dates of competition?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 4: If adopted, may the exception be applied retroactively?

Answer: No. If adopted, this proposal will apply to men's wrestling student-athletes in their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution during the 2025-26 academic year, and thereafter.

Question No. 5: If adopted, will a men's wrestling student-athlete, including a transfer, have access to the exception?

Answer: No. A men's wrestling student-athlete must be enrolled at a Division II institution in their initial year of collegiate enrollment in order to have access to the exception.

Question No. 6: If adopted, will a student-athlete who initially enrolls midyear at a Division II institution and remains at the institution for the following fall term have access to the exception?

Answer: No. A men's wrestling student-athlete must use the exception during their initial spring term at the Division II institution. They may not use the exception for participation that occurs in the following fall term.

Question No. 7: May participation in the four dates of competition occur at any time?

Answer: Yes. There is not a restriction in place related to when the dates of competition must occur, and the dates of competition may take place during regular or postseason competition.

Question No. 8: Does a men's wrestling student-athlete qualify for the exception if they compete on both the varsity and junior varsity teams and the student-athlete's total participation does not exceed four dates of competition?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 9: Does a men's wrestling student-athlete qualify for the exception if they compete on both the varsity and junior varsity teams and the student-athlete's total participation exceeds four dates of competition?

Answer: No.

Question No. 10: If a student-athlete participates in four dates of competition or less during their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution and is injured, does the institution need to file a medical hardship waiver?

Answer: No. The student-athlete did not use a season of competition, so a medical hardship waiver cannot be reviewed. If the student-athlete needs an extension of eligibility waiver at a later date due to having two denied participation opportunities outside of their control, the institution could submit the institution's squad list demonstrating the student-athlete was redshirted or contemporaneous medical documentation supporting the student-athlete was incapacitated the entire remainder of the season.

Question No. 11: If adopted, would this legislation impact the application of Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1.4 (waiver -- student-athlete who does not use season of competition during initial year of collegiate enrollment) for an extension of eligibility waiver?

Answer: No. Given a men's wrestling student-athlete representing a Division II institution during their initial year of collegiate enrollment could participate in up to four dates of competition and not trigger use of a season, that would effectively be a redshirt and if the men's wrestling student-athlete had an additional denied participation opportunity in a later year, they could still qualify for an extension of eligibility.

Question No. 12: If adopted, if a men's wrestling student-athlete participates in unattached competition during their initial year of collegiate enrollment at a Division II institution, does that participation count towards their four dates of competition under the exception?

Answer: No.

Question No. 13: If NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-5 (Eligibility -- Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition -- Participation During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment) is adopted, will this proposal be rendered moot?

Answer: Yes.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-7 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- General Playing-Season Regulations -- Required Day Off -- Civic Engagement -- Exception and Policy Requirement

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, all countable athletically related activities (CARA) are prohibited on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, this proposal would permit a team participating in practice or competition during their championship segment to engage in CARA on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, provided they are given a day off within 15 days before or after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November to participate in civic engagement activities. This proposal also requires institutions to develop civic engagement policies, which must address opportunities available to student-athletes for civic engagement.

Question No. 3: If adopted, does this proposal apply to all sports?

Answer: No. This exception would only apply to those sports in their championship segment.

Question No. 4: If adopted, would this proposal permit sports using an alternate playing season (e.g., golf, tennis) to use this exception?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 5: Is it permissible for a team to use the required day off for civic engagement activities as its required day off during that week of the playing season?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 6: Is it permissible for a student-athlete to request voluntary athletically related activities on the required day off for civic engagement activities?

Answer: Yes. The institution must ensure that the requirements of Bylaw 17.02.17 (voluntary athletically related activities) are satisfied.

Question No. 7: Will an institution be required to report their civic engagement policies that address opportunities available for civic engagement or attest that such policies have been established?

Answer: No. However, an institution's conference may require reporting or attestation.

Question No. 8: Does an institution need to have the same civic engagement policy across all sports?

Answer: It depends. This would be left to institutional and/or conference discretion.

Question No. 9: If an institution does not create civic engagement policies that address opportunities available for civic engagement, will the institution have a violation?

Answer: Yes.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-8 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Automatic Qualification -- Football

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, earned access applies if a football-sponsoring conference that is not currently represented in the bracket has a team within the top nine in the super region. A conference whose highest ranked team is outside of the top nine is not granted earned access to the field.

All other Division II team sports use automatic qualification.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, the earned access legislation will be eliminated, and all football-sponsoring conferences will be represented in the bracket through automatic qualification. The Division II Football Committee will be required to apply automatic qualification to their selection process for those football-sponsoring conferences that meet the requirements of Bylaw 18.4.3.2.3 (requirements -- division championship). Football-sponsoring conferences will be required to annually request automatic qualification from the Football Committee.

Question No. 3: If adopted, when will automatic qualification begin applying in football?

Answer: The 2025 NCAA Division II Football Championship.

Question No. 4: If adopted, how will a Division II football-sponsoring conference become eligible for automatic qualification for the Division II Championship?

Answer: Per Bylaw 18.4.3.2.3 (requirements -- division championship), to be eligible for automatic qualification in any Division II championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

- Been a multisport voting member conference of the Association for five consecutive academic years [see Bylaw 7.3.5.1.3 (voting rights and other conference active membership privileges)]; and
- Have at least six active members that sponsor the sport at the varsity intercollegiate level in which automatic qualification is sought and that are eligible for the NCAA championship and have had at least six active members that are eligible for the NCAA championship participate in the process that determines the automatic qualifier. Institutions that are affiliate members of a conference in a particular sport may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for automatic qualification in that sport.

Question No. 5: In the last ten years, how many times has a football-sponsoring conference been left out of the bracket?

Answer: Four.

Question No. 6: If adopted, how will this proposal impact the bracket size in the sport of football?

Answer: The proposal does not change the bracket size. However, Division II Championships Committee policy specifies that no more than 60% of a bracket may be made up of automatic qualifiers. Bracket expansion should be explored as soon as possible once a bracket is comprised of more than 50% automatic qualifiers. However, should a sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the committee may maintain automatic qualification while the field size is being addressed.

For the 2025 season, it is expected that 16 conferences will sponsor football, which would equate to 57% (16/28) of the bracket being made up of automatic qualifiers if the proposal is adopted.

Question No. 7: Do Divisions I or III use automatic qualification in football?

Answer: Yes. Division I Football Championship Subdivision and Division III use automatic qualification in football.