



NCAA ACCELERATING ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

2021-22 INITIATIVES (SINGLE-YEAR) GRANT APPLICATION BROCHURE

- **SECTION 1: Selection Committee Composition**
- **SECTION 2: Initiative Grant (single-year) Information**

If you have questions regarding the Accelerating Academic Success Program or application process, please contact:

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CHANGES TO THE ACCELERATING ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

Given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NCAA is accepting applications for only Accelerating Academic Success Program Initiatives (Single-Year) Grants to be distributed for use in the 2021-22 academic year. The structure of the Initiatives Grant remains the same.

Additional information about the requirements and application process are contained in this brochure.

SECTION 1: SELECTION COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

SELECTION COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The AASP selection committee includes members of the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics, staff of Division I member institutions and conferences (including representatives from institutions that previously received an AASP grant), and one public member. NCAA national office staff serve as liaisons to the committee.

SECTION 2: INITIATIVES GRANT (SINGLE YEAR) INFORMATION

PURPOSE

A single-year grant to fund initiative(s) that supports the academic success of the institution's student-athletes by increasing eligibility, retention and/or grade-point averages.

This grant will be limited to initiatives related to: (1) direct student-athlete development (e.g., financial aid, life-skills, leadership, etc.); (2) technology; (3) equipment and furniture; (4) professional development for staff; and (5) renovations¹.

Requests for full-time staff positions may only be made through the Comprehensive Grant application.

GRANT ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Eligible institutions are:

- Those non-FBS institutions in the bottom 15 percent of resources of active Division I members, as determined by per capita institutional expenditures, per capita athletics department funding, and per capita Pell Grant aid for the student body; **OR**

Any institution, regardless of resources, in conferences in which at least 60 percent of the institutions of that conference are non-FBS institutions in the bottom 15 percent of resources of active Division I members.

AND

- Those institutions that have two or less teams below 930;

¹ Note that the selection committee will give priority to applications with requests related to equipment/furniture, technology, professional development and/or direct student-athlete development.

If an institution has three teams below 930 **AND** the institution has **NOT** been subject to level II Committee on Academics penalties in the last two APR years.

Please note that if an institution has more than three teams below the 930 benchmark, the institution is not eligible for an Initiatives Grant.

AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUESTS	Institutions are eligible to receive up to a maximum of \$100,000.
GRANT AWARD PERIOD	The grant award period will be August 1, 2021, through July 31, 2022.
CASH MATCHING	Institutions that are awarded an initiative grant are required to match grant dollars. The match will be 20 percent of the amount requested. For example, if the institution is awarded \$100,000, the institution match requirement is \$20,000. The total cost of the initiatives funded by the grant would be \$120,000.
DISTRIBUTION GRANT FUNDS	Payments will be made to initiatives grant awardees in one installment.
EXPECTED GRANT OUTCOMES	Successful completion of funded initiatives that support the academic success of the institution’s student-athletes by showing an increase in eligibility, retention and/or grade-point averages.
FACTORS CONSIDERED IN AWARDING GRANTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorsement of the chancellor or president as well as the director of athletics’ approval, oversight and implementation of the plan. • Involvement of head coaches of teams not meeting APR benchmarks. • Specific request for use of NCAA dollars and rationale demonstrating how such expenditures will meet the grant program’s expected outcomes. • Demonstration of sustainability of proposed initiative(s)/programs(s) beyond the period of the grant. • Strategies for assessing the impact of the initiative(s)/program(s). • Historical overview and assessment of APRs.

- Review access to and use of grant funds from the NCAA (e.g., SSF and/or AASP pilot dollars, if any).
- Demonstrated success in implementation of APR improvement plans to date.
- The circumstances surrounding an institution’s involvement in a major enforcement investigation and/or a recent finding of lack of institutional control made against the institution by the Division I Committee on Infractions.
- The institution's ability to provide a 20 percent cash match of grant funds.
- Resource level of the institution
- Institution’s ability to sustain funded initiatives or programs.

**REQUIRED
 INITIATIVE GRANT
 INTERACTIONS
 AND MEETINGS**

- Midyear check-in.
- One end-of-year campus visit. Opportunity for NCAA national office campus liaisons to review the activities that have occurred on campus; provide assistance to the institution’s oversight and implementation as they are preparing their end-of-year report.
- Final report.

**GRANT
 APPLICATION
 PROCESS
 TIMELINE**

February 1, 2021	Application period opens.
April 15, 2021	Grant application deadline.
July 2021	Grant recipients notified.
September 2021	Grant payment disbursed.

**GRANT
 IMPLEMENTATION
 TIMELINE**

January/February 2022	Midyear check-in (via conference call).
August/September 2022	Final report.
September to December 2022	End-of-year campus visit.

**ONLINE
 APPLICATION**

The online application is currently being updated and once complete all eligible institutions will be notified and provided access to the application system.

**WHO TO CALL FOR
QUESTIONS**

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