

# APPLICATION FOR NCAA EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN PROGRAM

**Must be received in the NCAA national office not later than Aug. 1.**

Date of submission: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Sport name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport season:

Fall

Winter

Spring

1. Sport governing body/organization name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Primary point of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Additional contact (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Additional contact (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Additional contact (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Additional contact (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Does your sport meet the definition of a sport? See **Appendix A** for definition.

Yes  No

8. Attach official contest and participant results from at least 20 NCAA institutions that sponsor the sport at the varsity or club level. If official contest and participant results are not available, attach schedules of competition for the academic year in which the application is reviewed, signed by the director of athletics (or designee) AND the senior woman administrator. **ATTACHED**

Complete **Appendix B** and attach with results and/or schedules.

*Note: An NCAA institution is considered to sponsor a sport if the institution's varsity or club team can demonstrate it has engaged or will engage in at least five intercollegiate contests against the varsity or club programs of four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions during the academic year in which the application is reviewed. In individual sports, the institution's team shall include a minimum number of participants in each contest, as required per the sport's standardized rules.*

9. Attach letters of commitment from at least 10 NCAA institutions that either sponsor the sport at the varsity level at the time of application or intend to sponsor the sport at the varsity level during the academic year in which the application is reviewed. Each letter must be signed by the respective institution's chancellor or president AND director of athletics AND senior woman administrator and include the following supporting information:

**ATTACHED**

- a. Actual or proposed budget with specific line items.
- b. Roster size and number of full-time and part-time coaches.
- c. Description of practice and competition facilities.
- d. Local and regional competition opportunities.
- e. Implementation timeline to varsity status.
- f. Relationship with sport governing body/organization.

Complete **Appendix C** and attach with letters.

*Note: Each NCAA institution must demonstrate evidence that it possesses the resources, infrastructure and strategic planning necessary to sponsor the sport at the varsity level.*

10. Attach official rules and regulations that govern the sport. **ATTACHED**

11. Have representatives of the sport's governing body/organization considered how the sport may be governed by NCAA regulations (e.g., playing and practice seasons, financial aid limits, coaching limits and sport sponsorship)? Please explain.

12. Additional documentation: Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to supplement the application with additional documentation that demonstrates the sport's viability to grow meaningful intercollegiate sport participation opportunities for female student-athletes. Examples of additional documentation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Data of participants at the high school, collegiate and post-collegiate levels. **ATTACHED**
- b. Data of ethnicity and race of participants. **ATTACHED**
- c. Data of nonscholastic, high school, collegiate teams/program (e.g., varsity, club, recreation and/or intramural). **ATTACHED**
- d. Data of regional geography of sport. **ATTACHED**
- e. Letters from state high school associations that recognize the sport. **ATTACHED**
- f. Letter from U.S. Olympic Committee if supporting the sport (e.g., classify the sport as an Olympic/Paralympic sport; national governing body for the sport; grants for sport participation). **ATTACHED**
- g. Confirmation of established national collegiate club/varsity championship or future championship plans, including identification of host association and/or organization. **ATTACHED**
- h. Letters of support from coaches associations. **ATTACHED**
- i. Letters of support from professional sports organizations. **ATTACHED**
- j. Letters of support from other associations or organizations. **ATTACHED**
- k. Letters of support from NCAA conferences interested in sponsoring sport. **ATTACHED**

13. Has your sport previously applied to the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women program?  
 Yes  No

If yes, what was the date of your application? \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

### Checklist of Materials To Be Reviewed and Submitted With the Application for the

## NCAA Emerging Sports for Women Program

- Official contest and participant results from at least 20 NCAA institutions that sponsor the sport at the varsity or club level. If official contest and participant results are not available, attach schedules of competition for the academic year in which the application is reviewed, signed by the director of athletics (or designee) and the senior woman administrator.
- Letters of commitment from at least 10 NCAA institutions that either sponsor the sport at the varsity level at the time of application or intend to sponsor the sport at the varsity level during the academic year in which the application is reviewed. Each letter must be signed by the respective institution's chancellor or president AND director of athletics AND senior woman administrator and include the following supporting information:
  - a. Actual or proposed budget with specific line items.
  - b. Roster size and number of full-time and part-time coaches.
  - c. Description of practice and competition facilities.
  - d. Local and regional competition opportunities.
  - e. Implementation timeline to varsity status.
  - f. Relationship with sport governing body/organization.
- Official rules and regulations that govern the sport.
- Additional documentation: Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to supplement the application with additional documentation that demonstrates the sport's viability to grow meaningful intercollegiate sport participation opportunities for female student-athletes. Examples of additional documentation include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Data of participants at the high school, collegiate and post-collegiate levels.
  - Data of ethnicity and race of participants.
  - Data of nonscholastic, high school, collegiate teams/program (e.g., varsity, club, recreation and/or intramural).
  - Data of regional geography of sport.
  - Letters from state high school associations that recognize the sport.
  - Letter from U.S. Olympic Committee if supporting the sport (e.g., classify the sport as an Olympic/Paralympic sport; national governing body for the sport; grants for sport participation).
  - Confirmation of established national collegiate club/varsity championship or future championship plans, including identification of host association and/or organization.

- Letters of support from coaches associations.
- Letters of support from professional sports organizations.
- Letters of support from other associations or organizations.
- Letters of support from NCAA conferences interested in sponsoring sport.

**This application is made in good faith, with full knowledge and acceptance of the conditions and obligations of the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women program.**

**Note: All individuals listed on Page Nos. 1 and 2 must sign below.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Signature

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Printed name

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Date

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE NCAA NATIONAL OFFICE NOT LATER THAN AUG. 1. COMPLETION OF THIS APPLICATION IN NO WAY IMPLIES OR ENSURES APPROVAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE NCAA EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN PROGRAM. IF AN APPLICANT FAILS TO FULLY OR ACCURATELY COMPLETE THE APPLICATION OR THE NCAA DOES NOT RECEIVE THE APPLICATION ON TIME, THE SPORT SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

**SEND THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT (e.g., flash drive) TO THE INDIVIDUAL BELOW.**

**Jean Merrill  
jmerrill@ncaa.org**

**NCAA  
Office of Inclusion  
Attn: Jean Merrill  
P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222  
Phone: 317-917-6642**

**OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

**NCAA  
Office of Inclusion  
Attn: Jean Merrill  
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
Phone: 317-917-6642**

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

The Committee on Women's Athletics defines several commonly used terms for the purpose of managing the Emerging Sports for Women program.

**Sport.** A sport shall:

- a. Be defined as an institutional activity, sponsored at the varsity or club level, involving physical exertion for the purpose of competition against teams or individuals within an intercollegiate competition structure; and
- b. Operate under standardized rules with rating/scoring systems ratified by at least one official regulatory agency and/or governing body.

**Emerging sport for women.** An emerging sport for women is a sport that:

- a. Meets the definition of a sport;
- b. Is accepted and recognized by the NCAA (as approved by its divisional governance processes) as an emerging sport for women; and
- c. Provides additional athletic opportunities to female student-athletes and demonstrates the NCAA's commitment to gender equity among student-athletes.

**Varsity intercollegiate sport.** A varsity intercollegiate sport is a sport that has been accorded that status by the institution's president or chancellor or committee responsible for intercollegiate athletics policy and satisfies the following conditions:

- a. It is a sport that is administered by the department of intercollegiate athletics;
- b. It is a sport for which the eligibility of the student-athletes is reviewed and certified by a staff member designated by the institution's president or chancellor or committee responsible for intercollegiate athletics policy; and
- c. It is a sport in which qualified participants receive the institution's official varsity awards.

**Club sport.** A club sport is a sport that has been accorded that status by an institution and satisfies the following conditions:

- a. It is a sport that has not been accorded varsity status; and
- b. It is a sport in which student-athletes compete in intercollegiate athletics.

**Sport sponsorship.** An institution is considered to sponsor a sport if the institution's varsity or club team engages in at least five intercollegiate contests against the varsity or club programs of four-year, degree-



granting collegiate institutions each year. In individual sports, the institution's team shall include a minimum number of participants in each contest, as required per the sport's standardized rules.

**Contest.** A contest is any game, match, exhibition, scrimmage or joint practice session with another institution's varsity or club team, regardless of its formality, in which competition in a sport occurs between an intercollegiate athletics team or individual representing an NCAA institution and any other team or individual not representing the intercollegiate athletics program of the same NCAA institution.

**Intercollegiate competition.** Intercollegiate competition is considered to have occurred when a student-athlete at an NCAA institution does any of the following:

- a. Represents the institution in any contest against outside competition, regardless of how the competition is classified (e.g., scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice session with another institution's team) or whether the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies;
- b. Competes in the uniform of the institution or, during the academic year, uses any apparel (excluding apparel no longer used by the institution) received from the institution that includes institutional identification; or
- c. Competes and receives expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, room or entry fees) from the institution for the competition.

## List of 20 NCAA Institutions That Sponsor Sport

Demonstrate at least 20 NCAA institutions, at the time of application, sponsor the applicant sport at the varsity or club level and offer female student-athletes comprehensive and robust participation opportunities. An NCAA institution is considered to sponsor a sport if the institution’s varsity or club team engages in at least five intercollegiate contests against the varsity or club programs of four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions during the academic year in which the application is reviewed. In individual sports, the institution’s team shall include a minimum number of participants in each contest, as required per the sport’s standardized rules.

Official contest and participant results provided by each NCAA institution must be included in the application to verify proper sport sponsorship. Results other than official contest and participant results from each institution OR conflicting results will not be considered. If official contest and participant results are not available, the application must include set schedules of competition from each of the 20 NCAA institutions, signed by the director of athletics (or the director’s designee) and the senior woman administrator for the academic year in which the application is reviewed.

Institution and NCAA Division	Varsity or Club?	Letter of Support?	Official Contest and Participant Results?	Set Schedule of Competition?	MEET Application GUIDELINES?
1.					
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3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
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19.					
20.					

### List of 10 NCAA Letters of Commitment

At least 10 letters of commitment from 10 NCAA institutions that either sponsor the applicant sport at the varsity level at the time of application or intend to sponsor the applicant sport at the varsity level during the academic year in which the application is reviewed. Each letter must be signed by the respective institution’s chancellor or president AND director of athletics AND senior woman administrator and include the following supporting materials:

- a. Actual or proposed budget with specific line items.
- b. Roster size and number of full-time and part-time coaches.
- c. Description of practice and competition facilities.
- d. Local and regional competition opportunities.
- e. Implementation timeline to varsity status.
- f. Relationship with sport governing body/organization.

Institution and NCAA Division	Budget?	Roster and Coaches?	Facilities?	Local and Regional Competition?	Implementation Timeline?	Relationship With Governing Body?
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
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