

**NCAA Division I Academic  
Cabinet  
-Review of Two-Year College  
Transfers Academic  
Requirements-**



Spring 2011

**Topics**

- Goals and objectives of two-year college transfer review.
- Timeline for legislative proposals.
- Research findings.
- Concepts under consideration.
- Feedback, comments and open discussion.

## Why a Review of 2-4 Standards?

- Ongoing NCAA academic reform.
- All other student-athlete standards have been examined based on research (e.g., initial eligibility and progress toward degree).
- Research now available, not previously.
- Two-four transfers do not graduate/remain eligible at same rates as nontransfers.

2

## Goals of 2-4 Transfer Academic Review

- Establishment of 2-4 transfer academic requirements that:
  - Improve academic success and graduation from four-year institution.
  - Provide greater opportunity for academically underprepared student-athletes to gain academic skills needed to succeed and graduate from four-year institution.
  - Result in outcomes closely mirroring nontransfers.

3

## Principles

- Maximize first-year college success, ensuring student-athletes are on track to graduate in five years.
- Minimize adverse impact.
- Be research based and yield ineligibility rates and outcomes similar to nontransfers.

4

## Principles

(continued)

- Be minimal standards and NCAA members should continue to make admissions decisions.
- Consider simplicity of application and understanding by all involved.
- Strive to emphasize requirements needed to prepare student-athlete for academic success at four-year institution.

5

## **Timeline for 2-4 Transfer Legislation**

- February 2011 - cabinet considered feedback to date and made revisions to package.
- March through June 2011 - additional feedback.
- June 2011 - cabinet finalizes legislative proposals for 2011-12 legislative cycle.
- Potential adoption of legislation by April 2012.

6

## **Current 2-4 Transfer Data**



## Academic Outcomes Among Transfer Students in Division I

	Nontransfers Only	4-Year Transfers	2-Year Transfers
APR (2008-09)	971	949	926
APR "0/2s" (2008-09 AY)	2.2%	3.8%	5.5%
APR Exhausted Eligibility "0/2s" (2008-09)	2.4%	4.3%	7.6%
Graduation Success Rate (2002- Cohort)	80%	77%	65%

## Percentage of Ineligible Departures Among Student-Athletes Exhausting their Athletics Eligibility in 2008-09

SPORT	Overall	Nontransfers Only	2-Year Transfers	4-Year Transfers
Baseball	3%	2%	4%	4%
Men's Basketball	9%	7%	13%	11%
Football -- FBS	9%	8%	19%	11%
Football -- FCS	7%	5%	13%	11%
Men's Soccer	3%	2%	9%	2%
Men's Track (Outdoor)	3%	3%	6%	3%
Women's Basketball	2%	2%	2%	0%

9

## Trends in Number of Student-Athletes Leaving Ineligible by Transfer Status

SPORT	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
<b>Nontransfers</b>	3.1%	3.0%	2.8%	2.5%	2.4%
<b>Two-Year Transfers</b>	10.0%	9.4%	9.2%	7.5%	6.7%
<b>Four-Year Transfers</b>	5.1%	5.1%	5.2%	4.6%	3.9%

Notes:

% = Percentage of individuals in that sport who were "0/2s" in that academic year.

10

## Key Research Findings - Academic Performance of 2-4 Transfers

- Two-four transfer students enter NCAA Division I schools with lower high school grades and test scores than other groups of students.
- Two-four transfers leave college ineligible at higher rates than any other group of student-athletes.
- Two-four transfer graduation rates lag those of student-athletes who enter a Division I school from high school.

11

## **Research Findings – Grade-Point Average**

- Grade-point average at two-year institution is the strongest predictor of first year academic success at four-year institution.
- Ineligibility rates decrease significantly as a function of increased two-year institution grade-point average.
- For two-year transfer student ineligibility rates to mirror college freshman, the current 2.000 grade-point average requirement must increase.

12

## **Research Findings – Courses**

- Number of physical education activity credits at two-year institution has a significant negative relationship with four-year college success.
- Student-athletes with fewer physical education activity credits have better academic performances.

13

## Physical Education Activity Credits Transferred by Nonqualifiers from Two-Year Institutions

PE Activity Credits	% Transferring
0-2	25%
3-5	25%
6-8	18%
9-11	11%
12+	21%

14

## Research Findings – Courses

- Student-athletes with more core academic credit perform better at four-year institutions.
- Core credits in English, math and science are particularly predictive of four-year college success.
- Science in particular is a strong predictor of success.

15

### First-Year Outcomes at the Four-Year Institution for Two-Year College Nonqualifiers as a Function of Earning Six English, Three Math and Three Science Credits

	Earned 6 English, 3 Math and 3 Science	Did Not Earn 6 English, 3 Math and 3 Science
First-Year Ineligibility Rate	8%	15%
First-Year "0/2" Rate	5%	10%

16

### Key Research Findings

- Grade-point average at the two-year institution is the best predictor of all first-year outcomes examined.
- Ineligibility rates decrease significantly as a function of increased two-year institution grade-point average.
- Student-athletes with more core academic credit perform better at four-year institutions. Science is a strong predictor.

17

## Key Research Findings

(continued)

- Students with high numbers of physical education activity credits tend to have less academic success at the four-year institution than their two-year institution grade-point average would predict.
- Generally, high school academic variables do not add appreciably to prediction once academic behavior at the two-year institution is known.

18

## NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet 2-4 Transfer Review

The cabinet:

- Has spent considerable time reviewing data.
- Reviewed and amended its original concept based on feedback received.
- Presents the following concepts for feedback.

19

## Concepts for QUALIFIERS

- Increase transferable grade-point average from 2.000 to 2.250.
- Expand physical education activity course limit of two credits to ALL sports (currently applies only to men's basketball).
- All other current requirements would remain in effect.
- Athletics aid and practice permissible on transfer based on qualifier status.

20

## 4-2-4 Transfers/Qualifiers

- Increase to 2.250 grade-point average and expansion of limit on physical education activity credits (2) to all sports will also apply to 4-2-4 transfers who are qualifiers.
- 4-2-4 qualifiers may receive athletics aid and practice per current application of the rule (i.e., practice if full-time student; athletics aid if complete one term at two-year institution).

21

## 4-2-4 Transfers/Qualifiers

(continued)

- Competition in first year after transfer to Division I school only if meet 2.250 transferable grade-point average and other current requirements (i.e., transfer 12 credits per term of attendance at two-year institution, one calendar year elapse since departure from four-year institution, graduate from two-year institution).

22

## Concepts for **Nonqualifiers**

- Increase transferable grade-point average from 2.000 to 2.250 for competition purposes only (athletics aid and practice at 2.000 transferable grade-point average).
- Expand physical education activity course limit of two credits to ALL sports (currently applies only to men's basketball).

23

## Concepts for **Nonqualifiers**

(continued)

- Require completion of transferable core credits as follows: three math, three science, six English. Science would be new requirement.
- 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 institution, progress-toward-degree requirements, etc).

24

## 4-2-4 Transfers/Nonqualifiers

- Increase to 2.250 transferable grade-point average, limit on physical education activity courses (two credits) and inclusion of core curriculum (six English, three math, and three science credits) will also apply to 4-2-4 transfers. Core curriculum may be earned at previous four-year and two-year institution.

25

## **4-2-4 Transfers/Nonqualifiers**

(continued)

- No competition in year one absent these requirements and other current requirements (i.e., transfer 12 credits per term of attendance at two-year, one calendar year elapse since departure from four-year institution, graduate from two-year institution).

26

## **4-2-4 Transfers/Nonqualifiers**

(continued)

- 4-2-4 qualifiers may receive athletics aid and practice per current application of rule (i.e., athletics aid if complete one term at two-year institution; practice if completed one academic year in all colleges combined and full time).

27

## **Year of Academic Readiness Concept**

- Provides additional time and opportunity for student-athletes who are academically underprepared to take remedial courses and generally enhance their academic readiness prior to transfer to a four-year institution.

28

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

- Trigger for use of the year of academic readiness would be status as a nonqualifier. Student-athlete must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and be certified as a nonqualifier.
- Year must occur at two-year institution.

29

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- No competition in first year of collegiate enrollment - student-athlete could practice and receive athletically related financial aid.
- NCAA “clock” would not start for purposes of progress toward degree and five-year period of eligibility until after year of academic readiness.

30

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- Must attend two-year institution(s) full time for minimum five full-time semesters/seven quarters prior to transfer to the Division I institution.
- On enrollment at an NCAA institution student-athlete will have maximum of two seasons of competition. Extenuating circumstances (e.g., injury) could be considered in waiver process.

31

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- Year must be used during initial year of collegiate enrollment whenever that occurs.
- Current NCAA rules remain in place regarding time between high school graduation and enrollment at two-year institution (e.g., amateurism legislation).

32

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- Terms of enrollment at two-year institution must be consecutive and existing exceptions would continue (i.e., military service, peace corp, church mission).
- Allow six years of athletically related financial aid within a seven year period if using the year of academic readiness.

33

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- NCAA Eligibility Center would provide tracking. Student-athlete and two-year institution would be required to acknowledge use of year of academic readiness during initial year of enrollment at two-year institution.
- Member institutions would be notified of student-athlete's use of year of academic readiness through Institutional Request List (IRL).

34

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- First year of academic enrollment for purposes of the recruiting contact legislation does not include the year of academic readiness. Therefore, in-person on or off campus recruiting contact (including unofficial and official visits) may not occur until after the second year of enrollment. Evaluation/phone calls remain available per current bylaws.

35

## **Year of Academic Readiness**

(continued)

- Year of academic readiness will not be considered a denied participation opportunity for purposes of a five year clock extension request.
- Year of academic readiness and five semesters or seven quarters of enrollment at a two-year institution may occur at multiple two-year institutions.

36

## **Effective Date if Changes Adopted in 2011-12 Legislative Cycle**

- Effective for student-athletes who initially enroll full time at any collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2013.
- Effective date same for both increased standards and year of academic readiness.

37

## Waivers

- Due to evaluation being academic preparedness, academic governance body should administer transfer waivers.
- Expand Division I progress-toward-degree waiver committee from eight to 14 member body and divide the committee into two subcommittees: one addressing 2-4 transfer requests; one addressing progress-toward-degree requests.
- Limited budget implications. This body does not have in-person meetings.

38

## Feedback and Comments

- Thank you.
- Comments may be directed to:
  - Jennifer Strawley ([jstrawley@ncaa.org](mailto:jstrawley@ncaa.org));  
OR
  - Diane Dickman ([ddickman@ncaa.org](mailto:ddickman@ncaa.org)).

39