

**2011-12 NCAA Division I Legislative Proposals
Question and Answer Document**

(Updated: November 9, 2011)

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of select proposals in the 2011-12 legislative cycle.

NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2011-13 Personnel -- Definitions and Applications – Graduate-Assistant Coach -- Bowl Subdivision Football -- No Previous Football Bowl Subdivision or Professional Coaching Experience

Question: Does the legislation apply to an individual who has previously coached in a professional football league located outside the United States, such as the Canadian Football League?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Does the legislation apply to an individual who previously coached football at an FCS institution that has been recently reclassified as an FBS institution?

Answer: No. The application of the legislation is based on the classification of the institution during any time of the individual's employment at the institution.

Question: If adopted, how would this proposal apply to current football graduate-assistant coaches?

Answer: It would only apply to graduate-assistant coaches who are initially employed as such on or after the date this proposal is adopted.

Proposal No. 2011-14 Personnel -- Definitions and Applications – Graduate-Assistant Coach -- Bowl Subdivision Football -- No Previous Collegiate or Professional Coaching Experience

Question: If adopted, how would this proposal apply to current football graduate-assistant coaches?

Answer: It would only apply to graduate-assistant coaches who are initially employed as such on or after August 1, 2012.

Question: Does this proposal apply to an individual who was previously a head football coach at a junior college or at a Division II or Division III institution?

Answer: Yes. An individual with any coaching experience at any college would be precluded from employment as a graduate-assistant coach.

Question: Does the proposal apply to an individual who was previously a head football coach at a collegiate institution only on an interim basis?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If adopted, would an institution be permitted to employ an individual as a graduate-assistant coach if the individual was previously a volunteer coach at a collegiate institution?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-15 Personnel -- Definitions and Applications – Student-Assistant Coach -- Full-Time Graduate Student Within Five-Year Period of Eligibility

Question: If adopted, would this proposal permit a student-athlete to transfer from an institution at which he or she exhausted eligibility to another Division I institution to serve as a student-assistant coach?

Answer: No. The legislation requires that the individual is enrolled at the institution at which he or she most recently participated in intercollegiate athletics.

Question: Is the individual required to be enrolled in a specific graduate degree program?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-17 Personnel -- Contractual Agreements -- Athletically Related Income - - Part-Time or Volunteer Staff with Sport-Specific Responsibilities

Question: Is a part-time staff member required to report his or her outside income if his or her responsibilities are divided among two different sports (e.g., 50 percent in football and 50 percent in track)?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-18 Personnel and Recruiting -- Recruiting Coordination Functions -- Telephone Calls -- Receipt of Calls from Prospective Student-Athletes

Question: Is it permissible for noncoaching staff members to receive telephone calls from a prospective student-athlete at his or her expense before July 1 following the prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If a noncoaching staff member receives a telephone call from a prospective student-athlete, are there restrictions on the content of the discussions?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-21 Personnel -- Limitations on Number of Off-Campus Recruiters at Any One Time -- Exception -- Football -- Contact Period

Question: Would an institution be permitted to use either the general rule regarding the limit on the number of coaches who may recruit off campus at any one time (i.e., the total number of coaches recruiting on behalf of the institution at any time may not exceed the permissible number) or the exception to the general rule (i.e., no more than the permissible number of coaches may engage in off-campus recruiting activities each day)?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-22 Personnel -- Bench Personnel Restriction -- Men's Basketball

Question: If an institution only employs three coaches, may the institution fill the remaining coach's seat on the bench by another individual who is not a coach, provided the number of personnel on the bench does not exceed seven?

Answer: No.

Question: Would it be permissible for athletics staff members who are not sitting on the bench to participate in other game-day activities (e.g., time-out huddles, pre-game and post-game)?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-23 Amateurism -- Definitions and Applications – Agent

Question: Would a prospective student-athlete's parents be considered agents since they are trying to assist their son or daughter in securing an athletics scholarship with an institution?

Answer: No. The proposal did not intend to include a prospect's parents or legal guardians or high school and nonscholastic coaches unless they are seeking a financial gain for placing the prospect at a particular school.

Proposal No. 2011-24 Amateurism -- Amateur Status -- Expenses From a Sponsor for Practice or Competition in Individual Sports Prior to Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment

Question: Is there a limit on the number of events in which a prospective student-athlete may compete and receive actual and necessary expenses from a sponsor?

Answer: No.

Question: May the actual and necessary expenses received by the prospective student-athlete also include expenses incurred by others (e.g., parents, coach)?

Answer: No. The calculation of actual and necessary expenses shall not include the expenses or fees of anyone other than the prospective student-athlete (e.g., coach's fees or expenses, parent's expenses).

Question: Would it be permissible for the prospective student-athlete to wear the logo of a company that provided funding to the prospective student-athlete on his or her clothing during the athletic event?

Answer: Yes, provided the prospective student-athlete only accepts up to actual and necessary expenses associated with the event.

Question: Does this proposal permit a prospective student-athlete to conduct a fundraising event (e.g., bake sale, car wash) on his or her own to pay for participation in an athletics event?

Answer: Yes, provided the prospective student-athlete only accepts up to actual and necessary expenses associated with an athletics event.

Proposal No. 2011-25 Amateurism -- Exceptions to Amateurism Rule -- Prize Money Prior to Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment -- Tennis -- \$10,000 Per Year

Question: Is the \$10,000 prize money benchmark calculated in U.S. dollars, the currency where the tennis event occurred or the individual's home country?

Answer: The \$10,000 prize money benchmark is calculated in U.S. dollars.

Question: If adopted, will the legislation apply to student-athletes whose initial full-time collegiate enrollment occurs on or after the date the proposal is adopted?

Answer: Yes. The amateur status of student-athletes whose initial full-time collegiate enrollment occurs on or after the date the proposal is adopted will be evaluated based on the adopted legislation.

Proposal No. 2011-27 Amateurism and Executive Regulations -- Financial Donations and Advertising and Sponsorship of NCAA Championships -- Professional Sports Organizations

Question: Does the sport of the sponsoring professional sports organization and the NCAA championship have to be the same (e.g., NFL and the NCAA Division I Football Championship) for the legislation to apply?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-28 Recruiting -- Permissible Recruiters -- General Exceptions -- Parents of Enrolled Student-Athletes

Question: Is the regularly scheduled on-campus athletics event required to be the sport in which the prospective student-athlete participates?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-29 Recruiting -- Permissible Recruiters -- Student-Athlete -- Off-Campus Contacts During an Unofficial Visit

Question: May a student-athlete transport a prospective student-athlete to an off-campus location during the unofficial visit?

Answer: Yes, provided such contacts do not occur at the direction of a coaching staff member and the prospective student-athlete has notified the institution that he or she is making an unofficial visit.

Proposal No. 2011-38 Recruiting -- Recruiting Materials -- Electronic Transmissions -- Exception -- Social Media Platforms -- Automated Notifications

Question: Would it be permissible for a coach to accept a prospective student-athlete's friend request on Facebook before the date on which it is permissible to send recruiting correspondence to the prospective student-athlete?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would it be permissible for a coach to initiate a Facebook friend request to a prospective student-athlete before the date on which it is permissible to send recruiting correspondence to the prospective student-athlete?

Answer: No.

Question: Once an initial connection between a coach and a prospective student-athlete has been established (e.g., coach and prospective student-athlete are Facebook friends), may a coach take an action on a prospective student-athlete's social media page (before the date on which it is permissible to send recruiting correspondence to the prospective student-athlete) that will result in an email being sent to the prospective student-athlete, such as clicking the "like" button next to a Facebook status?

Answer: No.

Question: Once an initial connection between a coach and a prospective student-athlete has been established (e.g., coach and prospective student-athlete are Facebook friends), may a coach take an action on his or her own social media page that will result in an email being sent to the prospective student-athlete (before the date on which it is permissible to send recruiting correspondence to the prospective student-athlete), such as posting a message, which will generate a message to all of the coach's "followers" or "friends"?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-39 Recruiting -- Recruiting Materials -- Advertisements and Promotions -- Camp or Clinic Advertisements -- Camp or Clinic Brochures Available at Event Venue

Question: Is an institution permitted to have staff members (athletics and nonathletics) present at these events to distribute the camp or clinic brochures?

Answer: No.

Question: Would an institution be permitted to have athletically-related signage in the event in addition to the camp or clinic brochures?

Answer: No.

Question: Would an institution be permitted to advertise its camps or clinics within the event venue on the scoreboard or on a banner?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-41 Recruiting -- Unofficial (Nonpaid) Visit -- First Opportunity to Visit

Question: May an unofficial visit occur on or after June 15 even if the prospective student-athlete is still completing his or her freshman year in high school (e.g., conclusion of freshman year is June 18)?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-42 Recruiting -- Entertainment, Reimbursement and Employment of High School/College-Preparatory School/Two-Year College Coaches and Other Individuals Associated with Prospective Student-Athletes -- Exception -- Nonathletics Personnel

Question: Would it be permissible for a high school guidance counselor who is also the high school's soccer coach to receive the benefits described in the proposal?

Answer: No.

Question: Would it be permissible for prospect-aged children of attendees to attend the athletics event and receive the benefits?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-43 Recruiting and Financial Aid -- Letter-of-Intent Programs, Financial Aid Agreements -- Letter of Intent Restriction -- Limitation on Number of Signings -- Bowl Subdivision Football

Question: Is there a limit on the number of prospective student-athletes who may sign an institutional offer of financial aid after May 31?

Answer: No.

Question: If a prospective student-athlete's National Letter of Intent (NLI) is voided after December 1 and before May 31, may the institution sign another prospective student-athlete as a replacement?

Answer: Yes, provided the replacement signing does not occur until after May 31.

Question: Would it be permissible for a midyear two-year college transfer to sign an institution's written offer of athletics aid prior to the midyear junior college transfer NLI signing date but after December 1?

Answer: No.

Question: Would a high school prospective student-athlete who signs an institution's written offer of aid after December 1 and is enrolling midyear count toward the limit of 25?

Answer: If the institution is not including the prospective student-athlete as an initial counter for the year in he or she enrolls, then the prospective student-athlete would count toward the limit of 25.

Proposal No. 2011-44 Recruiting -- Letter-of-Intent Programs, Financial Aid Agreements -- Submission of Transcript to NCAA Eligibility Center Before Signing

Question: Would a prospective student-athlete's NLI be voided if the NCAA Eligibility Center did not receive an official high school transcript for each high school the prospective student-athlete has attended through his or her sixth semester (or equivalent) of enrollment before signed the NLI?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-45 Recruiting -- Tryouts -- Nonscholastic Practice or Competition and Noninstitutional Camps and Clinics -- Women's Basketball

Question: May an institution host a basketball practice, contest or event in which women's basketball prospective-student-athletes participate on its campus that is operated by a nonscholastic entity, but has been approved by the appropriate scholastic entity (e.g., high school association, National High School Federation)?

Answer: No. The practice, contest or event must be a regular scholastic practice, contest or event that is conducted by an applicable scholastic entity.

Question: May a department outside of the athletics department (e.g., intramural department) conduct a basketball camp or clinic for women's basketball prospective student-athletes?

Answer: Yes, provided the camp or clinic is operated in accordance with restrictions applicable to institutional camps or clinics, including the limitation to the months of June, July and August.

Proposal No. 2011-46 Recruiting -- Tryouts -- Nonscholastic Practice or Competition and Noninstitutional Camps or Clinics -- Football

Question: May an institution host a football practice, contest or event in which football prospective-student-athletes participate on its campus that is operated by a nonscholastic entity, but has been approved by the appropriate scholastic entity (e.g., high school association, National High School Federation)?

Answer: No. The practice, contest or event must be a regular scholastic practice, contest or event that is conducted by an applicable scholastic entity.

Question: May a department outside of the athletics department (e.g., intramural department) conduct a football camp or clinic for football prospective student-athletes?

Answer: Yes, provided the camp or clinic is operated in accordance with restrictions applicable to institutional camps or clinics, including the limitation on the time periods in which such camps or clinics may occur.

Proposal No. 2011-62 Eligibility -- General Eligibility Requirements -- Eligibility Form -- International Student-Athlete

Question: Are institutions still required to certify activities that occur after the prospective student-athlete's request that a final amateurism certification be issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center and before his or her initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-64 Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: Five-Year Rule -- Five Seasons of Eligibility -- Football

Question: Is a student-athlete permitted to use a fifth season of competition at any Division I institution at which the student-athlete previously used a season of competition (e.g., transfer)?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-65 Eligibility -- Two-Year College Transfers -- Year of Academic Readiness At Two-Year College

Question: Is there a certain number of credits (remedial or otherwise) that must be earned by the student-athlete during the year of academic readiness?

Answer: No. There is no specified curriculum for the year of academic readiness and the two-year institution is provided the discretion to work with the student-athlete to determine the appropriate course work for that year.

Question: May a student-athlete complete the year of academic readiness at one two-year college and then transfer to a second two-year college and complete the remainder of the five semester/seven quarter obligation at the second institution?

Answer: Yes.

Question: May a student-athlete complete a year of academic readiness at one two-year college, transfer, and complete another year of academic readiness at a second two-year college?

Answer: No.

Question: May a student-athlete practice with his or her team during the year of academic readiness?

Answer: Yes.

Question: May a multisport student-athlete declare that he or she is using the year of academic readiness in one sport but not in the other sport?

Answer: No.

Question: Would the year of academic readiness be considered a denied participation opportunity for the purposes of a clock extension or a season of competition waiver?

Answer: No.

Question: May a student-athlete compete in outside competition unattached or as a member of an outside amateur team during the year of academic readiness?

Answer: No.

Question: Is a student-athlete who engages in the year of academic readiness able to use credits earned during the year in readiness and/or use an SAT or ACT test score taken during the year in readiness for purposes of meeting initial-eligibility requirements?

Answer: No.

Question: Is a student-athlete required to enroll in a two-year collegiate institution and begin the year of academic readiness at his or her first opportunity to enroll following high school graduation?

Answer: No.

Question: Is a student-athlete who engages in the year of academic readiness allowed to take advantage of the current exceptions to the five years of eligibility (e.g., active military service, official religious mission) if it interrupts the student-athlete's enrollment at the two-year college?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are the five semesters/seven quarters of full-time enrollment at the two-year college required to be completed consecutively?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is the year of academic readiness considered the first academic year at a two-year college for purposes of the in-person contact restriction for nonqualifiers?

Answer: No. In-person recruiting contact shall not be allowed until after completion of the year of academic readiness and the second academic year for student-athletes who engage in the year of academic readiness. Telephone contact would remain permissible during the year of academic readiness and the second academic year at the two-year college.

Question: May a student-athlete who does not meet NCAA initial-eligibility requirements, but who does not register or receive a final certification from the NCAA Eligibility Center take advantage of the year of academic readiness.

Answer: No. A student-athlete must be certified as a nonqualifier by the NCAA Eligibility Center in order to take advantage of the year of academic readiness.

Question: When must the student-athlete and two-year institution designate the use of the year of academic readiness with the NCAA Eligibility Center in order to appropriately opt-in to the year of academic readiness?

Answer: A designation must be completed prior to the end of the initial academic year at the two-year institution.

Question: May a student-athlete use courses earned during the year of academic readiness for transfer and/or progress-toward-degree purposes?

Answer: Yes.

Question: May a student-athlete opt-out of the year of academic readiness and transfer to a four-year institution prior to the completion of five semesters/seven quarters of full-time attendance?

Answer: Yes. A student-athlete may opt-out at any time, however the start of the student-athlete's five year period of eligibility will revert back to beginning of the year of academic readiness for all legislative purposes and he or she will be limited to receiving five years of athletics financial aid.

Question: A student-athlete engages in the year of academic readiness and completes five semesters/seven semesters of full-time attendance at a two-year institution, but does not meet the 2-4 transfer requirements upon transfer to a four-year institution. Does this student-athlete's five year period of eligibility revert back to beginning of the year of academic readiness for all legislative purposes?

Answer: No. The student-athlete is deemed to have completed the year of academic readiness program. Additionally, the student-athlete would be deemed to have participated in the year of academic readiness for purposes of receiving six years of athletically related aid in seven years. Failure to meet the 2-4 transfer requirements, however, results in a nonqualifier having to serve a year of residence at the four-year institution prior to being eligible for practice, athletics aid and competition.

Question: How does the year of academic readiness impact graduation reporting for purposes of the NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR)?

Answer: A student-athlete who successfully completes a year of academic readiness at a two-year college must graduate after completion of ten semesters/15 quarters of actual full-time enrollment following the year of academic readiness in order to earn the APR eligibility point for the 10th semester/15th quarter.

However, for the purposes of calculating a team's federal graduation rate and graduation success rate, a student-athlete who completes a year of academic readiness at a two-year college must graduate within six years of initial full-time enrollment at the two-year college in order to be reported as a graduate.

Question: May a two-year institution file a waiver on behalf of a student-athlete who mistakenly competes while intending to use the year of academic readiness?

Answer: No. A waiver must be filed by an NCAA member institution. However, an NCAA member institution may file a waiver without restriction as to timing after enrollment at the two-year collegiate institution.

Proposal No. 2011-66 Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition -- Minimum Amount of Competition -- Exception -- Nonchampionship Segment Competition -- Softball

Question: If a student-athlete only competes during the nonchampionship segment and suffers a season-ending injury, is a hardship waiver necessary?

Answer: No. If this proposal is adopted, if a student-athlete only competes during the nonchampionship segment, a hardship waiver would not be necessary because the student-athlete would not have used a season of competition.

Question: If a student-athlete competes during the championship segment, triggering the use of a season of competition and suffers a season-ending injury, would an institution include the student-athlete's dates of competition during the nonchampionship segment in the hardship waiver calculation?

Answer: No. A student-athlete's participation during the nonchampionship segment would not constitute the use of a season of competition; therefore, these dates would not be included in the hardship waiver calculation

Proposal No. 2011-68 Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Fulfillment of Credit-Hour Requirements -- Additional Requirements -- Football -- Exception -- Team Academic Progress Rate

Question: If this proposal is adopted, which APR data would be used to determine if the football team had met the 965 benchmark in fall 2012?

Answer: The APR data that would be used would be data from the 2010-11 APR cohort, which is collected fall 2011 and reported publicly in the spring 2012.

Proposal No. 2011-71 Eligibility -- Transfer Regulations -- Four-Year College Transfers -- One-Time Transfer Exception -- Women's Ice Hockey

Question: May a women's ice hockey student-athlete transfer to a Division I institution after the 2012 spring term (semester or quarter), enroll in the summer term and use the one-time transfer exception?

Answer: No. Such a student-athlete would be subject to the new legislation because her first full-time enrollment in a regular academic term would occur with the 2012 fall term.

Question: If this proposal is adopted, may a women's ice hockey student-athlete who has not previously received athletics aid transfer and use the one-time transfer exception?

Answer: No. However, a women's ice hockey student-athlete who was not recruited by the original four-year institution and has never received athletics aid from any four-year institution may use the one-time transfer exception, provided all the

conditions are met. Note that other exceptions to the transfer residence requirement would continue to apply (e.g., nonrecruited student exception, two-year nonparticipation or minimal participation exception).

Proposal No. 2011-74 Financial Aid -- Summer Financial Aid -- Enrolled Student-Athletes -- Proportionality Restriction -- Exhausted Eligibility Exception

Question: In order to use this exception, is the student-athlete required to be enrolled in all the courses that are being offered in the summer that are acceptable toward the student-athlete's degree?

Answer: Yes.

Proposal No. 2011-80 Awards, Benefits And Expenses -- Expenses Provided By the Institution for Practice and Competition -- National Team Tryouts -- Not More Than Two Events

Question: Do the tryouts have to be consecutive tryouts?

Answer: No.

Question: Is the student-athlete required to progress to the next level of tryout competition in order for the institution to pay for the second tryout?

Answer: No.

Proposal No. 2011-81 Awards, Benefits and Expenses -- Other Travel Expenses Provided By the Institution -- Conference-Sponsored Life Skills Program

Question: Is there a limit on the number of times an institution or conference may pay for a student-athlete to attend a conference-sponsored life skills program?

Answer: No.