



**Actions Approved by the Division II Administrative Committee
Related to Regulations and Policies Impacted by COVID-19
Updated: September 2, 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: [2020-21 Division II COVID-19 Question and Answer Guide](#).

Bylaw 13: Recruiting Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Recruiting calendars in all sports.	Adopted noncontroversial legislation to end the quiet period as of September 1. For those sports that have a recruiting calendar, the legislation would apply effective September 1.	7/15/20 Updated 8/14/20
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	4/15/20

Bylaw 13: Recruiting Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	direction of a coaching staff member through the 2020-21 academic year with any contactable prospective student-athletes.	Updated 5/6/20, 7/15/20
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	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
institution's cancellation of fall 2020 sports.		
Season-of-competition waivers – fall sports.	<p>Allowed institutions to self-apply season-of-competition waivers for fall sport student-athletes who compete in up to the maximum permissible amount of competition during the 2020-21 academic year, provided all of the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The student-athlete used a season of competition during the 2020-21 academic year; and (2) The student-athlete was eligible for competition when he or she competed during the 2020-21 academic year. 	9/2/20
Season-of-competition waivers – winter and spring sports.	<p>Allowed institutions to self-apply season-of-competition waivers for winter and spring 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. <p>Clarified the requirement that a team's participation in 50% or less of the sport's Bylaw 17 maximum contests/dates of competition during the 2020-21 season could apply to institutions that choose to schedule limited competition based on COVID-19. The calculation of 50% is specific to regular-season contests/dates of competition and includes all</p>	7/22/20 Updated 7/29/20, 8/14/20, 9/2/20

Bylaw 14.2: Seasons of Competition Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	<p>regular-season competition (including scrimmages and other discretionary exemptions).</p> <p>Clarified that, in individual sports, a student-athlete may not participate in more than 50% of the sport's Bylaw 17 maximum in addition to the team not participating in more than 50%.</p>	
<p>Extension of eligibility waivers.</p>	<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) If the student-athlete qualifies for the season of competition waiver (see above); (2) For a student-athlete who is unable to participate due to a cancellation of the sport season; or (3) For a student-athlete who opts out of countable athletically related activities. <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>This relief is applicable to all eligible student-athletes, regardless of year in school or number of semesters previously used.</p>	<p>7/22/20</p> <p>Updated 8/21/20</p>
<p>Extension of eligibility waivers for fall sport student-athletes whose 10th semester/14th and 15th quarter is fall 2020 term.</p>	<p>The Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement previously approved list allows for a one semester/two quarter extension to permit participation during the 2021 spring season.</p>	<p>8/14/20</p>

Bylaw 14.2: Seasons of Competition Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
Organized competition legislation.	<p>Issued a blanket waiver of the organized competition legislation to permit students who have not previously enrolled full time at a collegiate institution, and whose legislated grace period concluded before the 2020-21 academic year, to engage in organized competition during the 2020-21 academic year without using a season of competition.</p> <p>The waiver will be applied by the NCAA staff during the NCAA Eligibility Center amateurism certification process and reflected in the student-athlete's certification.</p>	7/29/20

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?	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.	4/15/20

Bylaw 14.3: Initial Eligibility Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	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.	
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
Should the current application of COVID-19 alternative standards be adjusted to provide enhanced flexibility?	Students who initially enroll full-time in 2020-21 will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver if they meet current COVID-19 alternative standards or legislated requirements without test scores.	8/14/20
Given continued uncertainty due to COVID-19, will there be any flexibility in the initial-eligibility standard for students who initially enroll full time in <u>2021-22</u> ?	Students who initially enroll full-time in 2021-22 will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver if they meet legislated requirements (qualifier, early academic qualifier, partial qualifier) without test scores.	8/14/20
Should current policies regarding pass/fail grades and unofficial documents be extended for students who initially enroll full time in <u>2021-22</u> ?	Students who successfully complete pass/fail courses in 2020-21 will receive 2.3 quality points for such courses, and unofficial documents may be used in the certification for students who initially enroll full-time in 2021-22.	8/14/20

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
Full-time enrollment for 2020-21 academic year.	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to allow student-athletes who will exhaust their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility during the 2020-21 academic year to participate in <u>practice</u> while enrolled part-time in at least nine-semester/eight-quarter hours for undergraduate and six-semester or six-quarter hours for graduate.</p> <p>(Note: student-athletes who practice while enrolled less than full-time would use a semester/quarter.)</p>	8/14/20

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 fall semester and implications for full-time enrollment in spring 2021.	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 fall 2020 term.	8/14/20
Progress-toward-degree requirements for the 2020-21 academic year.	Confirmed that progress-toward-degree requirements remain as legislated for the 2020-21 academic year.	8/14/20
Application of the missed term exception.	Issued a blanket waiver to allow the following student-athletes who choose to not enroll for the 2020 fall term to use the missed term exception: (1) A student-athlete in their first academic year in residence; and (2) A student-athlete who has previously used the missed term exception once during their collegiate enrollment.	8/21/20

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 college transitioned to remote learning).	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: (1) The student-athlete was on track to complete at least two full-time semesters or three quarters at the two-year college; (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;	5/6/20 Updated 5/13/20

Bylaw 14.5: Transfer Eligibility Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	<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 or 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 14.7: Outside Competition Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
<p>Application of outside competition (including unattached competition) legislation for the 2020-21 academic year.</p>	<p>Confirmed the legislation for outside competition apply as is for the 2020-21 academic year. If needed, institutions can file individual waiver requests.</p>	<p>8/14/20</p>

Bylaw 15: Financial Aid Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
<p>Financial aid equivalency limits for 2020-21 academic year.</p>	<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>3/13/20</p> <p>Criteria amended 3/18/20 and 3/25/20</p>

Bylaw 15: Financial Aid Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	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.	
Financial aid equivalency limits for the 2020-21 academic year.	Issued a blanket waiver to exempt from team equivalency limits athletics aid received by a fall sport student-athlete whose 10th semester/14th and 15th quarter is fall 2020 term (or for a student-athlete who has previously qualified for an extension of eligibility waiver) and qualifies for a one semester/two quarter extension to permit participation during the 2021 spring season.	9/2/20
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, opting out of participation in countable athletically related activities), does this constitute voluntary withdrawal and the institution can reduce/cancel athletics aid?	Adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend NCAA Bylaw 15.5.4.3 (reduction or cancellation not permitted) to prohibit an institution from reducing or cancelling athletics aid for a student-athlete who, by October 1, 2020, chooses to opt out of countable athletically related activities during the 2020-21 academic year due to concerns about contracting COVID-19; further, to clarify that a student-athlete's decision to opt out of participation by October 1, 2020 does not constitute a voluntary withdrawal from the team.	3/18/20 Updated 8/21/20
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).	5/6/20

Bylaw 15: Financial Aid Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	Institutions are encouraged to consult with legal counsel and risk management.	
Conference postgraduate scholarships for the 2020-21 academic year.	Issued a blanket waiver to permit student-athletes with remaining eligibility to receive a postgraduate scholarship from a conference office during the 2020-21 academic year and exempt the aid from institutional team equivalency limits.	8/14/20
Financial aid equivalency limits for the 2021-22 academic year.	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to permit a student-athlete, regardless of sport, who would have used their fourth season of competition or exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility during the 2020-21 academic year to receive athletics aid for the 2021-22 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 for the 2021-22 academic year, the athletics aid received at the new institution will count toward team equivalency limits.</p>	9/2/20

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 .	3/13/20

Bylaw 16: Awards and Benefits Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	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.	
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.	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. Please see July 29, 2020, membership communication for additional details. Additional educational resources will be developed and distributed to the membership.	6/17/20 Updated 7/15/20, 7/22/20

Bylaw 17: Playing and Practice Seasons Questions	Outcome	Decision Date
2020-21 playing and practice seasons – basketball.	Approved a blanket waiver that allows schools to adjust schedules for the 2020-21 academic year only. Please see July 29, 2020, membership communication for additional details. Additional educational resources will be developed and distributed to the membership.	7/29/20
2020-21 playing and practice seasons – all other Division II winter championship sports.	Approved a blanket waiver that allows schools to adjust schedules during a winter sport’s championship segment and nonchampionship segment for the 2020-21 academic year only. Please see July 29, 2020, membership communication for additional details. Additional educational resources will be developed and distributed to the membership.	7/29/20
2020-21 playing and practice seasons – Division II spring championship sports.	Approved a blanket waiver that allows schools to adjust schedules during a spring sport’s championship segment and nonchampionship segment for the 2020-21 academic year only. Please see July 29, 2020, membership communication for additional details. Additional educational resources will be developed and distributed to the membership.	7/29/20
Nonchampionship and out-of-season hour limitations during the fall 2020 term.	Confirmed the nonchampionship segment and out-of-season daily and hour limitations will remain as is for the 2020-21 academic year.	7/29/20
Voluntary workouts for prospective student-athletes prior to the start of the 2020-21 academic year.	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to permit incoming prospective student-athletes to participate in voluntary workouts prior to the start of the 2020-21 academic year, as follows:</p> <p>(a) Incoming fall sport prospective student-athletes who have moved into the dorms (or, for individuals living off-campus, in the locale of the institution) on/after the move-in date for all students may request</p>	8/14/20

Bylaw 17: Playing and Practice Seasons Questions	Outcome	Decision Date
	<p>voluntary workouts with their sport coaches prior to the start of the 2020-21 academic year (Note: fall sport prospective student-athletes are already permitted to request voluntary workouts with strength and conditioning coaches during the summer vacation period after June 1); and</p> <p>(b) Incoming winter or spring sport prospective student-athletes who have moved into the dorms (or, for individuals living off-campus, in the locale of the institution) on/after the move-in date for all students may request voluntary workouts with their sport coaches and/or strength and conditioning coaches prior to the start of the 2020-21 academic year.</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
Waiving legal rights as a condition of participation.	Adopted noncontroversial legislation for the 2020-21 academic year only to amend NCAA Constitution 3.3.4 (conditions and obligations of membership) to prohibit an institution from requiring student-athletes to waive their legal rights regarding COVID-19 as a condition of athletics participation.	8/21/20
COVID-19 medical expenses.	Adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend NCAA Constitution 3.3.4 (conditions and obligations of membership) to specify that, prior to a student-athlete participating in fall 2020 term competition (e.g.,	8/21/20

Bylaw 20: Membership Issues	Outcome	Decision Date
	<p>championship segment or nonchampionship segment competition; scrimmages combining teams from two different institutions; and practices combining teams from two different institutions), the institution shall:</p> <p>(1) Provide information on the waivers and legislative changes approved by Division II for student-athletes due to the impact of COVID-19 (e.g., accommodations for student-athletes who opt out, season-of-competition waivers);</p> <p>(2) Review the institution’s institutional insurance coverage with student-athletes who plan to compete in the fall 2020 term, and advise student-athletes to review their own existing coverage;</p> <p>(3) Inform student-athletes of the risk classification of their sports according to the NCAA Resocialization of Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition; and</p> <p>(4) Provide information about how the institution is complying with the NCAA Resocialization of Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition.</p>	
Sports sponsorship.	Issued a blanket waiver of the sports sponsorship requirements for the 2020-21 academic year.	9/2/20
Five-sport/three-season requirement.	Issued a blanket waiver of the five-sport/three-season requirement for the 2020-21 academic year.	9/2/20