

NCAA[®]

**DIVISION II
AMATEURISM
DEREGULATION
GUIDE FOR
COACHES**

AMATEURISM



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION

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NCAA Division II Amateurism Deregulation Guide for Coaches

Introduction

The impetus for the creation and production of this guide came from the Division II Amateurism Project Team. The project team was formed in 1998 as a result of the Management Council and Presidents Council recognizing a need for a specialized group to study amateurism issues specific to Division II. The project team's work culminated with the proposal approved by the Division II membership at the 2001 NCAA Convention.

The purpose of this guide is to provide assistance to coaches regarding the recent changes in pre-collegiate enrollment amateurism rules, effective for those student-athletes whose initial, full-time enrollment occurs in any collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2001. While it is hoped that the guide will increase coaches' understanding of amateurism rules and offer practical information, this guide is not to be used as the sole resource when questions arise. Factual recruiting situations will require coaches to use institutional and NCAA personnel to provide interpretations of the recently adopted legislation. The final authority for application and interpretation of legislation is the Division II Manual and appropriate interpretations contained in the Legislative Services Database maintained by the membership services staff. Please note that only pre-enrollment amateurism rules have been changed to date, with the exception of Operation Gold monies, which are permissible for enrolled and prospective student-athletes as discussed in the "Prize Money" section.

Pre-enrollment amateurism deregulation is based on two core values – welfare of the prospective student-athlete and competitive equity. When considering the welfare of prospects, rules that involve acts that do not give prospects a competitive advantage were liberalized. Examples include accepting prize money based on place finish, entering the draft or being drafted, signing a contract, or receiving compensation for athletics participation. The rules were also changed to

allow individuals to compete with professionals on a professional team. While this activity would most likely yield a competitive advantage, such advantage is addressed through the seasons-of-competition rule.

The issue of competitive equity involves prospects who are able to participate in high levels of organized competition after high school, yet before, collegiate enrollment and then participate in four seasons of competition upon enrollment. Under the previous amateurism rules, a competitive equity problem existed due to the difficulty in determining whether or not an individual had become a professional or remained an amateur while competing in advanced levels of competition. Amateurism deregulation ensures that competitive equity is provided for by focusing on whether a prospect participates in organized competition after high-school graduation rather than on whether the prospect is called a professional or amateur. Amateurism deregulation and its commitment to the core values have produced legislation that provides for the reasonable treatment of prospects while striving toward competitive equity.

The term “prospect” is used throughout this guide. The changes to the amateurism rule apply to all individuals before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in any collegiate institution. NCAA Bylaw 13.02.8 defines “prospective student-athlete.” *Please note that for the purpose of this document, a prospect refers to an individual prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment.*

Effective Date

The effective date for the amateurism proposal (i.e., NCAA 2001 Convention Proposal No. 12) is August 1, 2001, for those prospective student-athletes initially enrolling full time in any collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2001. Initial collegiate enrollment includes full-time enrollment at any collegiate institution, not limited to an NCAA Division II member. Further, once a prospect enrolls in college full time, the individual has triggered “student-athlete” status and can no longer accept prize money or other forms of pay for play, sign a contract for athletics participation, enter the draft, or compete with professionals without compromising the prospect’s eligibility.

Prize Money

Before initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual is allowed to accept prize money based on place finish for competition in open athletics events. There is no limit on the amount of prize money that may be earned before collegiate enrollment.

Case Studies

- An institution held a road race only for prospects being recruited by the institution. A prospect accepted prize money for his place finish in the event. Has the prospect's eligibility been affected by accepting prize money in this event?

Yes. Because the event included only prospects being recruited by the institution and was thus, not an open event, it was impermissible for the prospect to accept the prize money. The prospect is ineligible and must go through the student-athlete reinstatement process to regain eligibility.

- Before initial collegiate enrollment, a prospect competed on the professional tennis circuit for two years after his high-school graduation. The prospect earned \$10,000 in prize money on the circuit. Was the prize money permissible?

Yes. The event was open, and the earnings were based on place finish. Please note that the seasons-of-competition rule (i.e., Bylaw 14.2.4.2) does apply to this prospect since this participation occurred during a time in which the prospect delayed collegiate enrollment after high-school graduation. Specifically, the prospect would have to fulfill an academic year in residence and would be charged with two seasons of competition.

Prize Money: Postenrollment

The NCAA Division II Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation in April 2000 to make it permissible for individuals to accept prize money specifically in the form of Operation Gold awards at any time, before or after collegiate enrollment. The United States Olympic Committee administers Operation Gold awards on an annual basis for a designated event.

Contracts

Before initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual is allowed to sign a contract with a professional team for athletics participation.

Case Studies

- A prospect entered into a contract for athletics participation in March 2001, before the effective date of August 1, 2001, for Proposal No. 12. Will the prospect be able to take advantage of the new rules?

Yes. As long as the prospect's initial full-time enrollment occurs on or after August 1, 2001, the prospect may take advantage of the new rules. In other words, even though the prospect signed the contract at a time when it was impermissible to sign a contract for athletics participation, the prospect's eligibility has not been jeopardized if initial full-time collegiate enrollment in any collegiate institution occurs on or after August 1, 2001.

Also, the contract must be terminated or voided before collegiate enrollment. It remains impermissible for an enrolled student-athlete to be under contract for professional athletics participation.

- What if a prospect agreed to be represented by an agent in contract negotiations but never actually used the agent's services before deciding to enroll in college?

The prospect is now ineligible by agreeing to be represented by the agent (even if contract negotiations were not finalized or the guaranteed services were not utilized). The institution would need to declare the prospect ineligible and request reinstatement in order to determine what, if any, eligibility the prospect would have remaining. The agent legislation remains unchanged.

Draft

Before initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may enter a professional draft and be drafted.

Case Studies

- A professional team drafts a baseball prospect. The prospect talks with an agent regarding upcoming contract negotiations. Before the negotiations, the prospect decides to enroll in college rather than pursuing a professional sports career. Has the prospect's eligibility been jeopardized by being drafted or by having discussions with an agent?

No. In accordance with the changes to pre-enrollment amateurism rules, a prospect may enter a professional draft. The former rule regarding contact with an agent remains. Thus, it is permissible for a prospect to talk with an agent (per Bylaw 12.3.2). As long as an oral or written agreement with the agent is not entered into, the agent does not negotiate on behalf of the prospective student-athlete; and if the prospect does not accept benefits from the agent, the prospect remains eligible.

- A men's basketball prospect places his name in the draft. He is not drafted and then decides to initially enroll in college in August 2002. Is this prospect eligible?

Yes. It is permissible to voluntarily enter into a draft. Even if the prospect in this scenario were drafted, he would still be eligible as long as he did not employ or utilize the services of an agent which is a violation of NCAA rules.

Compensation for Athletics Participation

Before initial collegiate enrollment, an individual may accept compensation for athletics participation. This compensation may be in various forms, such as salary, stipend or the payment of expenses. Also, while there is no limit to the amount of compensation that may be accepted before collegiate enrollment, the compensation must cease upon collegiate enrollment.

Case Studies

- A prospect accepts a salary for athletics participation, including a \$10,000 signing bonus. Has the prospect's eligibility been affected?

No. As long as the compensation is for athletics participation, the pay is permissible.

- A prospect accepts a salary in accordance with her professional contract to play basketball. The prospect also accepts endorsement fees. Is this prospect eligible?

The salary and contract are permissible since they both occurred before initial collegiate enrollment. The only form of permissible payment related to the endorsement is outlined in Bylaw 12.5.1.2. Specifically, before initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may promote or endorse commercial products or services provided the individual does not receive payment or any form of compensation (other than actual and necessary expenses). Thus, if the payments exceed actual and necessary expenses, she is ineligible.

Tryout with a Professional Team

The previous legislation for prospects regulating a tryout with a professional team was eliminated as part of the amateurism legislation. However, NCAA Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2-(g) states that practice with a professional team “triggers” the seasons-of-competition rule (excluding a 48-hour tryout). Therefore, a professional team or an individual may fund expenses for a tryout before enrollment as long as the tryout is limited to 48 hours. Any tryout activities extending beyond the 48-hour period are permissible but would “trigger” the seasons-of-competition rule, regardless of whether the prospect or the professional team is paying expenses.

Competition with Professionals

Before initial full-time enrollment, an individual may compete with professionals on a professional team. [Note: Prospects have been permitted to compete against professionals, but the new pre-enrollment amateurism rules allow competition with professionals.]

Case Studies

- While recruiting a prospect who has not enrolled full time in any collegiate institution as of August 1, 2001, the coach learns that the prospect competed with a team several years ago. The coach is uncertain whether the team is considered professional or amateur. Has the prospect’s eligibility been affected?

- It is not required that a coach be able to determine whether or not a team is considered professional. Instead, the prospect's eligibility status must be assessed using the criteria in the definition of organized competition contained in the seasons-of-competition rule. (This is discussed in more detail below.) Regardless, competition with professionals is permissible; however, it is probable that professional competition will trigger the seasons-of-competition rule.

Seasons-of-Competition Rule

This legislation determines the seasons of competition that a prospect would have remaining upon initial enrollment if the prospect participated in certain types of organized competition between the prospect's first opportunity to enroll in college after high-school graduation and actual initial collegiate enrollment or after discontinuing high-school enrollment before graduation. In accordance with this legislation, for every year that a prospect competes in organized competition, after high-school graduation of the prospect's expected class, following the prospect's next opportunity to enroll in college, the prospect is charged with a season of competition. In addition, once the rule is triggered, the prospect must fulfill an academic year in residence upon enrollment before being able to compete in the specific sport for the school. While fulfilling the academic year in residence, the prospect may practice and receive athletically related aid in accordance with initial-eligibility legislation (i.e., Bylaw 14.3).

Philosophical Change Regarding Certification of Prospective Student-Athletes

The revolutionary vote at the 2001 NCAA Convention created a new model for determining eligibility of incoming Division II student-athletes. In the past, when a student-athlete who had delayed collegiate enrollment, after high school graduation, in order to engage in organized competition, the institution assumed the individual was eligible unless information was presented that indicated otherwise. With the seasons-of-competition legislation, the paradigm has changed.

For individuals who delay collegiate enrollment after high-school graduation and engage in some

form of competition, the institution should assume that they have triggered the seasons-of-competition rule unless the student can demonstrate otherwise. Given that participating on a team where any participant receives any form of pay (including any expenses) is enough to trigger the rule, team sport participants have a high standard to meet to preserve their eligibility. Likewise, if individual sport participants accepted any form of pay (including expense reimbursement), they also trigger the seasons-of-competition rule.

There is now a presumption that organized competition during a delay between high-school graduation and collegiate enrollment indicates the prospect has utilized seasons of competition. For student-athletes who did delay college enrollment and engaged in organized competition, the burden is on the institution in collaboration with the student-athlete to demonstrate that the student-athlete has not utilized seasons of competition. The membership recognizes that the profile of the Division II recruited student-athlete will change under this model, and it is believed that a greater sense of competitive equity will be achieved as a result.

Examples of Participation Subject to Legislation

Competition on Local Recreational Team

Case Studies

- A prospect graduates from high school in May 2001 and competes on a local recreational softball team until the prospect enrolls full time in college in August 2002. What is the prospect's eligibility status?

The competition on the team is permissible, so the single issue is whether or not the competition triggered the seasons-of-competition rule. Generally, a prospect in this situation would not trigger the rule unless she or other team members accepted actual and necessary expenses.

In order to assess the prospect's eligibility, it must first be determined whether the prospect's participation on the local recreational team met any criteria in the definition of organized competition contained in the seasons-of-competition rule. The def-

inition contained in the rule is specific only to the application of the seasons-of-competition rule and does not replace Bylaw 14.2.4.4.1 for application in all other areas in the NCAA Division II Manual. Generally, the definition is meant to target participation in high levels of organized competition likely to give an athlete a competitive advantage with such participation resulting in the loss of seasons of competition in order to mitigate the competitive advantage. The seasons-of-competition rule, including the definition of organized competition, is below:

Bylaw 14.2.4.2, Participation in Organized Competition before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student during the regular academic term that is immediately after the date that the individual's high-school class normally graduates from high-school (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) shall utilize a season of intercollegiate competition for each calendar year or sports season (after that date) in which the individual has participated in activities that meet the criteria set forth in Bylaw 14.2.4.2.3.

Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1, Discontinued High-School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high-school enrollment and subsequently participates in activities that meet the criteria set forth in 14.2.4.2.3 shall utilize a season of intercollegiate competition for each calendar year or sports season of participation regardless of the date the individual's high-school class normally graduates.

Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2, Academic Year in Residence. An individual who utilizes a season(s) of competition (per Bylaw 14.2.4.2) shall fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition.

Bylaw 14.2.4.2.3, Activities Constituting Use of Season. An individual shall utilize a season of competition (per Bylaw 14.2.4.2) if the individual participates in activities that meet any of the following criteria:

- (a) Any team competition or training in which compensation is provided to any of the participants (including actual and necessary expenses);
- (b) Any individual competition or training in which the participant receives compensation (including actual and necessary expenses);
- (c) Any competition pursuant to the signing of a contract for athletics participation;
- (d) Any competition pursuant to involvement in a professional draft;
- (e) Any competition funded by a professional sports organization, excluding not-for-profit organizations affiliated with professional sports organizations;
- (f) Any competition funded by a representative of an institution's athletics interest that is not an open event; or
- (g) Any practice with a professional athletics team (excluding a 48-hour tryout).

Competition During Summer After High-School Graduation

Case Studies

- A prospect competes and accepts a salary during the summer after high-school graduation in May 2001. The prospect decides to discontinue this type of competition and enrolls full time in August 2001. How many seasons of competition does the prospect have remaining upon enrollment in college?

Assuming the prospect graduated from high school with his expected class, the prospect loses no seasons of competition because the competition occurred during the summer of 2001. In this situation, the prospect would not lose seasons of competition unless he did not enroll in college in August 2001 (his first opportunity) and his competition extended beyond that date. Further, he would need to cease acceptance of the salary upon enrollment.

Expected High-School Graduation for International Student-Athletes

For international prospective student-athletes, the NCAA Foreign Student Records Committee has determined the expected date of high-school graduation for at least the top 50 countries from which prospects completed high school. This information can be found in the Division II section of the NCAA Web site and has also been published in the April 23,2001, edition of The NCAA News.

Part-Time Collegiate Enrollment

Case Studies

- A prospect graduates from high school in May 2001 and enrolls part time in college in August 2001. The prospect drops out of college and begins to compete on a professional team in the fall of 2001. The prospect continues participation on this team until full-time enrollment in August 2003. How many seasons of competition is the prospect eligible for upon enrollment?

Assuming participation on the professional team would trigger the seasons-of-competition rule, the prospect will lose two seasons of competition for the participation on a professional team from the fall of 2001 to August 2003 and will have two seasons of competition remaining upon full-time enrollment after fulfilling an academic year in residence.

Multiple-Sport Student-Athletes

Case Studies

- A soccer and tennis prospect graduates from high school in May 2001. The prospect competes on the satellite tennis circuit and accepts prize money until initial full-time enrollment in August 2002. How many seasons of competition remain upon enrollment in August 2002?

The prospect has lost one season of tennis eligibility and must fulfill an academic year in residence upon full-time collegiate enrollment with no competition in the sport of tennis. The prospect will be immediately eligible for competition in all other

sports if the prospect meets academic requirements and is eligible for four seasons of competition in sports other than tennis.

- A prospect graduates from high school in May 2001 and competes in road races, accepting prize money from January to July 2002. Prospect initially enrolls in a collegiate institution in August 2002. What is his eligibility status?

NCAA Bylaw 12.1.1.3 (road racing) states that participation in “road racing” events affects eligibility in cross country and track and field. Therefore, this prospect would be charged with one season of eligibility in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track, and be required to fulfill an academic year in residence while not competing in any of the three sports.

Discontinuation of High-School Enrollment

Case Studies

- A basketball prospect discontinues full-time high-school enrollment and receives a salary for participation on an athletics team during his senior year in high school. The prospect stops participation on this team and re-enrolls in high school. The prospect then accepts prize money for place finish in outside competition during his final year in high school. The prospect did not compete in high-school athletics during his final year in high school. The prospect graduates in May 2002, one year after the graduation of the prospect’s expected class. The prospect enrolls full time in a collegiate institution in August 2002. How many seasons of competition in the sport of basketball does the prospect have remaining upon enrollment?

The prospect has lost one season of eligibility for participation in organized competition after discontinuation of full-time high-school enrollment and another season of eligibility for the participation in organized competition for which the prospect accepted prize money during the prospect’s final year in high school. Thus, the prospect has two seasons of competition remaining after fulfilling an academic year in residence. The charged season for participation after dis-

continued high-school enrollment is noted in the legislation. Additionally, the rule states that a prospect is subject to the seasons-of-competition rule at the time of the expected date of the prospect's graduation from high school, based on initial high-school enrollment. The prospect's discontinued enrollment did not extend the date when the prospect is subject to the rule.

Academic Year in Residence

The academic year in residence required in Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2 is defined in NCAA Bylaw 14.5.1.1. In July 2001, the Management Council adopted an official interpretation stating that a student-athlete can fulfill the required year in residence per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2 at any Division II institution for the purpose of satisfying the requirement of the rule, regardless if the student-athlete subsequently transfers.

Exceptions to Bylaw 14.2.4.2

Competition While Enrolled in a Preparatory School

Case Studies

- A prospect graduates from high school and decides to attend a preparatory school and compete in athletics. After one year of preparatory school attendance, the prospect enrolls full time in a Division II institution. How many seasons of competition does the prospect have remaining upon enrollment in college?

The prospect would be immediately eligible and loses no seasons of competition for participation in postgraduate preparatory school athletics even though the prospect likely accepted expenses, which meets the definition of organized competition. The seasons-of-competition rule contains a one-year exception (Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2.3) for preparatory school athletics after high-school graduation.

Military Service

Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2.1 exempts participation in organized competition from application of the seasons-of-competition rule while serving in the United States

military. The exception does not provide relief for similar participation while on duty in military service in a foreign country.

Case Studies

- An international prospect competed in two years of organized competition, as defined in the legislation, after high-school graduation while fulfilling mandatory military service. Can the prospect use the military service exemption?

No. Even if the foreign military service is mandatory, the exception does not apply. The exception is limited to United States military competition. Therefore, this prospect must fulfill an academic year in residence upon initial full-time collegiate enrollment and will have two seasons of competition remaining.

Designated National/International Competition

Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2.2 provides an exception for a maximum of one year for participation in activities that meet the definition of organized competition if the activities are national or international and include participation in the following:

1. Official Pan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University and Olympic training, tryouts and competition;
2. Officially recognized training and competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic tryouts; or
3. Official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport).

Case Studies

- An international student-athlete graduates in May 2001 and waits until August 2002 to enroll in a Division II institution. Between August 2001 and August 2002, in preparation for Olympic tryouts,

the prospective student-athlete trains and competes with a local club team associated with the National Governing Body (NGB). She receives expenses for training. What is her eligibility status?

If the participation meets the criteria in the exception, then the prospect fits under the one-year limit and does not trigger the use of a season of competition. However, if the activities do not meet the criteria in the exception, then the participation must be evaluated in accordance with the definition of organized competition. Receipt of training expenses does trigger the rule for both team and individual competition per NCAA Bylaws 14.2.4.2.2-(a) and (b).

Postenrollment Application

Case Studies

- Immediately after high-school graduation, a student-athlete attends a two-year institution full time. After one year of attendance, the student-athlete withdraws from the institution and begins training and competing with a club program. What is the eligibility status of this athlete if he wants to return to a Division II institution after training and competing with a club for one year?

The pre-enrollment legislative amendments would not be applicable in this scenario since the student-athlete began full-time collegiate enrollment at his first opportunity. Therefore, the legislation now permitting a prospect to accept prize money for place finish, sign a contract, enter the draft and be drafted, accept compensation for athletics participation, and compete with professionals does not apply to this student-athlete. Consequently, the seasons-of-competition rule would also not be applicable. Therefore, the student-athlete's eligibility status must be evaluated under eligibility rules governing postenrollment activities.

Administrative Review Subcommittee Waivers

The Division II Administrative Review Subcommittee (ARS) has the authority to waive the normal application of any legislation that does not include a specific waiver provision. The Management

Council has provided specific guidelines for the subcommittee to follow when evaluating requests to waive Bylaw 14.2.4.2. Please note that if an individual has violated a current amateurism rule, the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee has jurisdiction. However, for those circumstances where the individual has not violated a rule, but simply triggered the seasons-of-competition legislation, the Administrative Review Subcommittee has authority to review a waiver request.

Significant Actions Related to Proposal No. 12

Waivers for Early National Letter of Intent Signees Who have Maintained Amateur Status

At the January 2001 meeting, the Division II Management Council approved the Division II Amateurism Project Team's recommendation to grant an ARS waiver for any prospect who signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) during the early signing period before the 2001 NCAA Convention and had triggered the seasons-of-competition legislation but did not violate any amateurism legislation as outlined in the 2000-01 NCAA Division II Manual.

Waivers for Prospects Who have Compromised Their Amateur Status

At its April 2001 meeting, the Division II Management Council approved the following recommendations:

1. For prospects who signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) during the early signing period, triggered the season of competition rule, but also violated amateurism rules as outlined in the 2000-01 NCAA Division II Manual (e.g., accepted prize money), waiver requests should be denied.

Example No. 1: A prospect signed a letter of intent during the early signing period, and upon initial enrollment, it was learned that the prospect had delayed college enrollment for two years and competed on the tennis circuit while accepting prize money. In this situation, the prospect would be charged with two seasons of competition and is required to fulfill an academic year in residence.

Example No. 2: A prospect voluntarily competed on an international, professional basketball team for two years after high-school graduation while serving mandatory military service. She did not accept compensation, but several teammates did accept compensation from the professional team, which triggered the application of the seasons-of-competition rule. She committed to the institution during the early signing period. In this situation, the student-athlete would be charged with two seasons of eligibility and must fulfill an academic year in residence.

Waivers for Prospects Who Committed After the Adoption of the Proposal

2. For prospects who signed an NLI after the adoption of the legislation and triggered the rule, waiver requests should be denied. Therefore, the prospect in the following example should not be granted a waiver of the normal application of the seasons-of-competition rule.

Example No. 3: A prospect competed in road races for one year after high-school graduation and accepted \$200 in prize money. He signed an NLI after the new legislation was adopted. In this situation, the student-athlete would be charged with one season of competition and must fulfill an academic year in residence.

Waivers for Prospects Who Graduate from High School on a Nontraditional Date

At its July 2001 meeting, the Division II Management Council directed the Administrative Review Subcommittee to waive the seasons-of-competition rule for prospects who graduate from high school at a time that is not the traditional graduation date (e.g., graduate in December as opposed to May or June) and participate in organized competition before the first opportunity to enroll in a collegiate institution. Specifically, participation in organized competition not exceeding three consecutive months before collegiate enrollment should be waived for this group of prospects. Any competition beyond the three-month time frame should not be waived as being exempt from the rule.

The project team noted that the next opportunity to enroll for prospects who graduate in December is

January. Therefore, these prospects are not afforded the same opportunity as those prospects who graduate in May or June to participate in organized competition during the summer after high-school graduation without triggering the seasons-of-competition rule. The project team believes that prospects should be afforded the same opportunity to participate, regardless of their graduation date from high school.

Conclusion

The purpose of this guide is to provide education and foster a greater understanding of the changes in Division II pre-enrollment amateurism rules. Please note that legislation can be amended to ensure proper application. Questions regarding the application of this legislation should be directed toward institutional compliance coordinators and the NCAA membership services staff.

This guide does not replace, supplement or amend the NCAA Division II Manual. It was developed simply as an education tool. The final authority for application and interpretation of legislation is the Division II Manual and appropriate interpretations contained in the Legislative Services Database maintained by the membership services staff. Authority to interpret legislation rests with the membership services staff, the Interpretations Subcommittee of the Division II Legislation Committee and the Division II Management Council.