

**DIRECTIONS FOR PAPER AND PENCIL ADMINISTRATION OF SURVEY INSTRUMENT
FOR THE 2024-25 NCAA STUDY OF GROWTH, OPPORTUNITIES, ASPIRATIONS, AND
LEARNING OF STUDENTS IN COLLEGE (GOALS)**

1. The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) at each NCAA member school participating in this study will receive the following materials:
 - Notification of study approval by NCAA Research Review Board (RRB);
 - A guide for preparation of campus Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications;
 - Notification of the sports to be surveyed at each school (see cover memo);
 - Copies of the survey instrument;
 - Directions for administration of the survey instrument with a scripted statement for the FAR;
 - A resource contact information sheet for distribution to the student-athletes; and
 - Packages with pre-paid FedEx labels for shipment of surveys to an independent processing company.
2. This study has been reviewed and approved for human subject considerations by the NCAA RRB. Individual campuses may still require that this study be reviewed by their institutional review board (IRB). It is the responsibility of the FAR on each campus to ensure that institutional policies are followed. In addition to reporting any unanticipated problems to their own campus IRB, FARs are responsible for reporting any such incidents to the NCAA RRB.

The FAR is asked to make arrangements with the athletics department to schedule a session to survey all student-athletes on the team(s) selected for participation in the study.

The survey should be administered by the FAR in a group setting, with all members of the team(s) who are participating in the study present. If the FAR is being asked to survey more than one team, they may survey each team separately or combine the teams into one group. The time, date and location of the survey administration session should be made known to all student-athletes on the team(s) being surveyed. Most student-athletes should be able to complete the survey within approximately 30 minutes, but FARs should secure a room for 45 to 60 minutes.

ALL SURVEYS SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED AND RETURNED BY June 1, 2025.

3. Sufficient copies of the surveys should be included in each packet. **Lydia Bell (lbell@ncaa.org; 317-917-6268)** at the NCAA national office should be notified if additional copies are needed. **The FAR should not photocopy additional surveys as the scanning devices will not be able to read responses on photocopied forms.**

The FAR will place the pre-printed, pre-paid return package supplied by the NCAA's survey vendor in a convenient location in the room where the survey is being administered so that

each student-athlete may place their completed survey directly into the package without anybody else handling the survey. **Completed surveys should not be handled by the FAR or anybody else in the room.**

4. Before administering the survey, the FAR should obtain a contact phone number for a campus or local counseling service that will offer free or low-cost counseling to any student-athlete who may wish to speak with a counseling professional. This contact information should be clearly posted in the room where the surveys are administered to supplement the national contact information sheet that is to be distributed to the student-athletes.
5. The FAR should bring No. 2 pencils or pens with blue or black ink for use by student-athletes during the survey administration. **The survey must not be completed in red ink.**
6. The FAR and any assistants from their staff will administer the survey to the student-athletes. All staff from the athletics department (e.g., coaches) are required as part of the protocol to leave the room before the survey is distributed. The FAR will read the attached scripted statement to the student-athletes detailing the purpose of the study and directions for survey completion. Student-athletes who are not yet 18 years of age (or the age of consent in the state the institution is located) should be thanked for their time, but excused from study participation and asked to leave the room.

The FAR's script will explain the survey instrument to the student-athletes, describe the purpose of the national study and note that responses will be confidential. The student-athletes must be informed that participation in the survey is entirely voluntary and that they are free to turn in their survey at any time during the testing procedure. Student-athletes who do not wish to complete the survey in its entirety may complete only those questions they wish to answer (if any) and return the survey to the pre-printed return package. Student-athletes should be advised that the NCAA will begin publishing aggregate results of the study in fall 2025. Those results, reports from previous NCAA studies and other student-athlete survey data are available to them via the NCAA website at www.ncaa.org/research.

The FAR will inform the student-athletes that they should place their completed surveys directly into the return package that is addressed to the survey processing company. Nobody, including the FAR, other teammates, or any member of the athletics department should handle any student's survey. The FAR should remain in the room to answer any questions that may arise.

7. The last student-athlete present should place their survey into the return package and seal the package. All surveys that are handled by a student-athlete (completed or not completed) should be placed in the package. Each student-athlete must return their survey forms before they leave the session. FARs may destroy extra surveys not administered to student-athletes.
8. The FAR will send the sealed package of surveys to the survey processing company in the pre-printed, pre-paid return package supplied by the vendor.
9. Questions regarding administration of the surveys or RRB concerns should be referred to:

NCAA Research Review Board Administrator, rrbadmin@ncaa.org (317-917-6409)

The NCAA research department thanks you for your assistance with this important research project!

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SCRIPTED STATEMENT FOR FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE

Instruct the students not to begin the survey until you finish reading the following statement:

Thank you for your participation in the NCAA Study of Growth, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Learning of Students in College (GOALS). This is the most comprehensive study ever conducted on the experiences of student-athletes, and your participation is greatly appreciated. The questions in this survey have been designed based on conversations with college presidents, athletics administrators, faculty and national student-athlete representatives who are interested in understanding in detail the issues you face and aspirations you hold as a student and an athlete on your campus. The results of this project will be used to inform college presidents and others who set NCAA policy of your experiences and will enable them to craft policies and educational programs that will benefit you and future student-athletes in your sport.

If there is anyone here who is under 18 years of age (*or the age of consent in your state*), you are excused from participation in this study and should leave at this time. Thank you for your time.

This survey must be completed in No. 2 pencil or black or blue ink. If you do not have the proper pen or pencil with you, please raise your hand now and I will supply you with one. (*Please distribute pencils/pens*).

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to answer any question, or to discontinue your participation at any time without penalty. Your voluntary completion of this study constitutes your informed consent to participate. This survey should take about 30 minutes, on average, to complete. When you have finished the survey, please place it in the return package located here. (*Show student-athletes where the package is located.*) The last person to complete their survey will be asked to seal the package to ensure that it is ready to be mailed and that nobody else has access to the completed surveys. Nobody besides you will handle your survey. **Do not return any surveys directly to me.** All surveys, whether you have completed them or not, should be put directly into the return package.

Nobody from the school, including me, will view your responses or be able to match them back to you. The surveys will be sent directly to an independent company for scanning and will be destroyed once a research database has been created. This confidentiality is important so that you feel free to completely speak your mind on these topics. **As part of the NCAA's research on the student-athlete experience, they would like to link the results of this survey to other NCAA data on academic performance. This will be accomplished through a combination of variables that may include sport, ZIP code and birth month/year. If you prefer not to have your data linked, you can indicate that in the item at the end of the survey.** Regardless, neither your identity nor your school's identity will ever be tied to your survey responses in any publicly accessible data file, analysis or write-up of these data. Results will only be reported in terms of national and subgroup (for example, sport, division, gender, race/ethnicity, etc.) averages and trends. National reports from previous student-athlete surveys are available on the NCAA's website; the address is listed at the end of your survey. We hope you will take a look at these interesting data provided by previous student-athlete participants.

Some of the questions in this survey deal with personal topics. You do not have to answer any question that you do not wish to answer. You have received a resource sheet with contact information on national support organizations. I have also posted the contact number for a local counseling center in case you should feel the need to discuss any issues raised by this survey. Thank you again for your participation in this very important study. Please take a few minutes now to complete the survey. If you have any questions, I will remain in this room until the last student leaves.