

High School Graduation Date Determination

For Amateurism Certification

1. Why are academic documents needed for an amateurism certification?

Amateurism certification includes certification of the delayed-enrollment legislation, which is based on a college-bound student-athlete's expected date of high school graduation. Academic documents may be needed to determine the applicable graduation date, as specified by the following legislation:

- » **NCAA Division I Bylaw 12.8.3.2.1** (sports other than men's ice hockey, skiing and tennis).
- » **NCAA Division I Bylaw 12.8.3.2.2** (tennis).
- » **NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.2** (participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment).
- » **NCAA Division III Bylaw 14.2.4.4** (participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment).

2. Who needs a graduation date determination?

College-bound student-athletes most likely to need a graduation date determination for the amateurism certification process (regardless of whether the student requires an Eligibility Center academic certification, such as transfer students) are those who:

- » Did not graduate high school with their initial ninth grade class.
- » Did not enroll in college as a full-time student immediately following their expected date of high school graduation.
- » Students with international high school attendance and/or international sports participation.

3. When is an official high school graduation date not needed?

A college-bound student-athlete who did not participate in organized competition beyond their expected date of high school graduation may not need a graduation date determination, as the legislation provides for a limited grace period for competition between high school graduation and initial college enrollment. Similarly, a college-bound student-athlete who will be participating in a sport for the first time will not need a graduation date determination since no participation in that sport has occurred prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

4. How do I know if a graduation date determination is needed?

If a graduation date determination is needed to complete a college-bound student-athlete's amateurism certification, a task will be assigned to the student's Eligibility Center account. (The task will appear as "Additional Academic Documents Needed for Amateurism Certification.") To complete this task, the college-bound student-athlete will need to submit the requested documents (e.g., official transcripts, proof of graduation and/or any international educational records and translations).

Note: Reviews are prioritized in the order tasks are completed. Students are encouraged to submit requested documentation as early as possible.

5. What documentation is needed for the Eligibility Center to determine an official graduation date?

For most accounts showing an open task titled “Additional Academic Documents Needed for Amateurism Certification,” the following task language will appear:

- » **Domestic Education:** All official transcripts for school years nine and up, including your final high school transcript containing proof of graduation. If you have yet to graduate from high school, this task will remain open. Your high school can either upload official documents through the High School Portal or submit them as directed [here](#).
- » **International Education:** All official transcripts for school years nine and up, including your final year, and acceptable proof of graduation. Please have the issuing body submit official stamped copies of your secondary school transcripts in the native language as directed [here](#). The transcripts **must** include the start and completion dates for each academic year. A certified line-by-line English translation is also required if English is not the native language. An evaluation report is not sufficient for a line-by-line English translation and will be deemed unofficial as well.

For students completing secondary education in a country with multiple educational timelines, the Eligibility Center may be able to extend the expected date of graduation based on confirmation directly from the secondary school of the student's anticipated credential(s). When applicable, the “Additional Academic Documents Needed for Amateurism Certification” task will include a [Graduation Timeline Form](#), which allows a secondary school's administrator to confirm the student's expected credential(s). This form can also be used by the student to confirm that no additional credentials are forthcoming.

Reminder: This form is only available for amateurism certification purposes in a country with multiple educational timelines. If the student requires an official academic certification separate from an amateurism certification, then all official educational documentation will be required.

6. Why is the official graduation date different for Divisions I, II and III?

The delayed-enrollment legislation, specifically the application of the expected date of high school graduation, is different for Divisions I, II and III.

- » **Under Division I Legislation:** The delayed-enrollment analysis is based on the actual graduation or expected graduation date of a prospective student-athlete's high school class (as determined by the first year of high school enrollment or the international equivalent as specified in the [Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#) and based on the prescribed educational path in the student-athlete's country), whichever occurs earlier.
- » **Under Division II and III Legislation:** The delayed-enrollment analysis may be affected by early high school graduation, late high school graduation (e.g., a required repeat year) or discontinued high school enrollment.

7. How does the Eligibility Center certify the delayed enrollment/organized competition legislation?

Certifying delayed enrollment requires collaboration between core processing, the member school and the PSA:

Delayed Enrollment/Organized Competition Legislation Certification Steps		
1	Core Processing	Determination of High School Graduation Date
2	Member School	Determination of Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment
3	Core Processing	Calculation of the Legislated Grace Period
4	Core Processing, Member School and College-Bound Student-Athlete	Document Participation History During College-Bound Student-Athlete's Delay Period
5	Core Processing	Apply Legislation

8. Can an expected graduation date be appealed?

The expected date of high school graduation cannot be appealed; however, relief from the application of the delayed-enrollment legislation can be considered through the legislative relief waiver process. A member school can submit a legislative relief waiver for a prospective student-athlete with a final amateurism certification through Requests and Self-Reports Online. For an explanation of how an international graduation date was determined, a member school can request an explanation from the international customer service team.

