

Monthly Compliance Webinar

Graduate/Postbaccalaureate Students & Their Waivers

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Regional Rules
Division III

REMINDER.

- ❑ Graduate students **are not considered transfer students.**
- ❑ If you are reviewing eligibility for graduate students, you are reviewing **Bylaws 14.1.8 and 14.1.8.1.**

Division III Graduates.

- The student is enrolled and seeking **a second baccalaureate or graduate degree**;
- The student has **eligibility remaining**; **AND**
- The student's participation occurs within the applicable **10-semester/ 15-quarter period**.

Bylaw 14.1.8

Enrollment Requirement.

- ❑ The student must enroll in **second baccalaureate or graduate degree**.
- ✓ Certificate programs or prep programs do not meet this requirement.
- ✓ Students must be considered full-time and enroll in **12 credit hours** if they are in a second baccalaureate program.
- ✓ For graduate degrees, students must be **enrolled full-time** per that specific graduate program.

Remaining Seasons of Eligibility.

- ❑ Division III only student.
 - ✓ **Division III participation standards apply.** Practice and/or competition on or after the first contest of the traditional segment counts as a season used.

Bylaw 14.2.4.1

Remaining Seasons of Eligibility.

- ❑ Division III and previous enrollment student.
 - ✓ Division III participation standards apply during Division III terms of enrollment.
 - ✓ Participation standards of the other division or association apply during the previous non-Division III terms of enrollment.

Bylaw 14.2.4.1.4

Remaining Terms of Eligibility

- ❑ Students have **remaining terms** within their 10-semester or 15-quarter time clock.

Division III Graduates.

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- The student has **eligibility remaining**; **AND**
- The student's participation occurs within the applicable **10-semester/ 15-quarter period**.

Bylaw 14.1.8

Non- Division III Graduates.

- The student graduated with an undergraduate degree **within four academic years**;
- The student has remaining seasons of participation **based on Division III legislation**; **AND**
- The student maintained **continuous full-time enrollment**.

Bylaw 14.1.8.1

Graduated within Four Years.

- ❑ Looking specifically at the student's undergraduate enrollment, a non-Division III graduate must have graduated **within four academic years**.
- ✓ **Summer coursework is considered** “within” the academic year as long as it is the summer immediately following the academic year.
Summer 2026 counts toward the 2025-26 academic year.

Remaining Division III Eligibility.

- ❑ The student must have remaining **seasons per Division III legislation**.
 - ✓ **Practice counts as a season** if it occurred on or after the first contest in the traditional segment.... even if it was considered a “redshirt” or not a season for another division or association.
 - ✓ Hardship waivers and seasons of competition/participation waivers follow the student.
 - ✓ COVID relief follows the student.*

*COVID relief must be used in the way it was awarded.

Continuous Full-Time Enrollment.

- ❑ The student **did not have any gaps** in their undergraduate enrollment.

- ❑ The student does **not have any part-time** enrollment in their undergraduate enrollment.
 - ✓ Taking a gap between undergraduate and graduate/post-baccalaureate work is not considered a break in full-time enrollment.

 - ✓ Taking a gap(s) during the graduate/post-baccalaureate program is also not a break.

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- The student graduated with an undergraduate degree **within four academic years**;
- The student has remaining seasons of participation **based on Division III legislation**; **AND**
- The student maintained **continuous full-time enrollment**.

Bylaw 14.1.8.1

Non- Division III Graduates.

- The student is enrolled and seeking **a second baccalaureate or graduate degree;**
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- The student's participation occurs within the applicable **10-semester/ 15-quarter period.**

Bylaw 14.1.8

Legislative Relief Waiver.

- ❑ Your institution can submit a **legislative relief waiver** on behalf of a student that does not meet one or more of the criteria to participate as a graduate student.
 - ✓ The waiver must be submitted via RSR0.

Waiver Documentation.

- Contemporaneous documentation that explains the student's deficiency.
- A copy(s) of the student's undergraduate transcript(s).
- A copy(s) of the transfer tracer and/or record from the NCAA Transfer Portal.
- Confirmation the student has been accepted.
- Case-specific Buckley signed by the student.

Review Process.

- NCAA staff will review **using the guidelines and directives** approved by the Subcommittee for Legislative Relief.
- Appeals go to the subcommittee.
- Final appellate opportunity by Division III Management Council.

What questions do we have?