

Information from the DI Academic Cabinet Meeting – Feb. 7-8, 2011

Review of NCAA Division I Academic Eligibility Requirements for Two-Year College

Transfers. The NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet continued its discussion of possible changes to two-year college transfer academic requirements. Based on membership and two-year college feedback regarding the draft package of concepts, the cabinet refined the concepts for additional input. The cabinet continues to present the modified draft concepts as a package for feedback in preparation for developing legislative proposals for the 2011-12 legislative cycle during its June 2011 meeting. The package strives to balance principles of increased academic success, simplicity of administration, access to higher education and opportunity for those prospective student-athletes who are academically underprepared while taking into account the full breadth of feedback from the membership and two-year college community.

The cabinet again seeks input from both the two-year college community and the NCAA membership regarding these concepts. Provided input will be considered during its June 2011 meeting and legislative proposals will be entered into the 2011 legislative cycle.

(1) Qualifiers.

- (a) Increase transferable grade-point average from 2.000 to 2.250.
- (b) Expand physical education activity course limit of two credits to all sports (currently applies only to men's basketball).
- (c) All other current requirements would remain in effect.
- (d) Increase to grade-point average and limit on physical education activity courses will also apply to 4-2-4 transfers.

(2) Nonqualifiers.

- (a) Increase transferable grade-point average from 2.000 to 2.250 (for competition purposes only – athletics aid and practice would be permissible at 2.000 grade-point average).
- (b) Expand physical education activity course limit of two credits to all sports (currently applies only to men's basketball).
- (c) Require completion of transferable core credits as follows: three math, three science, six English. Science would be the new requirement.
- (d) All other current requirements would remain in effect (e.g., earn Associate of Arts degree or equivalent academic two-year degree, 48-transferable credits, minimum of three semesters/four quarters at two year college, progress-toward-degree requirements, etc.).
- (e) Increase to grade-point average, limit on physical education activity courses and inclusion of science class will also apply to 4-2-4 transfers.

(3) Year of Academic Readiness.

(a) Provides additional time and opportunity for student-athletes who are academically underprepared. With increased academic standards, this year provides additional time for two-year college students who may benefit from remedial courses and other opportunities to prepare academically for the four-year college experience.

(b) No competition is allowed during year of academic readiness; student-athlete could practice and receive athletically related financial aid.

(c) Eligibility for use of the year of academic readiness would be status as a nonqualifier. Student-athlete would be required to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and be certified as a nonqualifier.

(d) The year must occur at a two-year college(s).

(e) A student's NCAA "clock" would not start for purposes of progress-toward-degree and five-year period of eligibility until after year of academic readiness.

(f) Students must attend a two-year college(s) full time for five full-time semesters/seven quarters prior to transfer to the Division I institution.

(g) On enrollment at an NCAA institution the student-athlete will have two seasons of competition, extenuating circumstances (e.g., injury) could be considered in a waiver process.

(h) Year must be used during initial year of collegiate enrollment at whatever point that occurs.

(i) Current NCAA rules remain in place related to time between high school graduation and enrollment at two-year institution (e.g., amateurism rules).

(j) Three years of enrollment must be consecutive and existing exceptions would continue (i.e., military service, peace corp, church mission).

(k) NCAA Eligibility Center would provide tracking. Student-athlete and two-year college would be required to acknowledge use of year of academic readiness during initial year of enrollment at the two-year institution.

(l) Recruiting regulations would be delayed a year and thus in-person contact could not occur until the third year of enrollment at a two-year institution. The cabinet did forward this issue to the NCAA Division I Recruiting and Athletics Personnel Issues Cabinet for input.

(m) Student-athletes could receive six years of athletically related financial aid within a seven year period if using the year of academic readiness. The cabinet did forward this issue to the NCAA Division I Awards, Benefits, Expenses and Financial Aid Cabinet for input.

(n) Year of academic readiness will not be considered a denied participation opportunity for purposes of a five year clock extension request.

(o) Year of academic readiness and five semesters or seven quarters of enrollment at a two-year college may occur at multiple two-year colleges.

The cabinet recommends that all changes to these regulations be effective for student-athletes initially enrolling full time at a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2013.