Recruiting and Scouting Service Approval FAQs

NCAA Division I basketball and football programs are permitted to subscribe only to recruiting or scouting services approved by the NCAA. To apply, an applicant must submit an online application and provide a sample of published information that would be included in the service. If the service operates on the web, an applicant is required to create login credentials for the NCAA. Applicants are required to reapply annually.

The application is accessible between midnight Eastern time March 1 and 11:59 p.m. Eastern time May 31. All deadlines are strictly enforced. Late submissions will not be accepted.

If additional information is required to complete the review process, applicants will receive an email and have 10 days to address identified issues in writing.

Services are approved based on the information submitted in the application. To avoid penalties, ANY changes from the information submitted must be communicated IN WRITING to the NCAA Enforcement Certification and Approvals Group (ECAG) at **ECAG@ncaa.org** within 10 days of the change being made.

NCAA members can access a list of approved recruiting/scouting services online and have an expectation of shared responsibility to monitor that the service is compliant with the legislation. Concerns/inadequacies should be reported to **ECAG@ncaa.org**.

For more information, please review Bylaws 13.14.3.1 (Basketball and Football) and 13.14.3.1.1 (Video-Only Services) in the Division I Manual (located **here**) and visit the scouting approval website at **ncaa.org/scoutingservice**.

Q: What if I miss the May 31 deadline?

A: Individuals that miss the deadline will have to wait until the next submission period to apply.

Q: Can I sell my service to Division II or III programs?

A: ECAG approval is not required for Divisions II and III; there are separate legislative requirements for these divisions. The compliance office at each institution is responsible for independently evaluating the service before approving a subscription.

DEFINITION OF A RECRUITING OR SCOUTING SERVICE

A recruiting or scouting service includes any individual, organization, entity or segment of an entity that primarily provides information about prospective student-athletes. This definition does not include any individual, organization, entity or segment of an entity that primarily provides information about prospective student-athletes incidental to its primary purpose and is generally available to the public (e.g., news media).

DEFINITION OF A SUBSCRIPTION

An institution subscribes to a recruiting or scouting service when a staff member registers to access information provided by the service only to paid subscribers or registers to access information available only to a select group of individuals (e.g., coaches), regardless of whether a charge is associated with accessing the information. However, an institution is not considered to have subscribed to a recruiting or scouting service if a staff member registers to access information about prospective student-athletes from a service that provides the same information to the general public at no cost.

Recruiting and Scouting Service Approval FAQs Continued

Q: What if my service covers sports other than basketball and/or football?

A: There are separate legislative requirements for other sports. The compliance office at each institution is responsible for independently evaluating the service before approving a subscription.

Q: What does "individual analysis" mean?

A: Individual analysis includes personal evaluation of performance, athletics assessments (i.e., comparisons of statistical data or a 40-yard dash), and academic assessments (i.e., grade-point average and standardized test scores).

Q: Can my service include video?

A: Scouting services may include scholastic and/or nonscholastic video, but are still required to include individual analysis for each prospect unless the service is video only.

Q: If my service is video only, what kind of data can I provide before it appears to be a traditional scouting service?

A: Video-only services are permitted to include data merely for identifying the prospects in the video for subscribers. Information is limited to the prospect's name, jersey number, position, school name and graduation year.

Q: How many prospective student-athletes need to be included in the sample?

A: There is not a specific number required, but the sample should include enough information to provide NCAA member institutions with a fair representation of a typical scouting report.

Q: When does an approval expire?

A: The scouting service may provide subscription services beginning the date ECAG granted approval through the following May 31.

Q: Can my service offer tiered subscription prices to NCAA institutions?

A: It is permissible to include multiple pricing options provided those fees are not based on the division in which the institution competes and are identified and approved as part of the application process.

Q: Am I permitted to use the NCAA logo or trademarks?

A: No. It is not permissible to use the NCAA logo, brand or trademarks when promoting your service.

Q: What can I do to promote that my service is approved by the NCAA since I cannot use the logo or trademarks?

A: Approved scouting services may use the following language: *"NCAA Division I football and/or basketball coaches are permitted to subscribe to this recruiting/scouting service. For more information, visit* **ncaa.org/enforcement/ basketball-certification/scouting-services***."*

Q: Can I access the list of approved scouting services?

A: The approval list is available at **web1.ncaa.org/scouting/ school_search**, but access is limited to NCAA institutional staff with a MyApps login.

Q: Why am I not able to view the application when I log in?

A: The NCAA permits applications to be submitted between March 1 and May 31. The application will not be accessible outside of those dates.

If you have additional questions, please contact the ECAG staff at 317-917-6322, 844-562-6201 or ecag@ncaa.org.

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