

2020-21 Conference Grant Actions and Resources

Last updated: March 4, 2021

Reminders

1. Unless a waiver has been approved or an exception granted as noted below, Conference Grant spending must meet current [policies and procedures](#).
2. For questions about the grant or use of funds, contact the grant administrator, Ali Spungen.
3. Per the current policies and procedures, any spend beyond the listed preapproved items must have prior approval by the conference grant administrator, Ali Spungen.
4. No warning letters will be issued this year for failure to meet the requirements in any Tier due to COVID-19 impact.

2020-21 Flexibility Actions (as of Oct. 1, 2020)

- Conferences that received rollover funds for 2020-21 will be granted a one-year usage extension to August 1, 2022.
- Continue to provide flexibility in Tier Two and Tier Three funds (e.g., unspent Tier Two funds may be spent on preapproved items in Tier Three). For instance, if a conference has spent all its Tier Three funds, conferences may use Tier Two funds for Tier Three provided the funds are spent in a manner consistent with grant policies and practices. Per Conference Grant policies and procedures, it is already permissible to use Tier Three funds on permissible Tier One and Tier Two initiatives.

Tier One

- Conferences may use Tier One funds on any preapproved Tier 2 or Tier 3 grant expense in 2020-21 grant cycle only. This included funds allocated for 2020-21 as well as Tier One funds that conferences rolled forward from previous years.
- Per conference grant policies and procedures, conferences must still:
 - Meet the requirement that at least \$200 per institution is spent on Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).
 - Spend no more than 25 percent of the Tier One annual funds, excluding rollover funds, on conference office personnel.
- For 2020-21, Tier One funds do not need to meet any constituent group minimums with the exception of SAAC (as noted above).

- Provide flexibility within Tier One for 2020-21 to allow conferences to use unspent funds allocated for one constituent group (e.g., SIDs) on any other preapproved constituent group (e.g., SWAs, FARs, ADRs, etc.).
- In order to allow conferences to conduct programming for constituent groups (e.g., FARs, SWAs), the policy of conducting conference-based events/programming once every three years, has been waived for 2020-21 grant cycle.
- Allow SAAC funds to provide leadership education for institutional SAAC leaders. Examples:
 - Provide campus SAAC officers with two to three leadership sessions, then follow-up with a conference-wide session with all campus officers, including the conference SAAC reps.
 - Provide campus-only SAAC leadership program/seminar.

Tier Three

Officiating

- For 2020-21, it is permissible for conferences to use either Tier Three (Officiating) or Tier Two (Student-Athlete Well-Being) funds to help cover COVID-19 testing for officials as recommended by the COVID-19 Medical Advisory Group.
- For 2020-21, Tier Three officiating funds may be used to offset additional assignor fees due to COVID-19 related changes and impacts on schedules.

Permanent Conference Grant Policy Updates

Tier One

- Printing of NCAA Manuals is now a preapproved item under Compliance and Rules Seminar Education.
- In addition to Women Leaders membership dues for campus SWAs (and conference office staff), CoSIDA membership dues are now a preapproved item in Tier One for campus SIDs (and conference office staff).

Tier Two

- Tier Two funds (Student-Athlete Well-Being – Academic Awards) may be used to cover expenses for schools to start or continue chapters in Chi Alpha Sigma.

2020-21 Conference Grant Rollover Policy

- A conference may retain unused funds in excess of \$1,000 (beyond \$301 in any single tier) provided that the conference submits a detailed plan in the Impact Form (due Aug. 1) regarding how the excess funds will be used and the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee approves the plan.

Any funds beyond \$1,000 unspent, without an approved rollover plan, at the end of the subsequent year will need to be returned to the NCAA.

- Funds rolled over at the end of 2020-21 will remain within the respective Tier (e.g., excess funds from Tier One, must be rolled over to Tier One).

For more information related to the COVID-19 pandemic, visit the following resources on the [NCAA's COVID-19 webpage](#):

1. Resources on the resocialization of collegiate sport: The [Core Principles of Resocialization of Collegiate Basketball](#), [FAQ](#), [Core Principles of Resocialization of Collegiate Sport](#), [Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Action Plans](#), and [Developing Standards for Practice and Competition](#). Practice and Competition [Checklist](#) and [FAQ](#). Resocialization [Archived FAQ](#).
2. Resources on actions taken on Division III regulations and policies: [Division III Administrative Committee Actions since March 13](#) and [Approved Blanket Waivers for NCAA Bylaws impacted by COVID-19](#).
3. Interpretative guidance on existing Division III legislation and action taken based on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic: [Division III COVID-19 Question and Answer Guide](#).