

**NCAA Division I Newly Adopted Academic Legislation  
Question and Answer Document**

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of select proposals adopted October 27, 2011, by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors.

**Proposal No. 2011-69 Eligibility -- Transfer Regulations -- 2-4 and 4-2-4 College Transfers.**

**Question:** Does the additional natural/physical science credit require a lab component?

**Answer:** No.

**Proposal No. 2011-70 Eligibility and Committees -- 2-4 and 4-2-4 Transfers -- Waivers -- Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers Committee.**

**Question:** Will the NCAA Division I Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers Committee also consider waiver requests for 4-4 transfers?

**Answer:** No. Waiver requests for 4-4 transfers will continue to be reviewed by the NCAA Division I Legislative Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief.

**Proposal No. 2011-94 Eligibility -- Freshman Academic Requirements -- Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Core Course Requirements and Initial-Eligibility Index.**

**Adopted Change No. 1: Establishes separate requirements for competition and for receipt of athletically related financial aid and practice during initial year of full-time enrollment.**

**Question No. 1:** Are student-athletes who are certified as qualifiers required to pass nine semester hours/eight quarter hours during the first regular academic term in order to be eligible for practice in the second semester or second and third quarters?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 2:** What are the initial-eligibility requirements for competition during the initial-year of full-time enrollment?

**Answer:** In order to compete during the initial year of full-time enrollment, a student-athlete must meet the requirements to be certified as a qualifier, which includes obtaining a minimum core-course grade-point average of 2.300 in the 16 required core courses. In addition, the sliding scale was

increased and the student-athlete must obtain a minimum SAT or ACT score that corresponds with his or her core-course grade-point average. Students must also successfully complete 10 core courses prior to the seventh semester (or equivalent) of high school. Seven of these 10 core courses must be successfully completed in English, math and natural/physical science. These core courses (and grades) will be used in calculating the core-course grade-point average for purposes of meeting the sliding scale and grade-point-average minimum.

**Question No. 3:** Will a separate initial-eligibility index (i.e., sliding scale) be published for purposes of the competition requirements? When will the full sliding scale be available?

**Answer:** Yes. The initial-eligibility index for qualifiers will require a core-course grade-point average that is approximately .500 grade-point-average units higher for a given test score than the current qualifier standard. The full scale with exact coordinates will be available in mid-to-late January. Technical issues are being reviewed by research experts and the concordance of test scores is being verified. It is likely there will also be some minor modifications to the current sliding scale which will be used to determine eligibility for athletics aid, effective August 1, 2015. This scale will be published in mid-to-late January.

**Question No. 4:** What is an academic redshirt?

**Answer:** An academic redshirt is a student-athlete who, at the time of initial-eligibility certification, did not present the core-course grade-point average, SAT/ACT score and/or core-course requirements to be certified as a qualifier, but meets the requirements for practice and the receipt of athletics aid during the initial year of full-time enrollment.

**Question No. 5:** Is a student-athlete who is an academic redshirt included in a scholarship team's NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR) cohort?

**Answer:** Yes, if he or she receives athletically related financial aid and is enrolled full time as of the fifth week of class or the census date, whichever is earlier.

**Question No. 6:** If a student-athlete who is an academic redshirt earns at least six credit hours in the fall term but does not earn nine semester hours/eight quarter hours, may the APR eligibility point be awarded for the fall term?

**Answer:** Yes, provided institutional and conference requirements are also met.

**Question No. 7:** Is a qualifier required to complete nine semester hours/eight quarter hours in order to remain eligible in subsequent terms?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 8:** Do the nine semester hours/eight quarter hours needed for practice in the second semester, or second and third quarters, have to be degree applicable?

**Answer:** Yes, consistent with current legislation.

**Question No. 9:** Will compliance assistant be modified so that institutions can track each incoming freshman's qualification status?

**Answer:** The NCAA staff is examining options and some functionality will be added to compliance assistant in order to track this.

**Question No. 10:** When will the test scores be available for the new initial-eligibility indexes?

**Answer:** The full scale with exact coordinates will be published in mid-to-late January. Technical issues are being reviewed by research experts and the concordance of test scores is being verified.

**Question No. 11:** Is a student-athlete who is an academic redshirt required to earn 80 percent of his or her degree program at the beginning of the fifth year following initial full-time enrollment in order to be granted a fourth season of competition?

**Answer:** No. An academic redshirt is eligible for four seasons of competition upon enrollment.

**Question No. 12:** What type of waiver would an institution file on behalf of a student-athlete who fails to earn the nine semester /eight quarter hours for practice in the second semester/second and third quarters?

**Answer:** The institution may file a progress-toward-degree waiver.

**Question No. 13:** May a student-athlete who is an academic redshirt be permitted to use an exception to the residency requirement for a student-athlete who transfers during the first year of enrollment?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 14:** Does this legislation have any impact on conference rules related to qualification status?

**Answer:** It will be up to each conference to determine its rules in light of this newly adopted legislation.

**Question No. 15:** May remedial hours be used to meet the nine semester hours/eight quarter hours needed for practice in the second semester or second and third quarters?

**Answer:** Remedial, tutorial or noncredit courses may be used to satisfy six of the nine semester hours and eight of the eight quarter hours provided they are: (a) considered to be prerequisites for specific courses acceptable for any degree program, (b) given the same weight as others in the institution for determining the student's status for full-time enrollment and (c) if noncredit courses, do not exceed the maximum institutional limit for such courses in any baccalaureate degree program.

**Question No. 16:** May hours earned prior to the student's first full-time term of attendance at the certifying institution be used to meet the nine semester hours/eight quarter hours needed for practice in the second semester or second and third quarters?

**Answer:** No. The hours must be earned during the fall term.

**Adopted Change No. 2: Requires the successful completion of 10 core courses before the seventh semester (or equivalent) of high school. At least seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, math and natural or physical science.**

**Question No. 1:** Is there a specific number of English courses, or math and natural or physical science courses that must be completed to satisfy the seven of 10 core-course requirement?

**Answer:** No. Students may use any combination of English, math and natural or physical science courses for purposes of the seven of 10 core-course requirement; to the extent those courses also meet the 16 core-course distribution.

**Question No. 2:** Is a lab required for a natural or physical science course in order for it to be counted within the seven core courses?

**Answer:** No; however, a natural or physical science laboratory course, if offered by the high school, is required in order to satisfy the 16 core-course requirements.

**Question No. 3:** Is it permissible to use an English as a Second Language course to satisfy the English component of the seven of 10 core-course requirement?

**Answer:** It is permissible to use an advanced-level English as a Second Language course to satisfy the English component of the seven of 10 core-course requirement, provided the course is reviewed and approved through the initial-eligibility waiver process.

**Question No. 4:** If a student repeats a grade in high school, is he or she required to still complete 10 core courses before the start of the seventh semester, including any repeated semesters?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 5:** If a student fails to achieve 10 core courses before the seventh semester, may the student still be able to receive athletics aid and practice in the first year of enrollment?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the student presents 16 core courses and meets the necessary core-course grade-point average and test score requirement.

**Question No. 6:** What is the waiver process that is available if a student fails to complete 10 core courses before the seventh semester?

**Answer:** The institution may submit an initial-eligibility waiver on the student's behalf. However, the waiver may only be submitted after a final certification has been rendered.

**Question No. 7:** May a student re-take courses in the seventh semester (or equivalent) and beyond in order to improve the grades for the 10 core courses completed before the seventh semester?

**Answer:** No. The grades earned prior to the seventh semester (or equivalent) in the 10 core courses will be used in the student-athlete's final academic certification.

**Question No. 8:** NCAA Bylaw 14.3.1.2.8 (repeat courses) permits a repeated course to be used once to satisfy the core-course requirements. If a student wishes to use a repeated course for the purpose of satisfying the 10 core-courses requirement, must the repeated course be successfully completed prior to the student's seventh semester of high school?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 9:** Must a minimum grade be earned in the 10 core courses?

**Answer:** The student must achieve a passing grade. Grades from the 10 core courses will be included in the calculation of the core-course grade-point average.

**Question No. 10:** Is a student-athlete who has been certified as an early academic qualifier per Bylaw 14.3.1.1.1 (exception – early academic certification) also required to meet the 10 core-courses requirement?

**Answer:** The early academic qualifier standard will be amended by the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet during a future meeting.

**Question No. 11:** Does this legislation also apply to international student-athletes?

**Answer:** The Academic Cabinet will examine this issue at a future meeting, based on recommendations from the NCAA International Student Records Committee.

**Question No. 12:** May a student-athlete replace a grade in one of the 10 core courses with a grade earned in a core course earned per Bylaw 14.3.1.2.1.1.1 (exception – one core course after high school)?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 13:** Does this legislation also apply to student-athletes who are home-schooled?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 14:** Does this legislation also apply to student-athletes who have education-impacting disabilities?

**Answer:** The Academic Cabinet will examine this issue at a future meeting.

**Question No. 15:** Will the NCAA Eligibility Center use the best grades in the 10 core courses that are in English, mathematics and natural/physical science?

**Answer:** Yes, while also accounting for each student-athlete's requirement to meet the 16 core-course requirement.

**Question No. 16:** How will the core-course grade-point average be calculated for a prospective student-athlete who fails to meet the 10 core-courses requirement but ultimately achieves 16 core courses in the correct distribution?

**Answer:** The NCAA Eligibility Center will use the best grades in 16 core courses that fit the legislated distribution that are earned over eight semesters. However, such a student-athlete would not be certified as a qualifier.

**Question No. 17:** May a student-athlete use core courses completed in the summer before the seventh semester to meet the 10 core-courses requirement?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 18:** May a student-athlete use core courses completed prior to the ninth grade to meet the seven core-courses requirement?

**Answer:** Yes, provided they appear on the high school transcript with a grade and credit.

**Question No. 19:** May a student-athlete use high school courses completed in the eighth grade to meet the 10 core-courses requirement?

**Answer:** Yes, provided they appear on the high school transcript with a grade and are assigned graduation credit.

**Question No. 20:** May a student-athlete use core courses completed online independent of his or her high school to meet the 10 core-courses requirement?

**Answer:** Yes, provided they meet the legislation related to nontraditional courses and are successfully completed prior to the beginning of the student-athlete's seventh semester.

**Question No. 21:** May a student-athlete use college courses to meet the 10 core-courses requirement?

**Answer:** Yes, provided they meet the requirements of Bylaw 14.3.1.2.3 (college courses).

**Question No. 22:** Will the NCAA Eligibility Center certify that a student-athlete has met the 10 core-courses requirement during a preliminary certification?

**Answer:** Yes.

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This document contains questions and answers related to changes to the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program.

**Adopted Change No. 1: Establishes a 930 APR benchmark for eligibility to participate in postseason competition.**

**Question No. 1:** Is the new 930 APR benchmark a single-year or multiyear rate?

**Answer:** The new 930 APR benchmark will continue to be a multiyear rate comprised of data from the four most recent academic years.

**Question No. 2:** Why was the penalty benchmark increased to 930?

**Answer:** The Board of Directors and the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance have consistently indicated that the penalty benchmark should equate to approximately a 50 percent Graduation Success Rate (GSR). Based on appropriate changes and adjustments that have been incorporated into the APR metric, the retention point no longer predicts graduation as it was originally intended. Thus, the benchmark no longer predicts to a 50 percent graduation mark as was originally intended. 930 equates to approximately a 50 percent GSR.

**Question No. 3:** How is postseason competition defined?

**Answer:** Postseason is defined as any competition not considered regular season competition per Bylaw 17 (e.g., NCAA championships, national collegiate championships, Football bowl games, NIT, CIT, etc.).

**Question No. 4:** When will the loss of access to postseason competition be imposed?

**Answer:** The loss of access to postseason competition will be imposed the academic year after the loss of access is determined and announced (e.g., data for the 2010-11 academic year is submitted in fall 2011 and the multiyear APR is calculated; the school is notified and during 2011-12 there is a public announcement regarding loss of access to postseason; the team loses access to postseason competition during the 2012-13 academic year).

**Question No. 5:** Can a team that loses access to postseason competition compete in a conference tournament?

**Answer:** The loss of access to postseason competition does not affect a team's ability to compete in a conference tournament. However, each conference is required to adopt a written policy regarding teams subject to a loss of access to postseason competition with respect to the conference's automatic qualification for postseason/championships and revenue distribution. Thus a conference policy could preclude a team from competing in a conference tournament.

**Question No. 6:** Does the requirement for conferences to create a policy apply to all conferences or just multisport conferences?

**Answer:** The requirement requires all conferences, including single sport conferences (e.g., hockey conferences, lacrosse conferences, etc.) to create a policy regarding teams subject to a loss of access to postseason competition with respect to the conference's automatic qualification for postseason/championships and revenue distribution.

**Question No. 7:** In individual sports, if a team loses access to postseason competition can student-athletes on that team who otherwise qualify as individual competitors compete in postseason competition?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 8:** Is there a waiver process for the loss of access to postseason?

**Answer:** Yes. A waiver process does exist. However, the standard for relief is extremely rigorous. Relief will only be provided for teams that can show extraordinary circumstances that impacted multiple years of the team's APR. These waivers will be reviewed by the NCAA staff, and appeals would be reviewed on paper by a subcommittee of the Committee on Academic Performance. All decisions of the subcommittee are final, and not subject to further appeal.

**Adopted Change No. 2: Proposal 2011-95: Revises the APP penalty structure to provide for one, three-tiered penalty structure.**

*Level One*

**Question No. 9:** What are the Level One penalties?

**Answer:** The Level One penalty is the reduction of four hours and one day per week of countable athletically related activities during the team's playing season. This results in 16 hours per week and five days per week of countable athletically related activities allowed.

**Question No. 10:** Do the playing and practice season restrictions apply only to student-athletes who lost APR points, just to those in the APR cohort or to the entire team regardless of academic standing?

**Answer:** The playing and practice season restrictions apply to ALL student-athletes on the team regardless of their academic standing.

**Question No. 11:** Can institutions request a waiver of Level One penalties?

**Answer:** Yes. Institutions may submit a waiver requesting relief from Level One penalties. These waivers will be reviewed by the NCAA staff, and appeals would be reviewed on paper by a subcommittee of the Committee on Academic Performance. All decisions of the subcommittee are final, and not subject to further appeal.

**Question No. 12:** Must the four hours of practice time be replaced by academic activities?

**Answer:** Yes. The reduced practice time must be replaced with academic support activities. Acceptable academic support activities include study hall, tutoring, meeting with academic support personnel, meeting with departmental academic advisor, meeting with professor, meeting with formal or informal study groups, faculty mentoring, peer mentoring, meeting with career counselor, career development seminar, life skills development session, campus seminars, supplemental instruction session, study skills seminars. The following activities would NOT be considered acceptable academic activities: meeting with coaches in their offices to study, academic activity while traveling (e.g., on a bus, plane, at hotel), academic meetings with coaches, community service with athletics team/department, promotional activities, hosting recruits for official or unofficial visits, team meetings (not related to academics).

*Level Two*

**Question No. 13:** What are the Level Two penalties?

**Answer:** The Level Two penalties include the practice time reduction penalty from Level One, as well as the reduction of four hours of countable athletically related activities per week outside of the playing season. This results in four hours per week of countable athletically related activities allowed. In addition, depending upon the sport, teams are subject to either a 10 percent reduction in contests and length of the season, cancellation of nonchampionship season contests or cancellation of spring football. The impact for each sport in Level Two is outlined in the attachment.

**Question No. 14:** Are all teams in Level Two penalties subject to the four-hour reduction in practice time outside of the declared playing season?

**Answer:** Yes. All teams in Level Two penalties, regardless of sport, are subject to a four-hour reduction in countable athletically related activities per week. These four hours must be replaced by academic support activities.

**Question No. 15:** How do the Level Two penalties apply to sports that have an official nonchampionship season?

**Answer:** The following sports would be impacted by the nonchampionship season restriction: men's and women's volleyball, men's and women's soccer, field hockey, softball, women's lacrosse and cross country (only if the institution does not sponsor indoor or outdoor track and field). In each of these sports, the team is required to cancel all nonchampionship season contests. Teams are able to participate in out-of-season athletically related activities, subject to the four hour per week reduction in Level Two. The attachment outlines the impact of Level Two penalties on all sports teams.

**Question No.16:** For those sports without an official nonchampionship season, how do the Level Two penalties apply?

**Answer:** For all other sports, with the exception of football, the team is subject to a 10 percent in the length of its season and number of contests it may participate in. The 10 percent reduction of contests and playing season is taken from the maximum number of allowable contests and length of the season in that sport as outlined in Division I legislation. For example, in the sport of ice hockey, the maximum number of contests would be

reduced from 34 to 31, and the length of the playing season from 132 to 119 days. The attachment outlines the impact of Level Two penalties on all sports.

**Question No. 17:** How do the Level Two penalties apply in the sport of football?

**Answer:** In the sport of football, the 15 postseason practice sessions allowed under Bylaw 17.9.6.4 (spring practice) would be eliminated, and no spring football game would be permitted. Football teams would be able to participate in other out-of-season athletically related activities allowed under Bylaw 17.9.6 (out-of-season athletically related activities), subject to the out-of-season practice restrictions in Level Two (i.e., reduction of four hours per week).

**Question No. 18:** How does the 10 percent reduction on regular season competition in Level Two impact contracts for competitions that have already been signed?

**Answer:** If a team is subject to Level Two penalties, including the reduction of contests, it will be required to cancel 10 percent of its competitions. It will be incumbent upon the individual institution to determine which contests will be cancelled.

**Question No. 19:** Can institutions request a waiver of Level Two penalties?

**Answer:** Yes. Institutions may submit a waiver requesting relief from Level Two penalties. These waivers will be reviewed by the NCAA staff, and appeals will be heard via teleconference with a subcommittee of the Committee on Academic Performance. Representatives of the institution may participate on the teleconferences. All decisions of the subcommittee are final, and not subject to further appeal.

### ***Level Three***

**Question No. 20:** What are the Level Three penalties?

**Answer:** At Level Three, a menu of penalties approach is taken. The base penalties that the team would be subject to are the penalties found in Levels One and Two. In addition, the institution and the Committee on Academic Performance will choose from a menu of penalties to determine the appropriate penalty in each case.

**Question No. 21:** Is an institution required to identify self-imposed penalties at Level Three?

**Answer:** Yes. Each institution at Level Three will be required to submit prescribed self-imposed penalties from a menu of possible penalties. At a minimum, Level Three penalties would include the playing and practice season penalties within Levels One and Two. Institutions also may self-impose penalties that are not on the Committee on Academic Performance's menu of penalties.

**Question No. 22:** What is included in the menu of penalties at Level Three?

**Answer:** The penalties available at Level Three will include, but may not be limited to, the following: (a) playing and practice season restrictions, above what is imposed in Levels One and Two (b) contest reductions, up to a full-season cancellation, (c) financial aid penalties (d) multiyear postseason ineligibility, (e) coaches penalties such as a suspensions, recruiting limits or rules seminar attendance and (f) restricted membership.

**Question No. 23:** Will all teams in Level Three be required to attend a hearing in front of the Committee on Academic Performance?

**Answer:** No. Once a team has submitted its recommended self-imposed penalties, the NCAA staff may choose to accept that decision, and the institution would not attend a hearing. In addition, the institution may choose to accept additional penalties recommended by the NCAA staff, which would not require attendance at a hearing.

**Question No. 24:** Under what circumstances would an institution attend a Level Three in-person hearing?

**Answer:** If the NCAA staff does not accept the institution's self-imposition of penalties or if an institution does not agree to penalties recommended by the NCAA staff, the institution would be required to attend a hearing.

**Question No. 25:** Who is required to attend an in-person hearing at Level Three?

**Answer:** The required attendees for an in-person hearing are the institution's president, director of athletics, the coach(es) of the impacted team(s) and the person with direct oversight of the academic support program. In addition, the institution may choose to bring up to eight total

representatives. A representative from the institution's conference is also able to attend, in addition to the eight institutional representatives.

**Question No. 26:** If an institution remains below the penalty benchmark beyond a third year, do they remain subject to Level Three penalties for multiple years?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution remains subject to Level Three penalties. However, the penalties received each year could differ and would be likely to increase in severity on repeat occasions.

**Question No. 27:** Can an institution appeal the penalty determinations of the Committee on Academic Performance at Level Three?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution may appeal the Committee on Academic Performance's decision to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Academic Performance Program Historical Penalties Appeals Subcommittee. The institution must demonstrate that the Committee on Academic Performance abused its discretion in applying the legislation and/or policy and procedures of the APP. The determination of the APP Historical Appeals Board Subcommittee is final, and not subject to further appeal.

**General**

**Question No. 28:** Will there be a transition period for the new 930 penalty benchmark?

**Answer:** Yes. The first chart shows the transition for access to championships and the second chart shows the transition for the penalty structure.

**APR Benchmarks during Transitional Phase for Access to Postseason**

<b>Championship/ Postseason Competition Year</b>	<b>Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason</b>	<b>Two Most Recent Years Average APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason</b>
2011-12	Status Quo – current penalty structure and benchmarks apply.	N/A
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2014-15	Four-Year APR of 930 or higher OR	Two most recent years average at or above 940
2015-16 and Beyond	Four-Year APR of 930  *Improvement Filter applies the second time and beyond a team is subject to postseason ineligibility. This filter requires two most recent years average at or above 950.	N/A

\*Note: Mission filter applies only the first time a team is subject to postseason ineligibility.

**APR Benchmarks during Transitional Phase for Level One, Two, Three Penalties**

<b>Championship/Postseason Competition Year</b>	<b>Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility Level One, Two, Three Penalties</b>	<b>Improvement Filters</b>
2011-12	Status Quo.	Status Quo.
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.
2014-15 and beyond	Four-Year APR of 930 or higher OR	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.

Note: Mission filter does not apply to Level One, Two, Three penalties.

\*\* Improvement filter does not apply to Level One penalties, only to Level Two and Three penalties.

**Question No. 29:** During the transition period, how is the APR of 930 or 950 over the past two years calculated?

**Answer:** The APR over the past two years is calculated by taking the number of points earned in the last two single academic years (including delayed-graduation points) and dividing by the total number of points possible in those two years. It is important to note that this APR may be different than the number reached by simply adding the two most recent single-year APRs together and dividing by two, as cohort sizes can differ from year to year.

**Question No. 30:** Will the concept of “three clean years” still apply in the new penalty structure?

**Answer:** Yes. Therefore, in order for a team to avoid progression in the penalty structure, it must have three consecutive years with no earned penalties, which would include years where a full waiver is received. After three years without penalties a team is reset to Level One upon the next occasion it fails to meet the APR benchmark.

**Question No. 31:** Will the application of penalties need to be reported to the NCAA?

**Answer:** Yes. As with the current historical and contemporaneous penalty structures, institutions will be required to demonstrate that they have taken the penalties that were applicable to any of its teams in the previous years.

**Question No. 32:** How will new teams and institutions be treated in the penalty structure?

**Answer:** Teams that are new to Division I will be subject to penalties after they have submitted three years of APR data.

**Question No. 33:** Will teams be required to take penalties received under the previous penalty structure, if they have not done so already?

**Answer:** Yes. Any penalties that a team received under the previous penalty structure remain applicable, and must be taken. This includes penalties associated with unmet conditions from a prior waiver request.

**Adopted Change No. 3: Creation of mission and improvement filters to allow for relief from penalties in certain circumstances.**

**Question No. 34:** What academic years will be used to determine if the improvement filter has been met for a team below the multiyear benchmark?

**Answer:** The two most recent single-year APRs will be used. For example, the 2009-10 and 2010-11 APR data will be used to determine if the improvement filter was met for 2012-13 postseason competition access.

**Question No. 35:** What data are used to determine if an institution is considered limited resource for purposes of the mission filter?

**Answer:** Based on the Committee on Academic Performance's policy, institutional characteristics are reviewed to identify "limited-resource" institutions. Specifically, the following three measurements are reviewed: (a) Per

capita Pell Grant dollars received, (b) Per capita institutional spending and (c) Per capita athletics spending.

**Question No. 36:** How many times can an institution use the mission filter to avoid the postseason competition restriction?

**Answer:** A team may only use the mission filter the first time it is subject to postseason competition ineligibility under the new APP structure. The purpose of this filter is to give limited-resource teams/institutions a longer timeframe to adjust to the increased APR benchmark. Thus, this is not a filter that applies in perpetuity.

**Question No. 37:** Does the mission filter allow institutions to avoid Level One, Level Two and Level Three penalties?

**Answer:** No. The mission filter is only applicable to access to postseason competition. It may only be used by a team the first time that team is subject to the postseason ineligibility.

**Question No. 38:** Is there a filter to avoid Level One penalties?

**Answer:** No. Level One penalties were amended to only include a reduction in practice time which is replaced by academic activities. All underperforming Level One teams are expected to take this penalty with the goal of improving overall academic performance of the team.

**Question No. 39:** Are the bottom 15 percent of institutions that are eligible to use the mission filter also able to apply for APP Supplemental Support Funds?

**Answer:** No. Only those institutions in the bottom 10 percent of resources are eligible to apply for Supplemental Support Funds.

**Question No. 40:** If a team meets the improvement filter for penalties is that year considered a “clean year”?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 41:** Are the filters automatically applied or does the institution have to apply the filters on its own?

**Answer:** The filters are automatically applied prior to producing the institution’s penalty report.

**Adopted Change No. 4: The continuation and expansion of the APR Improvement Plan process to ensure that the focus of the APP remains on improving the academic success of student-athletes.**

**Question No. 42:** What teams will be required to submit APR Improvement Plans to the NCAA national office?

**Answer:** All institutions with a team that has a multiyear APR under 930 will be required to submit an APR Improvement Plan for each team under 930.

**Question No. 43:** Is there a transition period similar to the period for penalties and access to postseason competition?

**Answer:** No. Although teams with APRs between 900 and 929 will not be penalized or be restricted from access to postseason competition for the next two years, institutions will be required to submit APR Improvement Plans for all teams with a current multiyear APR below 930. This should help propel underperforming teams above the 930 benchmark over the next two years.

**Question No. 44:** When will APR Improvement Plans be due if an institution has no teams below 900 but teams below 930?

**Answer:** All APR Improvement Plans for institutions with no penalized teams but with teams under a 930 multiyear APR are due to the national office by Monday, January 16, 2012.

**Question No. 45:** Does an institution need to file an APR Improvement Plan for a team that is eligible to use the squad-size adjustment?

**Answer:** If the team's APR is below 930 with the squad-size adjustment, that team is required to submit an APR Improvement Plan with the NCAA staff. If the team's APR is above 930 with the squad-size adjustment, the team is not required to submit an APR Improvement Plan.

**Question No. 46:** Is a data analysis required for APR Improvement Plan submission?

**Answer:** Yes. Institutions must provide a meaningful analysis of current APR data for each team that is below the penalty benchmark. The expectation is that an institution will complete a thorough data analysis before the creation of the APR Improvement Plan. APR Improvement Plans must include an

assessment and evaluation of the academic admissions profiles and academic outcomes for all student-athletes on teams with a multiyear APR below 930. The APR Improvement Plan must include any initiatives (e.g., changes to the entering profile) based on this evaluation.

**Question No. 47:** How many years of data are required to be submitted before an institution is required to submit an APR Improvement Plan for a team that has a multiyear APR below 930?

**Answer:** If an institution has submitted any APR data for a team and that team has a multiyear APR below 930 with a squad-size adjustment, if applicable, the institution must submit an APR Improvement Plan for that team.

## Impact of NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program Level Two Penalties

**\*All teams in Level Two are subject to the following penalties:**

1. Reduction of the penalized teams' practice time by four hours and one day per week of countable athletically related activity *during* the playing season. This results in 16 hours per week and five days per week of countable athletically related activities allowed. The reduced practice time must be replaced with academic support activities.
2. Reduction of the penalized teams' practice time by four hours per week *outside* of the playing season. This results in four hours per week of countable athletically related activities allowed. The reduced practice time must be replaced with academic support activities.

**\*The following charts indicate the application of all other Level Two Penalties:**

### Sports with Nonchampionship Season Elimination

Sport	Penalty
Softball	No contests during nonchampionship segment.
Men's and Women's Volleyball	No dates of competition during segment other than segment in which NCAA championship is conducted.
Men's and Women's Soccer	No dates of competition during segment other than segment in which NCAA championship is conducted.
Field Hockey	No dates of competition during segment other than segment in which NCAA championship is conducted.
Women's Lacrosse	No dates of competition during segment other than segment in which NCAA championship is conducted.
Cross Country (but does not sponsor indoor or outdoor track and field)	No dates of competition during segment other than segment in which NCAA championship is conducted.

### Sports with 10 Percent Reduction in Contests and Playing Season

Sport	Game Reduction	Season Reduction
Baseball	56 to 50 contests.	132 day season to 119 day season.
Men's and Women's Basketball	29 to 26 contests. <sup>1</sup>	Reduction of 10 percent of playing and practice days between first allowable practice and end of playing season. <sup>2</sup>
Women's Bowling	26 to 23 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Cross Country	7 to 6 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Equestrian	15 to 13 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Fencing	11 to 10 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Golf	24 to 22 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Gymnastics	13 to 12 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Ice Hockey	34 to 31 contests.	132 day season to 119 day season.
Men's Lacrosse	17 to 15 dates of competition.	132 day season to 119 day season.
Rifle	13 to 12 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Rowing	20 to 18 dates of competition.	156 day season to 140 day season.
Women's Rugby	11 to 10 contests.	132 day season to 119 day season.
Women's Sand Volleyball	16 to 14 dates of competition.	132 day season to 119 day season.
Men's and Women's Skiing	16 to 14 dates of competition in both alpine and Nordic events.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Squash	15 to 13 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving	20 to 18 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Tennis	25 to 22 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Track and Field (Indoor or Outdoor Only)	18 to 16 dates of competition.	144 day season to 130 day season.
Men's and Women's Track and Field (Indoor and Outdoor)	18 to 16 dates of competition.	156 day season to 140 day season.
Men's and Women's Water Polo	21 to 19 dates of competition.	132 day season to 119 day season.
Wrestling	16 to 14 dates of competition.	132 day season to 119 day season.

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<sup>1</sup> For teams that plan to participate in a qualifying regular season multiple-team event (e.g., Maui Invitational), the reduction would be from 28 to 25 contests (includes the event as one contest).

<sup>2</sup> The start date for men's and women's basketball will vary depending on the year.

**Football**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
Football	Fifteen postseason practice sessions allowed under NCAA Bylaw 17.9.6.4 are eliminated, including spring football game.