



NCAA Eligibility Center COVID-19 Response Delayed Enrollment

The NCAA membership approved the following flexibility for prospective student-athletes (PSA) who delay initial full-time collegiate enrollment and would be impacted by [organized competition](#) occurring outside of their delayed enrollment grace period during the 2020-21 academic year. The Eligibility Center will apply such flexibility when completing the amateurism certification and it will be visible in the PSA's Eligibility Center account. NCAA Customer Service is available to assist with questions Monday-Friday, 9 a.m-5 p.m. Eastern at 877-262-1492 (domestic students and Canadian students outside of Quebec) and for international students (including Quebec) at ncaa.org/contactinternational.

Division I

PSAs who has not yet enrolled full time in a university, and their delayed enrollment grace period ends in Fall 2020 or later, may compete in organized competition during the 2020-21 academic year without any delayed enrollment conditions. If the student's delayed enrollment grace period ended in Winter/Spring 2020 or prior, the delayed enrollment rules will still apply to any organized competition during the 2020-21 academic year. These students should work with their chosen NCAA schools.

Division II

PSAs who has not yet enrolled full time in a university, and whose delayed enrollment grace period has already ended, may compete in organized competition during the 2020-21 academic year without any delayed enrollment penalty for the 2020-21 academic year.

Example No. 1: Expected May 2019 Graduation, Soccer

A men's soccer PSA has a May 2019 expected date of high school graduation. Based on the delayed enrollment/organized competition rules, the PSA's grace period ends Fall 2020.

Under the new policy for Divisions I and II, if the PSA delays initial full-time collegiate enrollment until 2021-22 and participates in organized competition during 2020-21, the PSA would not be charged a season of competition for organized competition occurring in 2020-21 or be required to sit out a year of competition at their chosen NCAA institution.

Example No. 2: Expected May 2018 Graduation, Basketball

A men's basketball PSA has a May 2018 expected date of high school graduation. Based on the delayed enrollment/organized competition rules, the PSA's delayed enrollment grace period ends Fall 2019.

Under the new policy for Division I, if the PSA delays initial full-time university enrollment until Fall 2021 and participates in organized competition during 2019-20 and 2020-21, the PSA would be charged two seasons of competition for organized competition that occurred in 2019-20 and 2020-21. The PSA would be required to sit out from competition during their first complete year at their



chosen NCAA school. The student would receive the full penalty for two years because the delayed enrollment grace period ended before Fall 2020.

Under the new policy for Division II, if the PSA delays initial full-time collegiate enrollment until 2021-22 and participates in organized competition during 2019-20 and 2020-21, the PSA would be charged one season of competition for organized competition that occurred in 2019-20 but not 2020-21. The PSA would be required to sit out from competition during their first complete year at their chosen NCAA school.

Example No. 3: Expected December 2019 Graduation, Tennis

A women's tennis PSA has a December 2019 expected date of high school graduation. Based on the delayed enrollment/organized competition rules, the PSA's grace period for Division I is January 2020 to Fall 2020 (six months). The PSA's grace period for Division II is January 2020 to January 2021.

Under the new policy for Divisions I and II, if the PSA delays initial full-time university enrollment until 2021-22 and participates in organized competition during 2020-21, the PSA would not be charged the delayed enrollment penalty for organized competition occurring during 2020-21.

Example No. 4: Expected May 2019 Graduation, Tennis

A men's tennis PSA has a May 2019 expected date of high school graduation. Based on the delayed enrollment/organized competition rules, the PSA's grace period for Division I is May 2019 to January 2020 (six months). The PSA's grace period for Division II is the 2019-20 academic year.

Under the new policy for Division I, if the PSA delays initial full-time university enrollment until 2021-22 and participates in organized competition between January 2020 and Fall 2021, the PSA would be charged two seasons of competition for organized competition that occurred in 2020 and 2021 (since the PSA's grace period did not conclude immediately prior to or during the 2020-21 academic year). The PSA would be required to sit out from competition during their first complete year at their chosen NCAA school.

Under the new policy for Division II, if the PSA delays initial full-time university enrollment until 2021-22 and participates in organized competition during 2020-21, the PSA would not be charged a season of competition for organized competition that occurred in 2020-21 or be required to sit out from competition during their complete year at their chosen NCAA school.

Example No. 5: 21st Birthday, Men's Ice Hockey

A Division I men's ice hockey PSA can take advantage of this flexibility as long as his 21st birthday occurs during the 2020-21 academic year. If the PSA turns 21 during 2020-21, he can continue to compete in organized competition until Fall 2021. If the PSA turned 21 prior to Fall 2020 and participates in organized competition during 2020-21, he will be charged with a season(s) of competition for each calendar year after his 21st birthday.

For questions on flexibility to academic initial-eligibility requirements, please review our [COVID-19 FAQ](#).