Considerations for Financial Aid Office



Summer 2021

NCAA Interim NIL Policy is adopted. Policy effective on July 1, 2021.

Result: New opportunities for student-athletes.

New policy allows SAs to pursue similar opportunities as non-athlete students (e.g., be compensated for use of their NIL).

See below for application to financial aid

Current Rule

- Permits SAs to receive compensation for legitimate employment without that compensation being considered financial aid.
- Prohibits compensation based on the value that a SA's NIL may have for the employer.
- Restrictions on use of student-athlete NIL.

Policy Effective July 1, 2021

- Permits SA to be compensated for use of their NIL, in addition to normal employment compensation.
- Under the NCAA's interim NIL policy, NIL compensation cannot be contingent on athletic participation or achievement (e.g., financial incentives based on points scored). Athletic performance may enhance a student-athlete's NIL value but athletic performance may not be the "consideration" for NIL compensation.
- NCAA guidance does not supersede any institutional financial aid policies that may be in effect. If student-athletes receive personal compensation for their NIL, that may affect the application of school financial aid policies (e.g., calculation of need). The interim policy does not alter the amount of financial aid and benefits student-athletes can receive from schools.



How does this impact a SAs athletic financial aid? It doesn't. Compensation, including NIL compensation, remains excluded from NCAA financial aid limitations.



Schools may see an increase in students with personal compensation that impacts the application of the school's financial aid policies.



A school's policy may require recalculation of cost of attendance if a SA receives compensation, including NIL compensation, that satisfies a financial aid element.



Any analysis of how a SA's compensation, including NIL compensation, impacts financial aid must continue to be consistent with how the school treats any student's compensation.



Result: A SA's compensation, including NIL compensation, may prevent qualification for need based school, state, or federal financial aid or the Pell Grant.



REMINDER: NIL policies do not dictate or supersede school policies.

