

## 2018-19 NCAA Division III international ice hockey pilot

### Pilot Parameters:

All Division III schools that sponsor men's and/or women's ice hockey will participate in a one-year pilot for the 2018-2019 season.

The pilot parameters will include the following:

1. The NCAA Eligibility Center will conduct a sports participation review history of all international, first year men's and women's ice hockey student-athletes. For the purpose of the pilot, an international student is defined as any student who attended a secondary or postsecondary school outside the United States, participated in athletics outside the United States or whose permanent residence is outside the United States. A first-year student is defined as a student-athlete's first year at a Division III institution; transfer students with no prior Division III enrollment are included in the pilot.
2. All international, first year men's and women's ice hockey players must complete the Eligibility Center's free, online Profile Page to provide baseline information and obtain a unique NCAA ID number.
3. On August 1 or later, institutions that sponsor men's and/or women's ice hockey must submit the names of the international first year student-athletes on their men's and women's ice hockey rosters to the Eligibility Center at [D3\\_hockey@ncaa.org](mailto:D3_hockey@ncaa.org). All players must be accepted by and have paid a deposit to the institution.
4. Upon receipt of the roster (name and NCAA ID number), the Eligibility Center will reach out to the international student-athletes for needed additional information to review their sports participation history and copy the member institution. Student-athletes will respond to a dedicated Division III Eligibility Center email address.
5. The participation history review will include an assessment of the teams and leagues with which a prospective student-athlete participated, evaluation of any compensation or other benefits associated with athletics participation, evaluation of possible agent involvement and evaluation of delayed collegiate enrollment. Reviews will be completed in the order received and may require institutional involvement in order to address questions.
6. Reviews typically take 2-3 days once the Eligibility Center obtains all information. If there are complicating factors, reviews can take up to three weeks. Once a review is completed, an email will be sent to the institution and copied to the conference office. Summary level data will be provided to the conference offices.
7. The Eligibility Center will provide comprehensive periodic reports to the institution and conference office.

8. Any questions from student-athletes, institutional personnel and conference offices should be directed to the dedicated Division III Eligibility Center email address ([D3\\_hockey@ncaa.org](mailto:D3_hockey@ncaa.org))
9. In January 2018, the Division III Management Council waived the requirement for pilot participants to complete Form 18-10c: General Amateurism and Eligibility Form for International and Select Student-Athletes, since the EC will be conducting the international student-athlete participation review history.
10. All Eligibility Center reviews and findings are final and binding. There will be a Fact-Finding Committee to review disputed findings. The member institution may also pursue additional relief through the legislative relief waiver process if mitigating factors exist.
11. The NCAA will pay the \$135 fee to conduct each review. Prospective student-athletes who have previously registered for an EC certification account will not be reimbursed.

Pilot desired outcomes include the following:

- Track the institutions that submit names to the Eligibility Center (EC). These names will be compared to the master-list of ice hockey schools.
- Track how many names are submitted from each institution.
- Track the dates that institutions submit the roster lists.
- Determine how many of the submitted names are already in the EC certification queue. They will have already paid the \$135. And of these, how many were on a Division I or Division II IRL?
- Determine how long it takes the EC to complete each participation history review. This data will allow us to compare with Divisions I and II and give us an idea as to how much burden the process can remove from schools.
- Determine how many international student-athletes are cleared to participate and how many are denied participation. If denied, why?
- Identify how many calls were driven to the NCAA Customer Service Center from this population.
- The Eligibility Center will provide summary information on the student-athletes including country of origin, age, and institution they're attending.

If the pilot is a success, the governance structure and membership could consider expanding the concept to include other sports or propose related legislation.