

**2013-14 NCAA Division I Legislative Proposals  
Question and Answer Document**

**(Updated: February 25, 2014)**

This document contains questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of select proposals in the 2013-14 legislative cycle.

**NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2013-17 Athletics Personnel -- Conduct of Athletics Personnel -- First Aid, CPR and AED Certification**

**Question No. 1:** Must a coach receive certification from a specific agency?

**Answer:** The proposal does not specify particular certifying agencies. Determining an appropriate certifying agency is left to the discretion of the institution.

**Question No. 2:** Does the proposal require an institution to have an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) accessible for use by the certified individuals?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 3:** Does the legislation apply to a new coach who is hired in the middle of the season?

**Answer:** Yes. To be in compliance with the proposed requirement, a coach must receive certification prior to engaging in coaching activities with student-athletes. The proposal does not permit a grace period for an uncertified full-time coach hired and/or designated midseason.

**Question No. 4:** Does a violation occur if a coach performs coaching duties with student-athletes without being certified?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 5:** Will institutions be required to submit a form to the NCAA for proof that all full-time coaches at the institution are certified?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 6:** Does this proposal require graduate assistant coaches and volunteer coaches to be certified in first aid, CPR and AED?

**Answer:** Yes, if they are considered full-time coaches pursuant to institutional policy.

**Question No. 7:** May an institution pay for the required certifications?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Proposal Nos. 2013-19-FBS and 2013-19-FCS Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice -- After Five-Day Acclimatization Period -- Three-Hours of Recovery Time Between Any Sessions**

**Question No. 1:** Is it permissible for an institution to conduct "walk-throughs" during the recovery period?

**Answer:** No. During the recovery period, student-athletes may not engage in any athletically related activities, including a walk-through.

**Question No. 2:** If a student-athlete participates in a voluntary workout during the three-hour recovery period, must the institution provide additional recovery time?

**Answer:** No. However, as a matter of student-athlete well-being, it is important for the institution to educate its student-athletes on the purpose of the three-hour recovery period and the dangers of not using the recovery period.

**Question No. 3:** Does time spent watching film/video count as recovery time?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** Is it permissible for an institution to require student-athletes to remain at the facility during the three-hour recovery time?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Proposal No. 2013-20 Championships and Postseason Football -- Eligibility for Championships -- Student-Athlete Eligibility -- Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs -- Duration of Ineligibility -- Street Drugs**

**Question No. 1:** What drugs are included in the class "NCAA Street Drugs"?

**Answer:** Marijuana, heroin and synthetic cannabinoids. These banned drugs are included in the NCAA street-drug class because they are not considered performance enhancing. It should be noted that no NCAA student-athlete has tested positive for heroin as a part of the NCAA-administered drug-testing program. Testing results will continue to be monitored on a yearly basis and if changes are warranted, the NCAA membership can act accordingly.

**Question No. 2:** Is the penalty in this proposal specific to failed NCAA-administered drug tests?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 3:** May an institution or conference impose a stricter penalty for a positive NCAA street-drug test?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 4:** Does the legislation apply retroactively?

**Answer:** No. The effective date is August 1, 2014, and applies to all tests occurring on or after August 1, 2014. Student-athletes who tested positive for street drugs prior to August 1, 2014, must fulfill the penalties identified in the previous legislation.

**Question No. 5:** Does the drug-testing program test for street drugs throughout the year?

**Answer:** No. The program tests for street drugs only during NCAA championships.

**Question No. 6:** How is the 50-percent withholding calculated?

**Answer:** The withholding requirement is 50 percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum in each sport, regardless of how many contests or dates of competition are scheduled by an institution.

**Question No. 7:** Does the 50-percent withholding penalty begin immediately after a positive street-drug test?

**Answer:** The 50-percent withholding penalty begins as soon as the institution is notified of the test result.

**Question No. 8:** How would the application of the loss of competition during a minimum 50 percent of a season impact a multisport student-athlete?

**Answer:** A student-athlete becomes ineligible for at least 50 percent of a season in all sports at the point in which the institution is notified of the positive test for street drugs.

**Question No. 9:** Do exhibition contests, scrimmages, alumni contests, etc. count toward loss of competition during a minimum of 50 percent of a season?

**Answer:** No. The student-athlete remains ineligible until at least 50 percent of a season's regular contests have passed following the positive drug test. Contests used to fulfill the penalty must be contests or dates of competition considered for championship selection.

**Question No. 10:** Does a student-athlete have to be otherwise eligible to compete to fulfill the withholding penalty?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Proposal No. 2013-31-A Awards, Benefits and Expenses -- Meals Incidental to Practice Activities and Noncompetitive Events and Snacks at Any Time**

**Question No. 1:** May an institution provide a meal incidental to skill-related instruction outside the playing season?

**Answer:** No. Meals incidental to practice may only be provided during the playing and practice season (championship and nonchampionship segments) when classes are in session.

**Question No. 2:** Is the proposal to provide a meal incidental to practice during the playing season applicable during a vacation period?

**Answer:** No. The legislation governing board allowance for a student-athlete who is required to remain on campus for practice during a vacation period is unchanged. Therefore, an institution is permitted to provide meals, or a cash allowance in lieu of meals, to a student-athlete who is required to remain on campus for practice, including preseason practice, not to exceed the amount provided by the institution to institutional staff members on away-from-campus trips. An institution may provide an additional meal (as opposed to the cash equivalent) during each day of any vacation period, provided the student-athlete is required to remain on campus for practice or competition.

**Question No. 3:** May meals incidental to practice be provided at the institution's discretion?

**Answer:** Yes. Such meals may be provided at the institution's discretion during the playing season when classes are in session; however, the proposal was not designed to provide an avenue for institutions to circumvent institutional financial aid limitations. Meals incidental to practice are intended to meet the additional nutritional needs of the institution's student-athletes and may not be provided in place of regular meals (i.e., breakfast, lunch and dinner) which continue to be an element of a full grant-in-aid.

**Question No. 4:** May an institution provide a meal to a student-athlete who is representing the institution in a noncompetitive event outside the playing season?

**Answer:** Yes. Meals related to noncompetitive events may be provided any time a student-athlete is representing the institution in such an event.

**Question No. 5:** Is there a limit on the number of meals that may be provided to a student-athlete who is representing the institution in a noncompetitive event?

**Answer:** No. An institution is permitted to provide meals at its discretion any time a student-athlete is representing the institution in a noncompetitive event.

**Question No. 6:** Is the institution required to deduct the value of a meal incidental to practice or a noncompetitive event from the board allowance provided to a student-athlete?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 7:** Is the institution required to charge a student-athlete who does not receive institutional athletically related financial aid covering the full cost of board (i.e., a walk-on or partial scholarship student-athlete) with the cost of a meal incidental to practice or a noncompetitive event? Is the institution required to include the value of the meal in the student-athlete's individual or in the team's financial aid limits?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 8:** Does the meal incidental to practice eliminate the institution's opportunity to provide a training table meal?

**Answer:** No. An institution may provide one training table meal per day at any time during the academic year when regular institutional dining facilities are open. The cost of meals provided on the institution's training table must be deducted from a student-athlete's board allowance, regardless of whether the student-athlete is receiving a full grant-in-aid. A student-athlete who does not receive institutional athletically related financial aid covering the full cost of board (i.e., a walk-on or partial scholarship student-athlete) may purchase one training table meal per day at the same rate the institution deducts from the board allowance of student-athletes who receive athletically related financial aid covering board costs.

**Question No. 9:** May an institution provide a cash allowance in lieu of a meal incidental to practice or a noncompetitive event?

**Answer:** No. An institution may not provide a cash allowance in lieu of a meal incidental to practice or a noncompetitive event that takes place in the locale of the institution. If a student-athlete is participating in an institutional practice or representing the institution in a noncompetitive event outside of the institution's locale, the institution may provide meals at its discretion from the time the student-athlete is required to report on call for travel associated with the practice or noncompetitive event until the team returns to campus. Alternatively, an institution may provide regular meals, or a cash allowance in lieu of meals, not to exceed the amount provided by the institution to institutional staff members on away-from-campus trips.

**Question No. 10:** May an institution provide a cash allowance in lieu of a meal to a student-athlete who misses a meal covered in the student-athlete's board allowance or purchased by the student-athlete (i.e., walk-on or partial scholarship student-athlete) due to participation in practice activities?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the student-athlete previously has paid for the same meal (e.g., dinner) at an institutional dining facility.

**Question No. 11:** May an institution provide snacks to a student-athlete outside the playing season?

**Answer:** Yes. Snacks may be provided at any time at the institution's discretion.

**Question No. 12:** Does this proposal impact the provision of meals related to competition?

**Answer:** No. The legislation in Bylaw 16.5.2-(d) remains unchanged.

**Question No. 13:** May an institution provide a meal to a student-athlete who is representing the institution in a noncompetitive event that is located outside the locale of the institution?

**Answer:** Yes. Such a meal is permissible per Bylaw 16.9.1.

**Proposal No. 2013-31-B Awards, Benefits and Expenses -- Meals and Snacks Incidental to Participation**

**Question No. 1:** Is it permissible for an institution to provide a meal or snack incidental to participation outside the playing season?

**Answer:** Yes. Outside the playing season, an institution may provide a meal or snack incidental to participation at any time during the academic year when classes are in session.

**Question No. 2:** Is it permissible to provide a meal or snack incidental to participation during an institutional vacation period?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the student-athlete is required to remain on the institution's campus for organized practice or competition during the institutional vacation period (i.e., during the playing season).

**Question No. 3:** Is it permissible to provide meals or snacks incidental to participation to a basketball or football student-athlete who is participating in required weight training, conditioning and skill-related instruction (or film review) during the summer (i.e., "summer access")?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the student-athlete is enrolled in summer school and the meals or snacks incidental to participation do not replace a meal that is otherwise included in the summer grant-in-aid (i.e., breakfast, lunch or dinner). An institution may not provide expenses associated with the grant-in-aid to a student-athlete who is required to remain on the institution's campus solely for participation in summer athletic activities. Therefore, an institution may not provide meals or snacks incidental to participation to a student-athlete who is participating in summer athletic activities but is not enrolled in summer school (i.e., eligible under the exception to summer school enrollment).

**Question No. 4:** Is the institution required to deduct the value of a meal or snack incidental to participation from the board allowance of a student-athlete who is receiving institutional athletically related financial aid that covers the full cost of board?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** Is the institution required to charge a student-athlete who does not receive institutional athletically related financial aid covering the full cost of board (i.e., a walk-on or partial scholarship student-athlete) with the cost of a meal or snack incidental to participation?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 6:** May meals incidental to participation be provided at the institution's discretion?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution may determine how best to meet the additional nutritional needs of its student-athletes (e.g., additional late night meal); however, the proposal was not designed to provide an avenue for institutions to circumvent institutional financial aid limitations. As stated in the proposal's rationale, meals incidental to participation are not intended to replace meals that would normally be provided through a dining plan or an off-campus board stipend (i.e., breakfast, lunch and dinner) which continue to be an element of a full grant-in-aid.

**Question No. 7:** Does an institution still have the option to provide a training table meal?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution may still provide one training table meal per day (i.e., breakfast, lunch or dinner) at any time during the academic year when regular institutional dining facilities are open. The cost of the training table meal must be deducted from a student-athlete's board allowance, regardless of whether the student-athlete is receiving a full grant-in-aid. A student-athlete who does not receive institutional athletically related financial aid covering the full cost of board (i.e., a walk-on or partial scholarship student-athlete) may purchase one training table meal per day at the same rate the institution deducts from the board allowance of student-athletes who receive athletically related financial aid covering board costs.

**Question No. 8:** May an institution provide a cash allowance in lieu of a meal incidental to participation?

**Answer:** In general, it is not permissible for an institution to provide a cash allowance in lieu of a meal incidental to participation. If a student-athlete is participating in an institutional practice or competition, or is representing the institution in a noncompetitive event outside of the institution's locale, the institution may provide meals at its discretion from the time the student-athlete is required to report on call until the student-athlete returns to campus. However, it remains permissible for an institution to provide regular meals, or a cash allowance in lieu of meals, not to exceed the amount provided by the institution to institutional staff members on away-from-campus trips.

**Question No. 9:** May an institution provide a cash allowance in lieu of a meal to a student athlete who misses a regular meal covered by the student-athlete's board allowance, or purchased by the student-athlete (i.e., walk-on or partial scholarship student-athlete) due to participation in practice activities?

**Answer:** Yes, provided the student-athlete previously has paid for the same meal (e.g., dinner) at an institutional dining facility.