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Two-Year College Transfer Requirements

14.5.4 Two-Year College Transfers. A student who transfers to a member institution from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program must complete an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.11), unless the student meets the following eligibility requirements applicable to the division of which the certifying institution is a member. (*Revised: 1/10/92, 4/4/07, 4/30/10, 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16*)

14.5.4.1 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid—Graduation From Two-Year College. A transfer student from a two-year college who has graduated from the two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence, provided: (*Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16*)

- (a) The student-athlete has attended the two-year college as a full-time student for at least two semesters or three quarters (excluding summer sessions); and
- (b) At least 25 percent of the credit hours used to fulfill the student's academic degree requirements are earned at the two-year college that awards the degree per Bylaw 14.5.4.5.4 (see Bylaw 14.4 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes).

14.5.4.1.1 Application. If a two-year college transfer has never attended a four-year college as a full-time student, then the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and academic degree(s) from any two-year college(s) attended shall be considered. (*Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16*)

14.5.4.1.2 Exception—Previous Four-Year College Attendance—Graduation After One Semester or Quarter. A student who transfers from a four-year college to a two-year college and then to the certifying institution is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during his or her first year at the certifying institution, provided the student: (*Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16*)

- (a) Attended the last two-year college as a full-time student for only one semester or one quarter; and
- (b) Graduated from that two-year college.

14.5.4.2 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid—Qualifier With No Four-Year College Attendance and Only One Term of Attendance at a Two-Year College. A transfer student from a two-year college who was a qualifier (per Bylaw 14.3.1.1), has not previously attended a four-year collegiate institution and has only attended a two-year college for one academic term (semester or quarter), is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided: (*Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16*)

- (a) The student-athlete has attended the two-year college as a full-time student for only one semester or one quarter (excluding summer sessions);
- (b) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution for the full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year college; and
- (c) The student-athlete has presented a cumulative minimum grade-point average of 2.200 (see Bylaw 14.5.4.5.3.2).

14.5.4.2.1 Use of Physical Education Activity Courses. Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average

requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

14.5.4.2.2 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid. Qualifiers who do not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4.2 may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year of residence. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

14.5.4.3 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid—All Other Qualifiers, Partial Qualifiers and Nonqualifiers. A transfer student from a two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided: *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

- (a) The student-athlete has attended the two-year college as a full-time student for at least two semesters or three quarters (excluding summer sessions);
- (b) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year college;
- (c) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed the following transferable credit-hour requirements:
 - (1) Six semester or eight quarter hours of English;
 - (2) Three semester or four quarter hours of math; and
 - (3) Three semester or four quarter hours of natural or physical science;

Remedial credit hours may not be used to satisfy these requirements. A transfer student from a two-year college who has previously attended a four-year college as a full-time student may use transferable English, math and science credits earned while enrolled at the four-year institution.

- (d) The student-athlete has presented a cumulative minimum grade-point average of 2.200 (see Bylaw 14.5.4.4.3.2).

14.5.4.3.1 Use of Physical Education Activity Courses. Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

14.5.4.3.2 Application.

- (a) **Transfer Never Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has never attended a four-year institution as a full-time student, then the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and the transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) from any two-year college(s) attended shall be considered. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*
- (b) **Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If the two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during

his or her academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) earned at the two-year college(s) attended after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college shall be considered. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

14.5.4.3.3 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid—Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers. Qualifiers and partial qualifiers who do not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4.3, may practice and receive aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year in residence. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

14.5.4.3.4 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid—Nonqualifier. A nonqualifier who meets the requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4.3-(a) through 14.5.4.3-(c) and presented a cumulative minimum grade-point average of 2.000, may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during the first academic year of residence. *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16, for student-athletes initially enrolling in a Division II institution on or after 8/1/16)*

14.5.4.4 Subvarsity Competition. A transfer from a two-year college who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.5.4.1, 14.5.4.2 or 14.5.4.3 shall be eligible to compete only at the subvarsity level at the certifying institution. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a two-year college who was not a qualifier and who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4.3 shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first year in residence at the certifying institution. However, such a student who is a nonqualifier may participate in subvarsity practice sessions, provided they are conducted separate from varsity sessions. *(Revised: 1/11/89, 1/9/96, 1/14/97)*

14.5.4.5 Two-Year College Transfer Regulations. The following regulations shall be applied in administering the eligibility requirements for two-year college transfers.

14.5.4.5.1 Previous Enrollment at Two-Year Institution. The two-year college transfer requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4 apply to all two-year college transfers regardless of whether the student-athlete attended one or more four-year colleges prior to his or her full-time enrollment at the two-year institution. *(Adopted: 1/13/03 effective 8/1/03)*

14.5.4.5.2 Credit Earned at Four-Year Institution. If a student-athlete attends a two-year college and, before regular enrollment at the certifying institution, attains additional credits as a part-time student in a four-year collegiate institution, the hours accumulated at the four-year institution may be used by the certifying institution in determining the student-athlete's eligibility under the credit-hour requirement of the two-year college transfer provisions, provided: *(Revised: 1/8/07 effective 8/1/07)*

- (a) These hours are accepted by the two-year college and are placed on the transcript or other official document by the two-year college from which the student-athlete transfers before the date of initial regular enrollment at the certifying institution. Any official document (other than the student's transcript) used by the two-year college for this purpose includes the official seal of the two-year college, is signed by the appropriate academic official of the two-year college and is forwarded directly from the two-year college to the appropriate admissions official of the certifying institution; or *(Revised: 1/8/07 effective 8/1/07)*
- (b) Prior approval by the appropriate academic official of the two-year college was obtained by the student, granting permission to satisfactorily complete hours as a part-time student at a four-year collegiate institution before the date of initial regular enrollment at the certifying institution. Acceptance of approved hours must be in accordance with the transfer policies and procedures of both the two-year college and the certifying institution. *(Adopted: 1/8/07 effective 8/1/07)*

14.5.4.5.3 Determination of Transferable Degree Credit. For the purpose of determining transferable degree credit, the institution may count those courses accepted as degree credit in any of its colleges, schools or departments.



14.5.4.5.3.1 Transferable Credit, Unacceptable Grade. Credit hours for courses with grades not considered acceptable for transferable degree credit for all students at an institution shall not be counted in determining whether the transfer requirement for total number of hours is satisfied.

14.5.4.5.3.2 Calculation of Grade-Point Average for Transferable Credit. Grades earned in all courses that are normally transferable to an institution shall be considered in determining the qualitative grade-point average for meeting transfer requirements, regardless of the grade earned or whether such grade makes the course unacceptable for transferable degree credit. Only the last grade earned in a course that has been repeated shall be included in the grade-point-average calculation.

14.5.4.5.4 Academic Degree. In order to satisfy the two-year-college graduation requirement for eligibility immediately on transfer from a two-year college to a member institution, a student-athlete must receive an associate or equivalent degree in an academic, rather than a vocational or technical, curriculum. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to determine whether a two-year college degree is academic, rather than vocational or technical, in nature. *(Revised: 1/10/95)*

14.5.4.5.5 Transfer to Four-Year College Prior to Completion of Requirements. The requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4 must be met before a student-athlete's transfer to the certifying institution. Thus, if a two-year college student transfers (as defined in Bylaw 14.5.2) to an institution before the completion of applicable transfer requirements, the student is subject to the one-year residence requirement at the certifying institution, even though the student transfers back to the two-year college and completes the necessary requirements.

14.5.4.5.6 Participation Before Certification—Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete. If a recruited or a nonrecruited two-year college transfer reports for athletics participation before the student-athlete's high school or two-year college academic record has been certified, the student-athlete may practice, but not compete, for a maximum of 45 days. After this period, the student-athlete shall have established minimum requirements as a transfer to continue practicing or to compete. *(Revised: 1/13/03 effective 8/1/03)*

14.5.4.5.7 Competition in Year of Transfer. A transfer student from a two-year institution, who has met the two-year transfer eligibility requirements (per Bylaw 14.5.4), is not eligible to compete during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution if the student-athlete has competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous two-year institution. *(Revised: 1/11/94, 1/13/03 effective 8/1/03)*

14.5.4.6 Exceptions or Waivers for Transfer From Two-Year Colleges. A transfer student from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program is not subject to the residence requirement at the certifying institution, if any one of the following conditions is met. An individual who is a partial qualifier or nonqualifier shall not be permitted to use the exceptions under this bylaw.

14.5.4.6.1 Discontinued/Non-sponsored Sport Exception. The student changed institutions in order to continue participation in a sport because the student's original two-year college dropped the sport from its intercollegiate program (even though it may re-establish that sport on a club basis) or never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level while the student was in attendance at that institution, provided the student never attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport and the student earned at least a minimum 2.000 grade-point average (see Bylaw 14.5.4.5.3.2) at the two-year college. *(Revised: 1/11/89, 1/10/90)*

14.5.4.6.1.1 Original Collegiate Institution. In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the two-year college in which the student was enrolled immediately before the transfer to the certifying institution, provided that, if the student is transferring from a two-year college that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

14.5.4.5.2 Nonrecruited Student Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution and



the following conditions are met: *(Revised: 1/11/89)*

- (a) The student was not recruited per Bylaw 13.02.10.1 by the certifying institution;
- (b) No athletically related financial assistance has been received by the student-athlete;
- (c) The student-athlete has not competed for any previous institution and has not participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in intercollegiate athletics beyond a 14-consecutive calendar-day period at any previous institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day-period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity; and *(Revised: 1/12/04, 7/24/07)*
- (d) The student-athlete was eligible for admission to the certifying institution before initial enrollment in the two-year college.

14.5.4.6.3 Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from a two-year college and, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day-period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment. *(Revised: 10/20/03, 1/10/05, 1/8/07 for any progress-toward-degree certification or transfer on or after 8/1/06)*

14.5.4.6.4 Return to Original Institution Exception. The student returns to the four-year college from which he or she transferred to the two-year college, provided the student did not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the time of the transfer from the four-year college. The amount of time originally spent in residence at the first four-year college may be used by the student in completing the unfulfilled residence requirement at that institution. *(Adopted: 1/13/03 effective 8/1/03)*

14.5.4.7 Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all two-year college transfer requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations. *(Adopted: 6/1/14 effective 7/1/14)*