

2019 NCAA Convention — Association-wide Vote NCAA Board of Governors-Sponsored Legislation

Key Points

- The NCAA Board of Governors is the highest governance body in the NCAA and focuses on strategic discussions that impact the Association as a whole. Members have a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interest of the overall Association rather than in the interest of any particular division or school.
- If the proposal is adopted by the NCAA membership in January, five public members not affiliated with the NCAA or member schools will join the Board of Governors as voting members to bring fresh, external perspectives and viewpoints without a vested interest in any specific aspect of college sports.
- Adding independent members to the Board of Governors was part of a set of recommendations issued by the Commission on College Basketball. The commission was formed after the announcement of a federal investigation into fraud in college basketball and was tasked with examining the complex issues within the sport and recommending solutions to the NCAA on ways to stop the erosion of public trust in college athletics.
- Adding independent members will add transparency and objectivity to the business of the Board of Governors and build public confidence and trust in the NCAA. It also aligns with best practices in the nonprofit, higher education and corporate sectors while providing an opportunity to contribute to the board's ethnic, gender, racial and life experience diversity.
- By definition, an independent member is not employed by or serving on the board of any member school, conference or affiliate. Further, these individuals would have the demonstrated professional experience in one or more relevant areas including, but not limited to, business, government, public service, medical/health services and corporate or nonprofit governance.
- Each of the five independent members would be nominated by the Board of Governors Executive Committee and approved by the full board. Each would serve a three-year term, which can be renewed once for an additional three-year term.
- All three divisions have representation on the Board of Governors Executive Committee. Specifically, the committee includes the chair and vice chair of the Board of Governors (who must represent different divisions) and the members of the board who are the chairs of each divisional presidential body (Division I Board of Directors, Division II Presidents Council, Division III Presidents Council). When the chair or vice chair is a divisional

chair, his or her division shall designate another president who is already a member of the board to serve on the Executive Committee.

- One independent member, voted on annually by all five of the independent members, would serve as the lead independent member on the Board of Governors Executive Committee and could serve in that role up to three years.
- The independent members on the Board of Governors will participate in an orientation regarding duties, responsibilities and expectations before their service on the Board of Governors. That orientation will include information from the leadership of each division about the philosophical, governance and financial priorities of the divisions.
- The discussion and vote on the proposal will take place at the 2019 NCAA Convention on Thursday, Jan. 24, immediately after the NCAA Plenary Session: State of College Sports. The Association-wide business session will begin at 5:45 p.m. Eastern time in Grand Ballroom 7-8 at the Orlando World Center Marriott.
- Member schools will vote on the proposal by roll call. Each active member school and conference in all three divisions present for the Association-wide business session will be permitted to register one vote on the proposal via an electronic voting unit.
- The terms of the five independent members will begin Aug. 1, 2019, if this change is adopted at the 2019 NCAA Convention.

Please refer to the Q&A document for additional information.