

# Amateurism Certification Basics

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Prospective student-athletes must receive a final amateurism certification from the Eligibility Center before being eligible to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school. This includes transfer student-athletes from two-year colleges, NAIA schools, foreign institutions or Division III schools. The Eligibility Center will review your sports participation history to determine your amateurism status.

### What the Eligibility Center Reviews:

- Timeline of all club participation.
- Signed agreements with agents, recruiting services, professional teams or Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) teams.
- Expenses received during tryouts with professional teams or Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) teams.
- All compensation the PSA received from his or her hockey teams.

### What is Delayed Enrollment?

- PSAs have a grace period after their *expected* date of high school graduation and before full-time collegiate enrollment in which they can continue to compete without jeopardizing their NCAA eligibility.
- For Division I men's ice hockey, the grace period ends on the PSA's 21st birthday. Participation after the PSA's 21st birthday and before full-time collegiate enrollment could jeopardize their eligibility.
- For Division II men's ice hockey and Divisions I and II women's ice hockey, if PSAs do not enroll full time at the first opportunity after their grace period and continue to participate in organized competition, they will lose one season of NCAA eligibility for each calendar year during which they continue to compete. PSAs may also be required to serve an academic year in residence (two full-time semesters or three quarters) at the NCAA school before becoming eligible to compete.

MEN'S ICE HOCKEY GRACE PERIOD	
<b>DI</b> Up to <b>21<sup>ST</sup></b> BIRTHDAY	<b>DII</b> <b>3</b> YEARS

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY GRACE PERIOD	
<b>DI</b> <b>1</b> YEAR	<b>DII</b> <b>1</b> YEAR

### Important Hockey-Specific Rules — Division I

- Generally, it is impermissible for a PSA to reach an agreement (written, verbal or for future representation) with or receive benefits or services from an agent.
- A men's ice hockey PSA who is drafted by a professional club before enrolling full time at a college or university may be represented by an agent or attorney during contract negotiations. The PSA must pay the going rate for the agent's services, and if the PSA does not sign a contract with the club, the agreement for representation must be terminated before enrolling full time at a college or university.
- A PSA will jeopardize their eligibility if they sign an agreement with or compete on a professional or Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) team.
- It is impermissible for a PSA to receive payment, expenses or educational expenses from a professional or Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) team.
- A PSA cannot receive tryout-related expenses from a professional or Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) team past 48 hours from the PSA's arrival at the tryout facility. Any participation in a tryout beyond 48 hours must be self-financed.

### Important Hockey-Specific Rules — Division II

- Generally, it is impermissible for a PSA to reach an agreement (written, verbal or for future representation) with or receive benefits or services from an agent.
- A PSA will jeopardize their eligibility if they sign an agreement with or compete on a Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) team.
- A PSA cannot receive tryout-related expenses from a professional or Major Junior (OHL, WHL or QMJHL) team past 48 hours from the PSA's arrival at the tryout facility. Any participation in a tryout beyond 48 hours must be self-financed.
- *Prior* to enrolling full time at any college or university, a PSA may sign an agreement with and compete on a professional team (other than a Major Junior [OHL, WHL or QMJHL] team).
- *Prior* to enrolling full time at any college or university, a PSA may receive more payment than expenses from a professional team (other than a Major Junior [OHL, WHL or QMJHL] team).



## THE REVIEW PROCESS

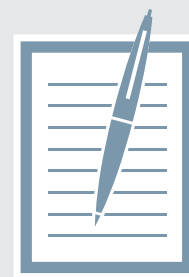
### REGISTER



Register with an Eligibility Center Certification account before your sophomore/10th year at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org).



Select each sport you plan to play at an NCAA school.



Complete and update the sports participation section annually.

Before starting at an NCAA Division I or II college or university, request final amateurism certification and confirm you have provided complete and accurate information to the Eligibility Center.



Fall enrollees can request starting **April 1** before their DI or DII enrollment.

January/midyear enrollees can request **Oct. 1** before their DI or DII enrollment.

Visit [ncaa.org](https://ncaa.org) to learn how to request final amateurism certification.



Check the task list in your Eligibility Center account to see if additional information is requested. You may complete tasks in any order.



If additional information is requested regarding your amateurism certification (through a task in your account), copy and paste the request into an email and reply to [acp-processing@ncaa.org](mailto:acp-processing@ncaa.org).



## Visit the links below for more information.

Amateurism certification – [ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/amateurism](https://ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/amateurism).

International student-athletes – [ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/international-student-athletes](https://ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/international-student-athletes).



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