NCAA Division II
Four-Year College Transfers
General Transfer Legislation
Prior to being eligible for competition, a four-year college transfer SA must serve one full academic year in residence at certifying institution.

NCAA Bylaw 14.5.5.1
Eligibility for Aid and Practice

- If SA attended previous institution for at least one academic year, he/she may be eligible for financial aid and practice at certifying institution.

- If SA attended previous institution for less than one academic year and is partial qualifier or nonqualifier, receipt of financial aid and practice is governed by Bylaw 14.3.2.1.
  - Not eligible to use transfer exception to be immediately eligible to compete.

Bylaw 14.5.5.1
Eligibility to use Transfer Exceptions

In order to use transfer exceptions, SA must not:

- Be under disciplinary suspension at previous institution;
- Have competed during segment that concludes with NCAA championship at previous institution; and
- Have an unfulfilled residency requirement at previous institution.
  - Exception: Return to original institution without participation.

Bylaws 14.5.1.1, 14.5.5.3 and 14.5.5.4
Staff interpretation [Reference: 7/24/14, Item No. 2]:

- SA, who is a qualifier and serving a year in residence during initial year of enrollment due to organized competition violation who chooses to transfer prior to serving the year in residence, is not eligible for one-time transfer exception.
Eligibility for Transfer Exception

- Staff interpretation [Reference: 8/6/14, Item No. a]:
  - Partial qualifier or nonqualifier who received a fully approved initial-eligibility waiver to permit athletically related financial aid, practice and competition in initial year of full-time enrollment is considered a qualifier for purposes of application of two-year and four-year college transfer requirements.
To be eligible for competition, SA must complete nine hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term of full-time enrollment.

- Must be degree applicable.

- Must be transferable hours as certified by certifying institution.

Bylaw 14.4.3.2
Transfer Exceptions
One-Time Transfer Exception

- SA must meet several conditions to satisfy one-time transfer exception.
  1. SA must not have previously transferred from four-year institution.

  Exception: SA may still use one-time transfer exception if in previous transfer SA used discontinued/nonsponsored sport exception or previous transfer was due to loss of regional accreditation.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9-(a)
One-Time Transfer Exception

2. SA must be in good academic standing, meeting progress-toward-degree requirements at previous institution and academically eligible to return to previous institution.

- Good academic standing is defined by academic authorities at previous institution.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9-(b)
If SA is transferring from NCAA or NAIA member institution, previous institution must certify in writing that it has no objection to SA being granted exception to transfer residence requirement.

Institution must grant or deny SA’s written request for a release within 14 consecutive calendar days of receipt. Failure to do so will result in the request being automatically granted.
5. Additional requirement only for those SAs who have one season or two semesters/three quarters or fewer remaining to complete his or her eligibility and has not earned a baccalaureate degree:

- Must have completed an average of 12 credit hours of transferrable degree credits for each full-time term attended and a 2.000 GPA in those credits.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9-(d)
Official interpretation [Reference: 12/12/14, Item Ref. 14] incorporated effective immediately:

- Transfer SA from Division I institution who meets all other requirements of one-time transfer exception may use exception on transfer to Division II institution even if SA does not fulfill percentage-of-degree requirements at previous Division I institution.
Discontinued Sport Exception

- SA is not subject to year in residence provided previous institution discontinued or has publicly announced its plans to discontinue SA’s sport.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.5-(a)
Nonsponsored Sport Exception

- If SA’s previous institution did not sponsor SA’s sport while SA was in attendance, SA is not subject to year in residence.
  - To use this exception, SA must not have previously transferred from institution that sponsored sport.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.5-(b)
Two-Year Nonparticipation/Minimal Participation Exception

- SA is not subject to year in residence if:
  - For a (consecutive) two-year period prior to SA’s participation in countable athletically related activities at certifying institution:
    - SA has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities in involved sport beyond a 14 consecutive calendar-day period; or
    - SA has not participated in organized amateur competition while enrolled full time.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.6
Two-Year Nonparticipation/Minimal Participation Exception

- Official interpretation [Reference: 7/7/14, Item No. 15]:

  - Participation on previous institution’s club team triggers intercollegiate competition or noncollegiate amateur competition and must be counted when determining whether SA may use two-year nonparticipation exception.
SA is not subject to year in residence if:

◦ SA was not recruited by certifying institution;

◦ SA has not received any athletically related financial aid; and

◦ SA has not competed or participated in countable athletically related activities beyond a 14 consecutive calendar-day period at any previous institution.

Bylaw 14.5.5.3.8
Additional Transfer Exceptions

- Educational exchange exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.1).
- Exchange student exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.2).
- Discontinued academic program exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.3).
- Military service, religious mission exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.4).
- Return to original institution without participation/minimal participation exception (Bylaw 14.5.5.3.7).
Graduate Student-Athletes
SA who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school, or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program at institution other than institution previously attended as undergraduate may compete provided SA has eligibility remaining.

- Disciplinary suspension legislations applies to graduate students as well
Staff interpretation [Reference: 10/8/14, Item No. a]:

- SA may use exception on more than one occasion provided SA has eligibility remaining and regardless of whether SA previously transferred as undergraduate student.
Graduate Student Participation

- Staff interpretation [Reference: 10/25/13, Item No. b]:
  - Graduate student who transfers while disqualified or suspended from previous institution must complete one calendar year in residence at certifying institution.
Waivers
If SA does not meet a four-year college transfer exception, consider if legislative relief is appropriate.

Guidelines can be found on www.ncaa.org.

Case precedent can be found in RSRO.
Questions