



**Actions Approved by the Division II Administrative Committee
Related to Regulations and Policies Impacted by COVID-19
Updated: July 22, 2020**

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: [Core Principles of Resocialization of Collegiate Sport](#), [Action Plan Considerations](#) and [FAQ](#).
2. Interpretative guidance on existing Division II legislation and action taken based on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic: [Division II COVID-19 Question and Answer Guide](#).

Bylaw 13: Recruiting Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Recruiting calendars in all sports.	Extended the quiet period to August 31.	7/15/20
Annual coaches certification requirement.	Issued a blanket waiver to extend the 2019-20 certifications through August 31, 2020. Coaches must complete the 2020-21 required coaches curriculum by September 1, 2020 in order to recruit off campus and participate in countable athletically related activities.	3/18/20
Institutional camps and clinics.	Confirmed institutional camps and clinics can be held during a quiet period and take place at any location, subject to applicable public health guidance and institutional and conference decisions. Confirmed coaching staff members are permitted to be employed at a noninstitutional camp or clinic during the quiet period.	3/25/20 Updated 4/8/20, 5/13/20, 5/20/20, 6/10/20
Student-athlete involvement in virtual recruitment.	Issued a blanket waiver to permit student-athletes to be involved in recruiting correspondence (e.g., phone call, videoconference) at the direction of a coaching staff member through the 2020-21 academic year with any contactable prospective student-athletes.	4/15/20 Updated 5/6/20, 7/15/20

Bylaw 13: Recruiting Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Transcript requirement prior to issuing National Letter of Intent or athletics aid agreement.	(1) Allowed institutions to provide a grade report in the event an unofficial transcript is unavailable; and (2) If a grade report is unavailable, institutions may submit a waiver for review on a case-by-case basis.	4/15/20
Advertisements and promotions (Bylaw 13.4.3.1)	Issued a blanket waiver to permit institutions to produce any promotional material for purposes of recruiting, provided publicity legislation (Bylaw 13.10) is followed.	5/6/20
Recruiting activity with multiple uncommitted prospective student-athletes.	Issued a blanket waiver to permit coaching staff members and current student-athletes to participate on a telephone/video call with any number of uncommitted prospective student-athletes (and their family members) through the 2020-21 academic year. All other publicity restrictions (Bylaw 13.10) apply.	5/20/20 Updated 7/15/20

Bylaw 14.2: Seasons of Competition Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Impact on student-athletes that were required to serve a drug testing penalty in fall 2020 but are unable to do so due to the institution's cancellation of fall 2020 sports.	Questions on the application of drug testing penalties should be submitted through RSRO for clarification on application of penalties.	4/22/20
Impact on student-athletes that were required to serve a reinstatement withholding condition in fall 2020 but are unable to do so due to the institution's cancellation of fall 2020 sports.	Questions on the application of reinstatement withholding conditions should be addressed on a case-by-case basis with the case manager.	4/22/20

Bylaw 14.2: Seasons of Competition Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Season-of-competition waivers.	<p>Allowed institutions to self-apply season-of-competition waivers for student-athletes for the 2020-21 academic year, provided all of the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The student-athlete’s team participated in 50% or less of the sport’s Bylaw 17 maximum contests/dates of competition during the 2020-21 season due to ongoing impact from COVID-19; (2) The student-athlete used a season of competition during the 2020-21 academic year; and (3) The student-athlete was eligible for competition when he or she competed during the 2020-21 academic year. 	7/22/20
Extension of eligibility waivers.	<p>Allowed institutions to self-apply an extension of eligibility waiver (two semesters/three quarters) for student-athletes for the 2020-21 academic year, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) If the student-athlete qualifies for the season of competition waiver (see above); or (2) For a student-athlete who is unable to participate due to a cancellation of the sport season. <p>In order to qualify for the self-applied extension of eligibility waiver, the student-athlete must have been otherwise eligible for competition during 2020-21 academic year.</p> <p>Student-athlete was otherwise eligible for competition during 2020-21 academic year.</p>	7/22/20

Bylaw 14.2: Seasons of Competition Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	This relief is applicable to all eligible student-athletes, regardless of year in school or number of semesters previously used.	

Bylaw 14.3: Initial Eligibility Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
How will the Eligibility Center approach schools that issue pass/fail grades for core courses completed in spring/summer 2020?	Credits earned in pass/fail core courses in spring/summer 2020 will apply toward the core-course requirement, but quality points (2.3) for passed core units will only be included for GPA purposes if the student's core GPA would increase with their inclusion. Note: This policy will apply to students from all grade levels (e.g., freshmen, sophomores) who successfully complete NCAA-approved pass/fail courses in Spring/Summer 2020.	4/15/20
Given the unique circumstances and cancellations (e.g., spring terms, leaving exams, ACT/SAT dates), will there be any flexibility in the initial-eligibility standard for students with an expected <u>winter 2020 graduation date</u> who initially enroll full time in 2020-21?	<p>Students will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver (athletics aid, practice and competition) in the academic certification process if they successfully complete at least 10 core-course units before starting the seventh semester and present a 2.2 or higher core GPA in such courses.</p> <p>Students will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver for athletics aid and practice (i.e., partial qualifier) relief of initial-eligibility requirements for expected Spring/Summer/Winter 2020 graduates who present at least 10 core units with a 2.000 GPA before starting the seventh semester of high school.</p>	4/15/20
Will there be any flexibility in requiring official academic documents for students with an expected <u>winter 2020 graduation date</u> who initially enroll full time in 2020-21?	If official documents are unavailable, unofficial documents may be used in the certification, provided such documents are submitted to the Eligibility Center directly from the email address associated with the student's Eligibility Center account.	4/15/20

Bylaws 14.1/14.4: Full-Time Enrollment and Progress-Toward-Degree Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Impact on student-athletes who utilized Bylaw 14.1.7.1.7.3 (practice or competition – final semester/quarter) during the 2020 spring semester and implications for full-time enrollment in fall 2020.	Issued a blanket waiver to waive the application to permit student-athletes to retain their eligibility if they are not able to complete their graduation requirements in the spring 2020 term due to COVID-19 impact.	3/18/20
Eligibility requirements for the 2020-21 academic year (full-time enrollment, term-by-term, academic year and annual credit hour requirements, GPA requirement).	<p>Confirmed that full-time enrollment and progress-toward-degree requirements for the 2020-21 academic year remain the same.</p> <p>Student-athletes must be in good academic standing to be eligible for competition in the fall 2020 term.</p> <p>Institutions are still required to complete an eligibility list for the 2020-21 academic year (see Bylaw 14.11.2).</p>	5/13/20
Bylaw 14.5: Transfer Eligibility Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Two-year college transfer requirements for prospective student-athletes who are impacted by COVID-19 related issues (e.g., certifying institution does not accept pass/fail grades, two-year college ceased operations, two-year	<p>Allowed institutions to self-apply a two-year college transfer waiver for prospective student-athletes transferring for the 2020-21 academic year provided all of the following criteria were met and the student-athlete was enrolled in the courses necessary entering the 2020 spring term:</p> <p>(1) The student-athlete was on track to complete at least two full-time semesters or three quarters at the two-year college;</p>	<p>5/6/20</p> <p>Updated</p> <p>5/13/20</p>

Bylaw 14.5: Transfer Eligibility Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
college transitioned to remote learning).	<p>(2) The student-athlete was on track to satisfactorily complete an average of 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit for each full-time term of attendance at the two-year college;</p> <p>(3) The student-athlete was on track to satisfactorily complete the following transferable credit-hour requirements: a) six semester or eight quarter hours of English; b) three semester or four quarter hours of Math; and c) three semester of four quarter hours of natural or physical science; and</p> <p>(4) The student-athlete has presented a minimum transferable grade-point average of 2.2.</p> <p>The institution is responsible for maintaining documentation on campus as is currently required for progress-toward-degree waivers in the previously approved waiver checklist.</p>	

Bylaw 15: Financial Aid Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Financial aid equivalency limits.	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to allow student-athletes who would have used their fourth season of competition or exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility during the spring 2020 term to receive athletics aid for the 2020-21 academic year without counting toward team equivalency limits (i.e., treat these student-athletes as if they are receiving exhausted eligibility athletics aid).</p> <p>This relief only applies if the student-athlete remains at their original institution. If the student-athlete transfers, the athletics aid received at the new institution would count toward team equivalency limits.</p>	<p>3/13/20 Criteria amended 3/18/20 and 3/25/20</p>

Bylaw 15: Financial Aid Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
If a student-athlete fails to report for practice or competition for reasons related to COVID-19 (e.g., unable to obtain visa, uncomfortable traveling to institution's locale), does this constitute voluntary withdrawal and the institution can reduce/cancel athletics aid?	Flexibility already exists based on the current application of financial aid, but institution is encouraged to work with its legal counsel.	3/18/20
Degree-Completion Awards for 2020-21.	For spring sports student-athletes who were awarded an extension request, waived current requirements so they can participate in their last season during the 2020-21 academic year and still receive the award. Additionally, a student-athlete may still receive athletics aid.	3/25/20 Updated 3/30/20
2020-21 academic year athletics aid reductions or cancellations due to COVID-19	Confirmed it is permissible for an institution to include a nonathletically related condition [see Bylaw 15.5.4.1.1] in its 2020-21 financial aid agreements related to COVID-19 (e.g., reduction of room and board if an institution only conducts online courses for the fall 2020 term). Institutions are encouraged to consult with legal counsel and risk management.	5/6/20

Bylaw 16: Awards and Benefits Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Extra benefits (e.g., meals, lodging, travel).	Flexibility already exists for institutions to provide necessary housing and meals through the Committee for Legislative Relief incidental expense waiver list . Issued a blanket waiver to provide flexibility for institutions to provide any necessary transportation (e.g., flights to/from campus) to ensure the health and well-being of student-athletes.	3/13/20

Bylaw 16: Awards and Benefits Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Reimbursement of costs associated with a foreign tour.	Issued a blanket waiver to provide flexibility for institutions to reimburse student-athletes for any costs paid for a foreign tour that is cancelled.	4/15/20
Student-athlete housing blocks.	Issued a blanket waiver for the 2020-21 academic year to permit institutions to make housing arrangements as determined to be necessary with COVID-19 considerations, including student-athlete specific housing blocks.	6/10/20
Providing benefits (e.g., housing and meals) prior to the first permissible date of preseason practice.	Confirmed that it is permissible per Bylaw 16.4 (medical expenses) to provide benefits (e.g., housing and meals) to a student-athlete who needs to return to campus for medical reasons (e.g., COVID-19 testing, quarantine) prior to the start of preseason practice, as the institution has determined that an earlier return to campus is medically necessary.	6/10/20

Bylaw 17: Playing and Practice Seasons Questions	Outcome	Decision Date
Rescheduling a foreign tour during an otherwise impermissible period.	Kept the legislation as is. If needed, institutions can file individual waiver requests.	4/15/20
2020-21 playing and practice seasons – Division II fall championship sports.	<p>Approved a blanket waiver that allows schools to adjust schedules during a fall sport’s championship segment and nonchampionship segment for the 2020-21 academic year only.</p> <p>Practice and competition in fall championship sports must end by Monday, May 31, 2021.</p> <p>Fall sport student-athletes shall not participate in countable athletically related activities, including workouts designed and conducted by a strength and conditioning coach, for a 14-consecutive day period following an</p>	<p>6/17/20</p> <p>Updated 7/15/20, 7/22/20</p>

Bylaw 17: Playing and Practice Seasons Questions	Outcome	Decision Date
	<p>institution’s championship segment. It would remain permissible for a strength and conditioning coach to monitor a voluntary workout for safety purposes during the 14-day break, provided the activity meets the definition of a voluntary activity per NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.02.17 (voluntary athletically related activities). [Note: It is not permissible for a strength and conditioning coach to design or conduct a workout during the summer for student-athletes in fall championship sports until June 1 (See Bylaw 17.1.6.3.5.1).]</p> <p>Institutions may participate in NCAA championships even if they declare an alternate championship segment.</p> <p>Confirmed that countable athletically related activities may begin no earlier than September 7 or the fourth day of classes for fall sports that declare an alternate championship segment (i.e., current application for spring sport nonchampionship segment in the fall term).</p>	

Bylaw 20: Membership Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Impact of furloughs on membership requirements (e.g., full-time compliance administrator, athletics healthcare administrator).	Legislation remains the same. Waivers to be submitted as needed.	4/8/20