MEMORANDUM

June 3, 2020

VIA EMAIL

TO: Chancellors, Presidents and Commissioners
   of Selected Division I Institutions and Conferences.

FROM: Kathleen T. McNeely
       Senior Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer.

SUBJECT: 2020 Division I NCAA Revenue Distributions.

In response to the cancellation of all remaining winter and spring NCAA championships for which the NCAA receives most of its revenue, the Board of Governors voted unanimously to distribute $225 million to Division I members in lieu of the 2020 Division I revenue distribution, previously budgeted for approximately $600 million.

This will be the only NCAA revenue distribution budgeted for 2020. Of the $225 million, the Equal Conference Fund will remain at the original budgeted amount of $53.6 million. The remaining balance of $171.36 million will be proportionally distributed through the other eight revenue distributions. All distributions will be remitted via electronic funds transfer directly to the conference’s bank account previously provided. The funds will be unrestricted to provide latitude to conferences. However, the Board of Governors and Division I Board of Directors stressed the importance of using the distributions to aid college athletes during this current uncertain environment, along with the importance of planning carefully with less revenue. Please refer to the directions related to report of uses below.

Information for each 2020 Revenue Distribution released today is below. Additional resources can be found on ncaa.org > Division I > Finances.

Basketball Performance Fund:
The basketball performance fund is $52,604,120. Each institution has earned one performance unit for each game played during the period of 2014-2019 in the Division I Men’s Basketball Tournament, except for the first game played by an automatic qualifier in the tournament and the championship game for which no units are awarded. The value of one unit is $87,673.
Equal Conference Fund:
The equal conference fund is $53,632,200. Each active Division I basketball playing conference receives a unit for each automatic qualifier over a six-year rolling period of 2014-2019. The value of one unit is also $279,334.

Sports Sponsorship Fund:
Sports sponsorship fund is $23,490,178. Institutions received a unit for each sport sponsored during the 2018-19 academic year beginning with the 14th sport, which was the minimum requirement for Division I membership. The only sports counted are those in which the NCAA conducts championship competitions and for which the minimum contests and participant requirements of NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 have been met, as well as emerging sports for women as identified in NCAA Bylaw 20.02.4. The value of each unit is $11,526.

Grants-in-Aid:
Grants-in-Aid is $45,947,261. Institutions received valuation points for each athletic grant-in-aid awarded in sports in which the NCAA conducts championship competitions or grants awarded in sports identified in NCAA Bylaw 15.5 during the 2018-19 academic year. Each valuation point is worth approximately $93.73.

Academic Performance Fund:
The academic performance fund is being released for the first time this year in the amount of $3,471,410. The fund is being distributed to Division I conferences on behalf of those active Division I institutions that met one of the three criteria (e.g., Academic Progress Rate (APR), Graduation Success Rate (GSR) and Federal Graduation Rate (FGR). The academic performance funds are not restricted and reporting of the uses is not required. The value of each unit is $11,649.

Academic Enhancement Fund:
The academic enhancement fund is $15,391,401 and is to be distributed equally to active Division I institutions in the amount of $43,850 for the 2020-2021 academic year. The intent is that these funds be passed directly from the conference to its member institutions.

Conference Grants:
The conference grant is $3,116,217 and will be distributed equally to Division I men's and women's basketball-playing conferences that employ a full-time administrator and are eligible for automatic qualification into the Division I men's and women's basketball championships. In prior years, the NCAA has reduced the conference grant by $260,000 to support the regional officiating advisory program. This year only the regional officiating advisory program will be the responsibility of the NCAA. The 2020-21 conference grant distribution to each conference will be $97,382.

Student Assistance Fund (Special Assistance Fund and Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund):
The student assistance fund is distributed to Division I conferences to assist student-athletes in meeting financial needs that arise in conjunction with participation in intercollegiate athletics, enrollment in an academic curriculum or to recognize academic achievement, as determined by
conference offices. The total of the fund is $27,347,212 which is a combination of the special assistance fund of $5,884,064 and the student-athlete opportunity fund of $21,463,148.

The special assistance fund formula is based on the following data: 70 percent Pell Grants, 15 percent of the number of sports sponsored and 15 percent of the number of grants-in-aid equivalencies by institution from the 2018-19 academic year. The student-athlete opportunity fund is based on one-third sports sponsorship distribution methodology and two-thirds grants-in-aid distribution methodology from the 2018-19 academic year.

The responsibility for oversight and administration of the student assistance fund, including interpretations, rests solely with the conferences. Typically, conference interpretations not addressed by the guidelines should stay within the intended purpose.


2020 Report of Uses:
Conferences will be responsible for submitting the necessary data to the NCAA by completing the 2020 report of uses on behalf of its members based on the funds released by the NCAA in 2019, more information will be forth coming.

2021 Report of Uses:
Although the funds are unrestricted,

1. Upon receipt of the 2020 revenue distribution, each conference office is required to acknowledge (via e-mail) that use of the funds will focus on supporting college athletes, and
2. At the close of the subsequent year (in July 2021), each conference office will be required to confirm (via e-mail) that use of the 2020 revenue distribution was focused on supporting college athletes.

To access the revenue distribution reports login in to the Revenue Distribution System using your username and password for Single Source Sign On (NCAA My Apps). Please use the navigational boxes within the revenue distribution system to obtain financial benefits statements by year and/or pay-to reports by distribution by year. The financial benefits statement includes detail of each payment including the amount, payment date and payment reference; data may take up to 48 hours to appear.

Questions regarding revenue distributions, contact Andrea Worlock, NCAA assistant director of accounting, at aworlock@ncaa.org or 317-917-6253.

KTM:afw
cc: Directors of Athletics  
Chief Financial Officers  
Senior Compliance Administrators  
Senior Woman Administrators  
Selected NCAA Staff  
of Selected Division I Institutions and Conferences