

Strategic Plan Checklist for Institutions Reclassifying from NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) to Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS)

Note: Institutions should ensure that they have addressed all of the items in this checklist in their responses to the Strategic Plan in Program Hub, that is due no later than June 1, during each year institutions are participating in the Reclassifying Process.

Division I Philosophy Statement.

- Institution subscribes to high standards of academic quality, as well as breadth of academic opportunity:**
 - Briefly describe institution, including a brief history, current and projected enrollments, academic standards and degree programs.

- Institution's intercollegiate athletics program strives for regional and national excellence and prominence:**
 - Describe planned changes to raise level of competition, talent, funding and support of FBS football program.
 - Please include a staff directory and highlight any changes made or new positions created as a result of move to FBS status.

- Institution's recruitment of student-athletes and emphasis on and support of its intercollegiate athletics program are, in most cases, regional and national in scope:**
 - Describe planned enhancements to recruiting budgets for all sports and any plans to broaden current scope of recruitment of student-athletes.
 - Please include projected recruiting budgets for all sports during the multidivisional period.

- Institution recognizes the dual objective in its intercollegiate athletics program of serving both the institution's community and the general public:**
 - Describe plans to heighten visibility of the Division I FBS athletics program on campus and in local community.
 - Please include information available as to marketing plans, media coverage, home contest attendance and evidence of alumni/booster support.

- Institution offers extensive opportunities for participation in varsity intercollegiate athletics for both men and women:**
 - Describe institution's intercollegiate athletics program, including the number of sports sponsored and any plans to add or drop sports.
 - Please summarize the athletics performance of each sport during the past academic year and include a chart detailing wins, loss and achievements.

- Institution sponsors at the highest feasible level of intercollegiate competition one or both of the traditional spectator oriented, income-producing sports of football and basketball. In doing so, members of Division I recognize the differences in institutional objectives in support of football, therefore; the division provides competition in that sport in the FBS and the FCS:**
 - Describe institution's plans (including facilities, hiring of coaches, scheduling and promotion) for successfully sponsoring Division I basketball and FBS football.
 - Please include any marketing or fundraising plans specific to basketball and football.
 - Please provide the attendance figures from the past two seasons for both sports and ranking within sponsoring conference.

- Institution is scheduling its athletics contests primarily with other members of Division I, especially in the emphasized, spectator-oriented sports, as a reflection of its goal of maintaining an appropriate competitive level in its sports program:**
 - Describe actions (or planned actions) by institution to enhance schedules in all sports to include mostly Division I institutions.
 - Please include any information regarding institution's membership in Division I multisport or single sport conferences.

- Institution maintains institutional control over all fund supporting athletics:**
 - Please include the athletics operating budget (actual and projected) for the reclassification period. The budget should include a detailed list of the source's revenue and expenses.

Institutional Performance Program Principles.

- Governance and commitment to rules compliance:**
 - **Institutional control, presidential authority and shared responsibilities.** The Association's principle of institutional control vests in the institution the responsibility for the conduct of its athletics program, including the actions of its staff members and representatives of its athletics interests.
 - o Provide organizational charts for intercollegiate athletics and intercollegiate athletics within the university structure.
 - **Rules compliance.** Membership in the Association places the responsibility on each institution to assure that its staff, student-athletes and other individuals and groups representing the institution's athletics interests comply with the applicable Association rules and regulations.

- o Describe your institution's NCAA rules education initiatives for necessary athletics staff members and boosters. Specifically, please provide details on efforts to educate necessary individuals of the differences between the three NCAA divisions, with particular attention to differences between academic standards, transfer and financial aid regulations.
- o Include a description of institution's policies and procedures for certifying the eligibility of initial, continuing and transfer student-athletes.

Academic integrity:

- **Academic standards.** The Association's fundamental principles indicate that an intercollegiate athletics program shall be designed and maintained as a vital component of the institution's educational system, and student-athletes shall be fully integrated into the student body.
 - o Describe institution's admission policies, including those that differ from standard admission policies.
 - o Describe how student-athletes will be (or are) integrated into the general student-body.
- **Academic support.** Members of the Association have the responsibility to conduct intercollegiate athletics programs in a manner designed to protect and enhance the educational welfare of student-athletes and to assure proper emphasis on educational objectives.
 - o Describe institution's programs (planned or current) that protect and enhance the educational welfare of its student-athletes. Include a description of student-athlete academic advising staff and facilities.
 - o Describe programs (planned or current) that ensure student-athletes have sufficient time for academic programs. In particular, address policies or planned policies for missed class time due to participation in Division I athletics.
- **NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program.**
 - o Describe institution's plans to successfully follow the Academic Performance Program. If applicable, provide institutions most recent NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate and graduation success rate for each sport.
 - o Include any academic-improvement plans developed or implemented during the previous year or as required by the Academic Performance Program.

Equity and well-being:

- **Gender issues.** Consistent with NCAA Constitution 2.3, it is the institution's responsibility to implement the Association's principle of gender equity.
 - o Describe institution's efforts at achieving and maintaining gender equity and how planned Division I status affects those efforts.
- **Diversity issues.** It is a principle of the Association to promote respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person and to refrain from discrimination prohibited by federal and state law.
 - o Describe institution's efforts to promote respect and understanding of diversity issues.
- **Student-athlete well-being.** Conducting the intercollegiate athletics program in a manner designed to protect and enhance the physical and educational well-being of student-athletes is a basic principle of the Association.
 - o Describe planned or current policies that protect the well-being (including health and safety) of institution's student-athletes.