

2025-26 Division III Grants, Programs and Services: “Show Me the Money”

Please send all questions to DIIIgovernance@ncaa.org

Opportunity	Description	Application/Deadline	Program Benefits
Division III Pathway to Excellence Grant	This two-year grant is designated for Division III institutions and conference offices to hire 10-month full-time employees. Funding will cover the hired employee’s salary (\$30,000) and \$3,000 to cover professional development activities. The institution or conference office will be responsible for providing an additional in-kind contribution of at least \$3,700 per year. Click here for additional details.	<u>Application Period:</u> September to January	Attendance at in-person orientation at the NCAA (Aug.). Attendance at the NCAA Convention after year one. Attendance at Emerging Leaders in Sports. Designated mentor. Networking opportunities.
Division III Strategic Alliance Matching Grant Program	The Strategic Alliance Matching Grant provides funding for Division III institutions and conference offices to enhance underrepresented groups through full-time professional positions in athletics administration. Each Division III institution and conference office selected to receive a matching grant will be funded for three years, with diminishing contributions by the NCAA. The NCAA will fund 75% of the position during the first year, 50% the second year and 25% during the third year. Click here for additional details.	<u>Application Period:</u> September to January	
Conference Grant Program (Strategic Initiatives Grant)	NCAA Division III allocates over \$4 million annually directly to conference offices and Division III Independents to administer educational programs and services that best meet local needs in support of the Division III strategic plan. Click here for grant details and Tier amounts.	<u>Requisition Forms due:</u> July 15 <u>Impact Forms due:</u> Aug. 1 <u>Third-party forms due:</u> Oct. 15	Annual funding of \$74,000 to \$142,000 per conference. Funding for professional development programs, SAAC, membership fees, championship enhancements, officiating, and DEI initiatives.
Division III FAR Institute	The mission of the Division III Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) Institute is to provide a professional development opportunity for Division III FARs with the potential to positively impact their campus, conference, and the division. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, and meals for the 30-member cohort. Click here for more information.	Held annually. <u>Nomination Period:</u> July 1 to Aug. 15	Registration for FARA Fall Forum. Program held in conjunction with FARA Fall Forum. Networking opportunities.

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Division III Athletics Direct Report Institute	The purpose of the Institute is to engage Division III ADRs in best practices to oversee and manage athletics departments, and to improve the relationships between ADRs and their presidents, athletics directors, and conference commissioners to enhance effectiveness of the ADR at the campus, conference, and national levels. The ADR Institute will accept up to 15 participants each year. All Division III ADRs, with no more than two years of experience in the ADR role are eligible to attend. Applications are accepted via Program Hub. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, and meals. Click here for more information.	<u>Nomination Period:</u> Aug. 1 to Sept. 15	Fee waiver to the NCAA Convention. Introduction to Division III governance structure. Networking opportunities.
Division III Senior Woman Administrator Program	The program's goal is to provide professional development and networking opportunities for SWAs, in particular those seeking to become athletics directors and/or conference commissioners. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, meals, and applicable registration fees for 30 participants. Click here for more information	<u>Nomination Period:</u> June 1 to July 15 (fall program with Women Leaders) Oct. 15 to Dec. 1 (spring program)	One-year membership fee waiver for Women Leaders in Sports for the year preceding the program. Access to Women Leaders Summer Institutes. Networking opportunities.
Division III Student Immersion Program	Students from underrepresented groups, preferably juniors and seniors, with a strong interest in a career in Division III athletics (coaching and/or administration) are encouraged to apply. The goal is to build a pipeline of candidates, with an interest in Division III coaching and/or administration, in an effort to ultimately diversify the division. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, meals, and NCAA Convention registration fee for 40 participants. Click here for more information.	<u>Nomination Period:</u> Aug. 1 to Sept. 15	Opportunity to apply for the NCAA Career in Sports Forum. For seniors, resumes sent to Division III membership.
Athletic Communicators Emerging Elite Program	The Athletic Communicators Emerging Elite program's goal is to provide professional development and networking opportunities for athletic communicators, particularly those early in their careers seeking to advance to a director-level position or those who have recently become a director. Topics discussed will cover a variety of professional development areas that may include leadership training, networking, positioning yourself to oversee a staff, collaborating with others, navigating expanded responsibilities and more. Click here for more information.	<u>Nomination Period:</u> August to September	Professional development and networking with NCAA staff in Indianapolis. Opportunity to attend CSC Convention with one-time registration fee waiver.

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Division III Institute for Administrative Advancement	The Division III Institute for Administrative Advancement seeks to provide professional development and networking opportunities for underrepresented groups in Division III athletics. Overall, the goal is to prepare participants to excel within their current role and ultimately, advance their position within Division III athletics. The Institute is held in conjunction with the NACDA Convention in June. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, meals, and applicable registration fees for 30 participants. Click here for more information.	<u>Nomination Period:</u> Feb. 1 to Mar. 15	Participation in the MOAA Symposium. One-year membership fee waiver for the Minority Opportunities Athletic Association (MOAA).
Division III College Sports Communicators Student Program	Underrepresented student-athletes and women, preferably juniors and seniors, with a strong interest in a career in Division III athletics communication are encouraged to apply. The goal is to build a pipeline of candidates, with an interest in Division III athletics communication, in an effort to ultimately diversify the division. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, meals, and applicable registration fees for 16 participants. Click here for more information.	<u>Nomination Period:</u> Feb. to mid-March	Participation in CSC Convention. Access to mentors and networking opportunities.
Division III New AD Orientation	The Division III New AD Orientation is a year-long program to help new directors of athletics with their transition to the position and/or Division III. There will be an in-person luncheon at the NCAA Convention and a two-day program at the NACDA Convention where the cohort will engage with veteran ADs, commissioners, and NCAA staff. Additionally, participants will be paired with a mentor AD from NADIII AA after the completion of the summer program. The NCAA funds travel, hotel, meals, and applicable registration fees (i.e., NACDA registration). Click here for more information.	<u>Selection Period:</u> August	Participation in the NACDA Convention and NADIII AA Summer Forum. One-year membership fee waiver for NACDA/ NADIII AA.
Division III New Commissioner Orientation	The Division III New Commissioner Orientation is a year-long program to help new commissioners with their transition to the position and/or Division III. Throughout the year, the cohort will receive NCAA resources. There will be a fall introductory webinar, and an in-person orientation in February at the NCAA national office. The cohort will engage with veteran commissioners and NCAA staff. The NCAA funds travel, hotel and meals for the in-person program.	<u>Selection Period:</u> August	Access to NCAA staff and resources to help guide a new commissioner.

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National Association of Division III Administrators (NADIII AA) Partnership	A partnership between the NCAA and NADIII AA supports professional development programming for Division III athletics administrators. The partnership includes grants and programming to support the NADIII AA Summer Forum in conjunction with NACDA Convention. Division III athletics administrators that are members of the NADIII AA may apply for grants to support travel and lodging expenses. Click here for more information.	<u>Grant Period:</u> Feb. 1 to Mar. 15	\$75,000 pool. Attendance to NACDA Convention and NADIII AA Summer Forum. Networking opportunities.
Female Administrator Enhancement Grant	This grant in the form of a scholarship enhances the role of the Senior Woman Administrator (SWA) in Division III to support professional development. A partnership between the NCAA and Women Leaders in Sports provides Division III women the opportunity to attend the annual professional development opportunities. Click here for more information.	<u>Grant Period:</u> Feb. 1 to Mar. 15	\$30,000 pool. Attendance to Women Leaders Summer Institutes. Networking opportunities.