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The Division II Presidents Council met this afternoon to take action on recommendations it received from the Division II Management Council regarding the NCAA Board of Governors' directives related to student-athlete well-being. All three divisions were required [by the Board of Governors](#) to take action on these directives by today.

To aid in their discussions this week, the Division II Administrative Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council reviewed membership feedback on the Board of Governors' student-athlete well-being directives. Part of that feedback was provided in a membership survey distributed to the division's council and committee members, Division II Athletics Directors Association board, Division II Conference Commissioners Association and Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators. The national Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee also had the opportunity to provide feedback on the survey.

The council **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 (CARA) during the 2020-21 academic year due to concerns about contracting COVID-19.** A student-athlete's decision to opt out of participation during the 2020-21 academic year does not constitute a voluntary withdrawal from the team. This legislation is effective immediately, and it applies retroactively, for any athletics aid agreements signed for the 2020-21 academic year only. An institution may still require a student-athlete receiving athletics aid who opts out of CARA to participate in noncountable activities such as study hall or medical treatments.

The council **extended the application of the [previously approved extension of eligibility waiver](#) (two semesters/three quarters) to student-athletes who opt out of countable athletically related activities for the 2020-21 academic year, regardless of when the student-athlete opts out.**

The council approved a **blanket waiver to allow the following student-athletes who choose to not enroll for the fall 2020 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.**

The council adopted **noncontroversial legislation 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.** This legislation is effective immediately, and it applies retroactively, for the 2020-21 academic year only. It remains permissible for an institution to have student-athletes sign a pledge document requiring them to abide by virus mitigation measures.

Finally, **the Presidents Council believes that each student-athlete should make an informed decision to participate in competition in the fall 2020 term. With the approval of waivers and legislative changes by Division II, each student-athlete has the flexibility to decide their participation in competition.** To ensure that each

student-athlete makes an informed decision, the Presidents Council adopted **noncontroversial legislation, effective immediately, to require the following:**

Prior to a student-athlete participating in fall 2020 term competition (e.g., championship segment or nonchampionship segment competition; scrimmages combining teams from two different institutions; and practices combining teams from two different institutions), the institution shall:

- 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);**
- 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;**
- 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**
- 4. Provide information about how the institution is complying with the NCAA Resocialization of Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition.**

A document containing common questions and answers related to the Administrative Committee's COVID-19 action continues to be updated on the [DII compliance page](#). This document will be updated early next week with questions and answers pertaining to today's actions.

Please work with your compliance administrator on any questions you have.

We continue to encourage institutions to make decisions and act in the best interest of your student-athletes and communities.

Best wishes with the start of the fall semester. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

This email was sent to NCAA Division II chancellors and presidents, directors of athletics, faculty athletics representatives, senior compliance administrators, senior woman administrators, head coaches, head athletic trainers, sports information directors, conference commissioners, conference senior woman administrators, conference compliance administrators and the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee based on contact information in the [NCAA Directory](#).

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