

Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rule Webinar

Presenters



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Agenda



- Eligibility Center.
 - Implementation.
 - Calculations.
 - Date of Birth Verification Process.
 - Establishing Initial Full-Time Enrollment.
 - Exceptions.
 - Visibility.
 - Responsibilities.

- Division II Governance and Member Services.
 - Age-Based Eligibility Rule/Application.
 - Athletics-Eligibility Waivers.



Eligibility Center

Implementation Summary

- June 24: [Division I adopted age-based eligibility rules.](#)
- August 5: [Division II adopted age-based eligibility rules.](#)
 - [Age-Based Eligibility FAQ](#) updated to include DII information.
 - [Division II Age-Based Eligibility Educational Column.](#)
- August 10: Certification Process and Visibility Implemented.
- August 14: Division II Aged-Based Eligibility Webinar.

Implementation

- **2025-26 Initial Enrollees (and prior).**
 - *Eligibility Center*: provides *data* related to a student-athlete's period of eligibility (under the age-based rules) based on available account details.
 - *Member institutions*: apply previous rules or age-based rules.
- **2026-27 Initial Enrollees.**
 - *Eligibility Center*: certifies athletics eligibility status and period of eligibility (under the age-based rules).
 - *Member Institutions*: apply previous rules or age-based rules.
- **Fall 2027 Initial Enrollees (and beyond).**
 - *Eligibility Center*: certifies athletics eligibility status and period of eligibility under the age-based rules.

FAQ

- Divisions I and II Age-Based Eligibility FAQ



Scan the QR code or [click here.](#)

EC's Operational Workflow Overview (Divisions I and II Age-Based Rules)



**Approach for Fall 2026 and Winter/Spring
2027 Enrollment Periods**



Eligibility Center Operational Updates 2026-27

Verifying the Date of Birth

2026-27 EC Operational Approach

Verifying the Date of Birth

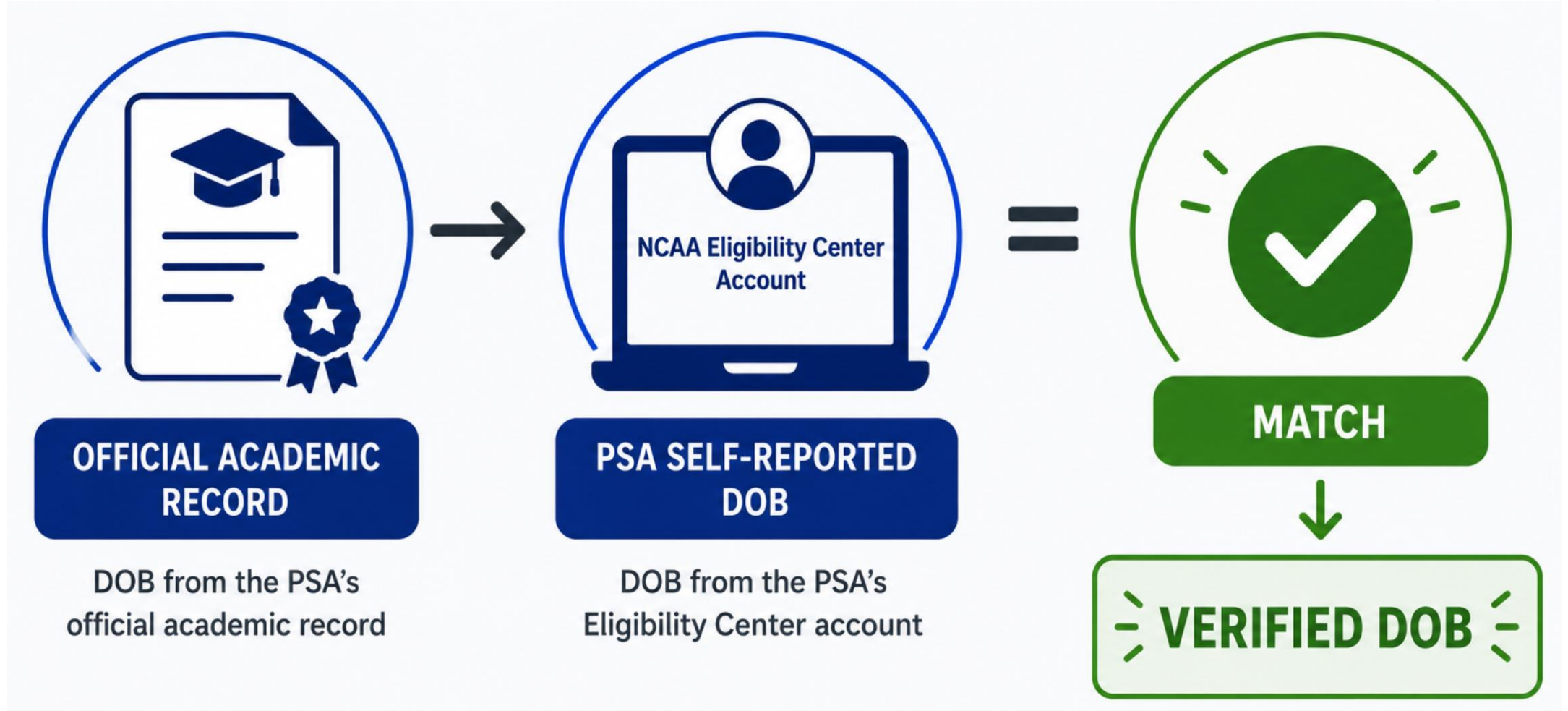


Reminder:

Date of birth must be verified and initial full-time collegiate enrollment must be established before the period of eligibility under the age-based rules can be certified by the Eligibility Center.

Verifying the Date of Birth, Cont'd

2026-27 Operational Approach



Note: A **matriculation date** may be required to certify the POE. Task: "Matriculation Date – Period of Eligibility" assigned.

Date of Birth Verification Process



- 2026-27 Operational Approach to Verify Date of Birth
 - Match: Visibility
 - > Membership Portal: contained within PSA Detail Report.
 - > Student Account: located within “Eligibility Status (PDF)” report.

Period of Eligibility

Period of Eligibility Summary - Division I

Sport	Age 19	Initial Full-Time Enrollment	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
MSO - Men's Soccer	<u>01-Feb-2026</u>	01-Aug-2026	No	CERTIFIED	09-Aug-2026	FALL 2026	WINTER/SPRING 2031

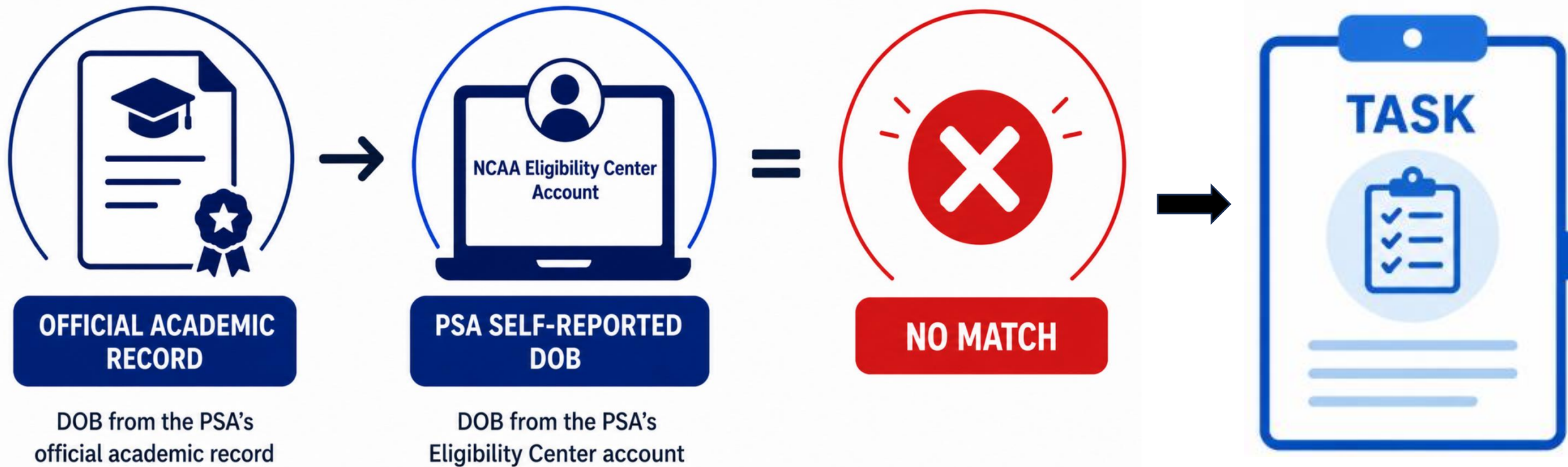
Period of Eligibility Summary - Division II

Sport	Age 19	Initial Full-Time Enrollment	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
MSO - Men's Soccer	<u>01-Feb-2026</u>	01-Aug-2026	No	CERTIFIED	09-Aug-2026	FALL 2026	WINTER/SPRING 2031

Disclaimer: A period of eligibility is certified only if the Status field indicates Certified. A certified period of eligibility requires a verified date of birth, an established date of initial full-time collegiate enrollment, and a final athletics certification decision. Any period of eligibility displayed without a certified status is based on available information, is provided for informational purposes only, and may not be accurate or complete. NCAA schools are responsible for determining the period of eligibility for student-athletes who first enrolled full time at an NCAA school before Fall 2026. The NCAA Eligibility Center is responsible for certifying the period of eligibility for student-athletes who first enroll full time at an NCAA school in Fall 2026 or later. Under age-based rules, a student-athlete must have a certified period of eligibility and meet all other academic and athletics eligibility requirements for athletics participation.

Verifying the Date of Birth, Cont'd

2026-27 Operational Approach



Date of Birth Verification Process

- 2026-27 Operational Approach to Verify Date of Birth
 - Compare official academic records with the self-reported date of birth.
 - **Mismatch**: date of birth not verified, and period of eligibility not certified.
 - > When: dates do not match, or academic records do not include date of birth.
 - Task: “Age Verification Needed” assigned to account.
 - > Task notifies student that an email from **Persona** will be sent to the email address associated with the student’s Eligibility Center account.
 - > Persona is a globally recognized multi-industry age-verification provider.
 - > Email: outlines directions and contains a link to an NCAA-specific Persona page where the student will complete the verification process.

Date of Birth Verification Process, Cont'd



2-PART AGE VERIFICATION PROCESS

Part 1: Submit Photo ID

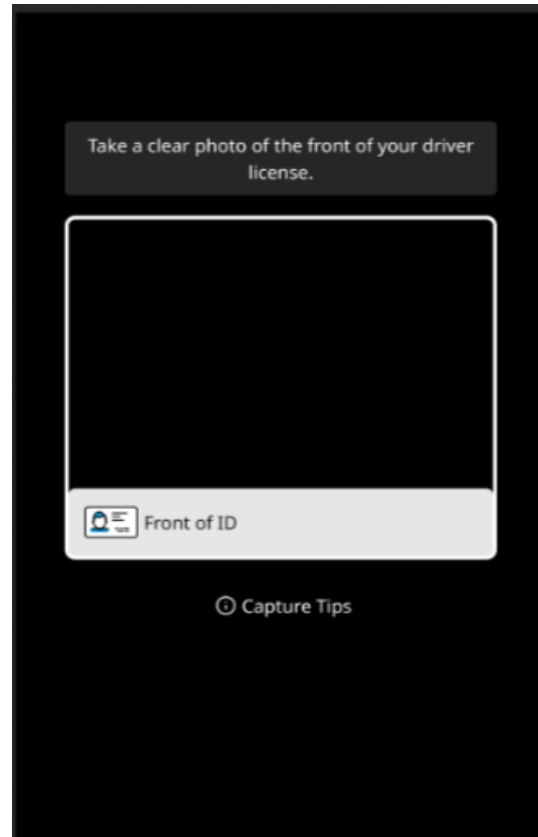
< ×

What country is your government ID from?

This helps us determine the best way to verify your identity.

Select a country ▼

Select



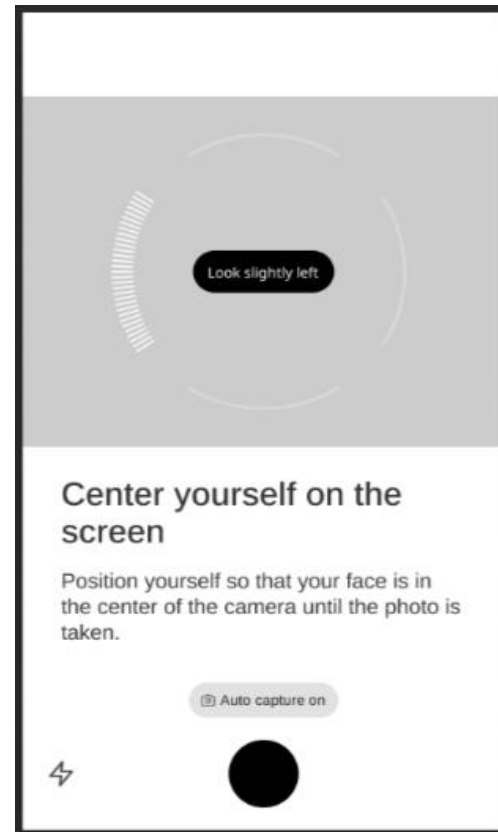
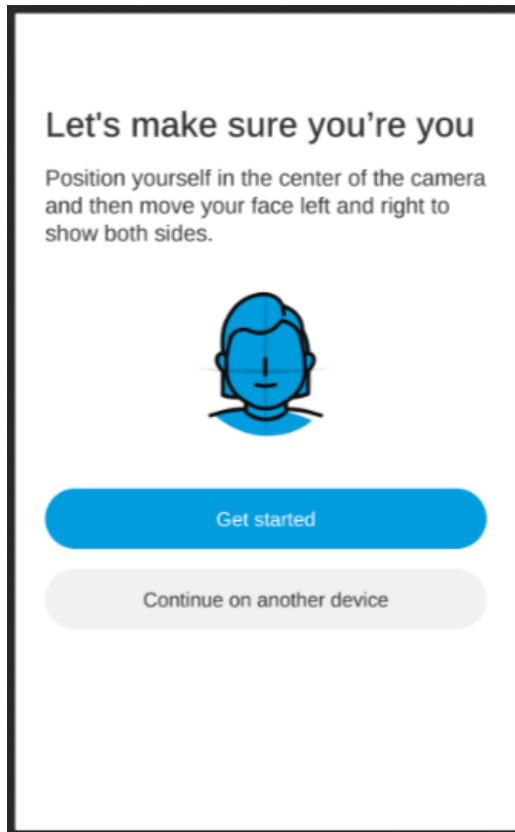
Student Action

- » Select the country based on the government ID the student will provide in subsequent steps.
- » ID is scanned.

Date of Birth Verification Process, Cont'd

2-PART AGE VERIFICATION PROCESS

Part 2: Image Scan



Student Action

- » The student will have their image scanned by a camera (phone or computer).
- » The actual student will need to be available for this step!
- » The system will then compare the ID and the image to confirm the student's identity and age.



- » The outcome is reported back to the Eligibility Center.

Date of Birth Verification Process, Cont'd



- If Persona cannot validate the date of birth:
 - The “Age Verification Needed” task remains *open*.
 - The student’s period of eligibility under the age-based rules cannot be certified (the POE Certification Status remains blank).
 - **Reminder:** The student is ineligible to practice or compete after the conclusion of the temporary certification period (DII Bylaw [14.1.1.5.1](#)) **unless** their athletics eligibility has been certified under **previous rules**.

In all cases, the student must be academically eligible to compete.



Establishing Initial Full-Time Enrollment

Establishing Initial Full-Time Enrollment



Definition of Initial Full-time Enrollment:

First regular academic term in which the PSA attended class while registered as a full-time student.

Establishing Initial Full-Time Enrollment, Cont'd



Matriculation Date

- » *Critical* variable in the POE analysis.
- » May see more matriculation tasks assigned for PSAs with a gap between high school graduation and initial NCAA enrollment.

Establishing Initial Full-Time Enrollment, Cont'd

2026-27 Operational Approach

- » EC will continue existing procedures to establish initial full-time enrollment.

Campus Responsibility:

- » Matriculation dates.
- » **Reminder:** [Athletics Inconsistency Form](#).

Establishing Initial Full-Time Enrollment, Cont'd



Assigning a Term

For the POE analysis, the EC will assign a term to the PSA's initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

- » Most PSAs initially enroll full time in August or January.
- » Provides uniform approach to various academic calendars (domestic or international).



POE Variables



VERIFIED DOB

+



**ESTABLISHED
INITIAL FTE**

Determining the Start of the Period of Eligibility



Determining the Start of the POE

EARLIER OF THE FOLLOWING:

TRIGGER A

ACADEMIC YEAR
AFTER THE
19th BIRTHDAY



OR

TRIGGER B

INITIAL FULL-TIME
ENROLLMENT



Trigger A: Academic Year after 19th Birthday

≥ **IF THE PSA'S 19th BIRTHDAY IS:** ≤

BEFORE SEPT.1



**FALL IMMEDIATELY
AFTER 19th BIRTHDAY**

OR

SEPT.1 OR AFTER



**SHIFTS TO SUBSEQUENT
ACADEMIC YEAR**

Determining the Start of the POE, Cont'd



19th BIRTHDAY = BEFORE SEPT. 1

**19th Birthday
(Before Sept. 1)**



EXAMPLE

**19th Birthday:
May 15, 2026**

**Fall Semester
Start of POE**



POE STARTS:

Fall 2026
(Start of the academic year
immediately following
19th birthday)

**Trigger A: Academic
Year after 19th Birthday**

Determining the Start of the POE, Cont'd



19th BIRTHDAY = on or after SEPT. 1
Subsequent Fall semester

Fall 2026



19th Birthday
(Sept. 1 or later)



Fall 2027
Start of POE



EXAMPLE

19th Birthday:
Oct. 15, 2026

POE START:

Fall 2027
Start of POE

Trigger A:
Academic year
after 19th
Birthday

Determining the Start of the POE, Cont'd

Trigger B: Initial Full-Time Enrollment

The EC will assign a term to the PSA's date of initial full-time collegiate enrollment.



Determining the Start of the POE, Cont'd

EARLIER OF THE FOLLOWING:

TRIGGER A

ACADEMIC YEAR
AFTER THE
19th BIRTHDAY



OR

TRIGGER B

INITIAL FULL-TIME
ENROLLMENT





Exceptions

Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rules

Exceptions



To the Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rules

- Official Religious Missions.
- Active-Duty Military Service.
- Pregnancy.

The **EC will process** exceptions under the age-based rules if the applicable circumstance **concludes on or after Aug. 1, 2026.**

Institutions apply exceptions under the age-based rules if the applicable circumstance concluded **before Aug. 1, 2026.**

Exceptions to Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rules



WHEN DID THE EXCEPTION EVENT *Conclude?*



**BEFORE
AUG. 1, 2026?**



**ON OR AFTER
AUG. 1, 2026?**



APPLIED ON CAMPUS.

Review and apply
exception on campus.



**APPLIED
BY THE EC.**

Submit your exception
request through the
NCAA Eligibility Center.

Exceptions, Cont'd



Required Documentation

- **Official Religious Missions:**
 - Official documentation from the church that verifies the start and completion dates of the religious mission.
- **Active-Duty Military Service:**
 - Official documentation from the military that verifies the start and discharge dates of the active-duty military service.
- **Pregnancy:**
 - Medical documentation that confirms the inability to participate due to pregnancy and clearance to return to participation.

Exception Submissions



To the Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rules

*For exceptions under the age-based rules involving circumstances that **conclude on or after Aug. 1, 2026**, submit to the EC.*

Who Can Submit?

- *NCAA school.*

How?

- *Upload via EC membership portal.*

What to Submit?

- *Exception Form and supporting documentation.*

Timeline for Review?

- *10 Business Days.*

Processing Exceptions



- Official religious missions, active-duty military service, or pregnancy.
- Processing Responsibilities
 - Member Institution
 - > Circumstance concluded before Aug. 1, 2026.
 - Eligibility Center
 - > Circumstance concludes on or after Aug. 1, 2026.
 - > Requires submission of the [Period of Eligibility Exception Form](#) and supporting documentation.
 - ◇ Uploaded via the EC membership portal.

Membership
Period of Eligibility
Exception Form

This form permits an NCAA school to seek an exception of the period of eligibility under age-based rules due to an official religious mission, active-duty military service or pregnancy.

Note: The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine whether an exception applies if the applicable circumstance concluded on or after Aug. 1, 2026.

Student's Name: _____ Student's NCAA ID: _____
Sport: _____

Exception Type:
☐ Official Religious Mission ☐ Active-Duty Military Service ☐ Pregnancy

Required Documentation:

Official Religious Mission	Active-Duty Military Service	Pregnancy
Official documentation from the church that verifies the start and completion dates of the student-athlete's official religious mission.	Official documentation from the military that verifies the start and discharge dates of the student-athlete's active-duty military service.	Medical documentation [DI Bylaw 12.8.7.2] that confirms the student-athlete's inability to participate due to pregnancy and their clearance to return to athletics participation.

Note: If an individual participates in organized competition at any time during a service assignment, none of the time spent in the service assignment shall be excepted from the period of eligibility.

This form must be signed and submitted by one of the institution's designated Eligibility Center contacts.

Contact Name: _____
Title: _____
Member School: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

This form and required documentation must be uploaded to the [Membership Portal](#) after the applicable circumstance has concluded.

The Eligibility Center will notify the student-athlete and the institution of its determination within 10 business days of receiving a complete submission and all required documentation.

Contact the Eligibility Center (ecinfo@ncaa.org) with any questions about this form.

ELIGIBILITY CENTER

NCAA is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. July 2025.

How to Submit Exceptions



To the Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rules



Eligibility Center Membership Portal

EC University - Div III

Home	IRL	Reports	Resources	Contact Us
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Welcome to Eligibility Center Me

Subscribe to your division's mon

- [Divisions I and II member](#)
- [Division III membership n](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[View/Update Contacts](#)

[Request Certification](#)

[Upload Documents](#)

[Matriculation Form](#)



Matching ISIS - 7 found

Search Result

Expand All Collapse All

FOOTBALL

Document Type:

[Open Filter] No filter is applied

Only pdf file types can be uploaded

- Academic Exemption Form
- Academic Incomplete Form
- Athletics Decision Inquiry Form
- Athletics Exception Form
- Athletics Grad Date Disclaimer
- Financial Disclosure
- POE Exception Form
- Program Review

Reset

Back to Search

are not allowed at this time. In addition, the file must be 5 MB in size or smaller.



MAKE IT
YOURS



Upload Form Here.

Processing Exceptions, Cont'd



To The Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rules

- Upon submission, informational tasks will be assigned:
 - “Period of Eligibility Exception Submitted.”
 - > Notice that an exception is being pursued by an NCAA school.
 - “Response from NCAA School Needed – Period of Eligibility Exception.”
 - > Notice of request for additional information.
 - > May require further discussion with institution.
 - “Period of Eligibility Exception Applied” (POE End Date updated).
 - “Period of Eligibility Exception Not Applied” (POE not updated).

Exceptions



Reminder:

- **Division II Bylaw 14.4.3.6.2: Organized Competition During Service Assignment.** If an individual participates in organized competition (see Bylaw 14.02.16) at any time during a service assignment, none of the time spent in the service assignment shall be excepted from the individual's five-year period of eligibility.



Eligibility Center Views

POE Report:





Eligibility Center Membership Portal

College

Select School

Reports

Resource Links

Search Student Details

Additional Reports

Welcome to Eligibility Center!

Subscribe to your division's monthly newsletter.

- [Divisions I and II membership newsletter.](#)
- [Division III membership newsletter.](#)

Select School

Reports

Resource Links

Exit

Reports Search

Recruitment Cycle* 2627 PSA's enrolling 26/27 Acad. Yr ▾

Select Reports* Select All UnSelect All

☐ No CCL Report ☐ Open Tasks Report - Action Required ☐ Open Tasks Report - All ☐ Student Email Report ☐ Profile account PSAs on active IRL ☐ Signed List ☐ Scholastic Team Affiliations ☐ PSAs with Potential Delayed Enrollment ☒ Period Of Eligibility Report

Get Reports

Membership Portal Visibility

Period of Eligibility Report (located in Additional Reports).

1. Export to PDF/.xls option.
2. Search field available.

Period Of Eligibility						
Search:						
IRL Sports	Initial Full-Time Enrollment	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
Football	08/01/2026					
Women's Rowing	08/01/2026	No	CERTIFIED	08/04/2026	FALL-2026	WINTER/SPRING-2031

Report for 2627 recruitment cycle



Peri

Export as Excel Export as PDF

Show 25 entries

NCAA ID	First Name	Last Name	IRL Sports	Initial Full-Time Enrollment
			Men's Soccer	08/01/2026
			Men's Wrestling	08/01/2024
			Women's Swimming and Diving	08/01/2027
			Football	08/01/2026
			Men's Soccer	08/01/2024
			Women's Soccer	08/01/2023
			Men's Track	08/01/2026

Reports

Period Of Eligibility

Search:

	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
	No	CERTIFIED	08/09/2026	FALL-2026	WINTER/SPRING-2031
	No	CERTIFIED	08/09/2026	FALL-2026	WINTER/SPRING-2031
	No	CERTIFIED	08/20/2026	FALL-2026	WINTER/SPRING-2031
	No	CERTIFIED	08/20/2026	FALL-2026	WINTER/SPRING-2031

Matriculation Date/Letter Report



Recruitment Cycle*

2627 PSA's enrolling 26/27 Acad. Yr ▾

Select Reports: * ~~Select All~~ ~~UnSelect All~~

- ☐ No CCL Report ☒ Open Tasks Report - Action Required ☐ Open Tasks Report - All ☐ Student Email Report
- ☐ PSAs with Potential Delayed Enrollment ☐ Period Of Eligibility Report

Get Reports

*This report will show you all open tasks on students accounts that require action. You can then sort that list by task type (see next slide).

Matriculation Tasks Cont...



Open Tasks Report - Action Required

Export as Excel Export as PDF

Show entries

Search:

NCAA ID	First Name	Last Name	Email	Task Sports	IRL Sports	Task Description	Task Title	Date Task Assigned
				Men's Track	Men's Track	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	05/01/2026
				Men's Track	Men's Cross Country	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	05/01/2026
				Women's Track	Women's Track	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	06/26/2026
				Men's Cross Country	Men's Track	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	08/15/2026
				Men's Cross Country	Men's Cross Country	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	08/15/2026
				Men's Cross Country	Men's Track	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	08/15/2026
				Men's Track	Men's Cross Country	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	08/15/2026
				Men's Cross Country	Men's Cross Country	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	08/15/2026
				Men's Track	Men's Track	Incomplete Sports Participation Responses	Amateurism	08/15/2026
					Women's Basketball	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Soccer	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Baseball	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Lacrosse	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Swimming and Diving	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Women's Swimming and Diving	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Swimming and Diving	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Baseball	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/24/2026
					Men's Tennis	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Women's Bowling	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Women's Volleyball	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Track	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Soccer	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Tennis	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Women's Swimming and Diving	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/08/2026
					Men's Soccer	Matriculation Date - Period of Eligibility	Amateurism	08/24/2026

Select School

Reports

Resource Links

Exit

Student Details by Sport

Expand All

Collapse All

Select All

UnSelect All

Search Criteria Used

Export Full Report to Excel

Export as PDF

Sel	NCAA ID	Last Name, First Name	Rec. Cycle	NCAA Enroll Period Account Type	Signed	Transfer Student	Athletics Cert
☒			2627	FALL 2026	No	No	D1: Final: Certified
			Academic And Athletics			D2: Final: Certified	
☐			2627	FALL 2026	No	No	D1: Final: Certified
			Academic And Athletics			D2: Final: Certified	

Get PSA Details

Back to Search

*Search for a specific student on the student search page. Check the box next to the student's name and click "Get PSA Details."



Eligibility Center Membership Portal

[redacted]@ncaa.org - University of [redacted]

Select School

Reports

Resource Links

PSA Detail Report

Expand All

Collapse All

Select All

UnSelect All

Student Last Name, First Name (Recruitment Cycle, Sport)



(2627, Football)

Click on the “+” sign next to the student’s name to get the student’s report to populate.

PSA Detail Report

[Expand All](#) [Collapse All](#) [Select All](#) [UnSelect All](#)



Student Last Name, First Name (Recruitment Cycle, Sport)

☐ ☐ [Redacted] (2627, Football)

NCAA ID

Email

2212 [Redacted]

Address

Student Account Type

Acad. Certification

10/7 Met?

Div I Cert. : Final Qualifier

Div I: Yes

Div II Cert.: Final Qualifier

Click Here

Click on the student's NCAA ID to see the student report containing the POE details.

Athletics Eligibility

Click to edit Master title style

Sports Division	Ready to Process	Athletics Certification Previous Rules	Athletics Certification Age-Based Rules	Conditions	Decision Date	Final Certification Requested
MSO - Men's Soccer Div I	Final - [12-Jun-2026]	Final: Certified	Final: Certified		12-Jun-2026	Yes (11-Apr-2026)
MSO - Men's Soccer Div II	Final - [12-Jun-2026]	Final: Certified	Final: Certified		12-Jun-2026	Yes (11-Apr-2026)
MSO - Men's Soccer Div III	Final - [12-Jun-2026]	Final: Certified			12-Jun-2026	Yes (11-Apr-2026)

*A student's athletics eligibility status **and** period of eligibility must be certified under the age-based rules.

Period of Eligibility

Period of Eligibility Summary - Division I							
Sport	Age 19	Initial Full-Time Enrollment	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
MSO - Men's Soccer	01-Feb-2026	01-Aug-2026	No	CERTIFIED	09-Aug-2026	FALL 2026	WINTER/SPRING 2031

Period of Eligibility Summary - Division II							
Sport	Age 19	Initial Full-Time Enrollment	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
MSO - Men's Soccer	01-Feb-2026	01-Aug-2026	No	CERTIFIED	09-Aug-2026	FALL 2026	WINTER/SPRING 2031

Disclaimer: A period of eligibility is certified only if the Status field indicates Certified. A certified period of eligibility requires a verified date of birth, an established date of initial full-time collegiate enrollment, and a final athletics certification decision. Any period of eligibility displayed without a certified status is based on available information, is provided for informational

PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY AND DECISION VIEWS

1. 'Prelim; Delayed Only' Status (what this means)
2. Allows EC to finalize a decision under the age-based rules.

Athletics Eligibility						
Sports Division	Ready to Process	Athletics Certification Previous Rules	Athletics Certification Age-Based Rules	Conditions	Decision Date	Final Certification Requested
MBA - Baseball Div I	Final - [05-Aug-2026]	Prelim; Delayed Only	Final: Certified		08-Aug-2026	Yes (03-Apr-2026)
MBA - Baseball Div II	Final - [05-Aug-2026]	Prelim; Delayed Only	Final: Certified		08-Aug-2026	Yes (03-Apr-2026)

Period Of Eligibility Summary - Division II							
Sport	Age 19	Initial Full-Time Enrollment	Exception Applied?	POE Certification Status	POE Certification Date	POE Start	POE End
MBA - Baseball	<u>06-Nov-2025</u>	26-Aug-2026	No	CERTIFIED	09-Aug-2026	FALL 2026	WINTER/SPRING 2031

TASK TIED TO “PRELIM; DELAYED ONLY’ STATUS

DI and DII Delayed Enrollment - Previous Rules (291)



Your athletics eligibility status has been Final Certified under the NCAA's new age-based eligibility rules. This means you may be eligible to compete at your NCAA school if your period of eligibility has been certified, you are within your certified period of eligibility and you meet academic requirements. Check your Eligibility Center account for additional details.

If you and your NCAA school determine that the new age-based rules are most beneficial to your athletics eligibility, no further action is necessary related to this task.

If you and your institution determine that the previous rules may be most beneficial to your athletics eligibility, download and complete a [sports participation form](#) to provide additional information regarding your athletics participation.

In the sports participation form, report the exact date(s) for all athletics participation between your expected high school graduation date and initial full-time enrollment at any college or university (anywhere in the world). This applies to all levels of participation, including amateur, professional, club, national team and recruiting events/showcases.

Once the sports participation form is completed, email it to acp-processing@ncaa.org. To ensure your responses are reviewed, include the following in the subject line of your email:

(Task 291) [[PARAM_STUDENT-NAME]] [[PARAM_NCAA-ID]]

Note: Continued participation in your sport could impact your athletics eligibility under previous rules. Please contact the compliance office at the NCAA school you plan to attend for additional guidance on your upcoming sports participation.

MORE INFORMATION

- [Eligibility 101 – Age-Based Eligibility Rules.](#)
- [Learn more about NCAA initial eligibility.](#)
- [Search our FAQs.](#)

This task will be marked complete when we receive the requested information.

Athletics Eligibility

Sports Division	Ready to Process	Athletics Certification Previous Rules	Athletics Certification Age-Based Rules	Co
MBA - Baseball Div I	Final - [05-Aug-2026]	Prelim; Delayed Only	Final: Certified	
MBA - Baseball Div II	Final - [05-Aug-2026]	Prelim; Delayed Only	Final: Certified	

Current Student-Athletes



- Prior athletics certification decision remains.
- Eligibility Center displays data on POE based on information in their EC account. ****POE will not be certified for these SAs.***
- Division II institutions will work with SAs to determine which is most beneficial.

Incoming Student-Athletes 2026-27



Eligibility for Competition

- A PSA who receives a Division II athletics certification in 2026-27 may be eligible to compete if either:
 - a) their athletics eligibility status has been certified based on previous rules; or
 - b) their athletics eligibility status **and** period of eligibility have been certified under the age-based rules.

(Note: a PSA must also be academically eligible to compete).

POE Responsibilities



Eligibility Center 2026-2027

- ✓ **Verify DOB** (Fall 2026 enrollees and beyond).
- ✓ **Establish initial full-time enrollment.**
- ✓ **Calculate period of eligibility** (Fall 2026 enrollees and beyond).
- ✓ **Certify POE** (Fall 2026 enrollees and beyond).
- ✓ **Review exceptions under the age-based rules** (circumstance ended on or after Aug. 1, 2026).
- ✓ **Update student accounts** (Fall 2026 enrollees and beyond).

POE Responsibilities, Cont'd

Campus 2026-2027

✓ Monitor certifications.

✓ Determine most beneficial model .

✓ Exception requests under the age-based rules.

- Submit to EC (circumstance concluded on or after Aug. 1, 2026).

✓ Review any period of eligibility not certified by EC.

✓ Ensure academic and athletics eligibility.

Key Dates

Aug. 5, 2026 – DII age-based rules effective.

Aug. 10: Student information appears in EC accounts.

2026-27 Certification Cycle.

Exception Requests.

Delayed Enrollment Legislative Relief Waivers.

- **Aug. 31 submission deadline** (fall sport, golf and tennis PSAs who received their final athletics certification decision *before* Aug. 1, 2026).
- **Sept. 30 submission deadline** (winter and spring sport PSAs who received their final athletics certification decision *before* Aug. 1, 2026).
- **30-day submission deadline** (if final athletics certification decision *on or after* Aug. 1, 2026).



Division II Governance and Member Services

Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rule

Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rule



Division II student-athletes have a five-year period of eligibility beginning with the earlier of the following:

- When the student-athlete initially attends class as a full-time student during a regular academic term at any collegiate institution (e.g., international or domestic, two-year college); or
- The start of the regular academic year immediately following the student-athlete's 19th birthday, if the student-athlete turns 19 years old before September 1.

Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rule, Cont'd



- Eliminates seasons of competition.
 - Existing rules (e.g., 30% rule, participation in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmages) are no longer relevant.
 - Student-athletes may compete in up to five years, provided they remain eligible throughout their period of eligibility.
- Eliminates waivers.
 - Medical hardship and season-of-competition waivers.
 - Requests to extend a student-athlete's period of eligibility.

Division II Age-Based Eligibility Rule, Cont'd



- Eliminates organized competition rules and waivers.
- Maintains legislated exceptions that may delay or pause the period of eligibility for pregnancy, official religious missions, active-duty military service.
 - Student-athlete is precluded from participating in organized competition.

Application of 19th Birthday



- Date of birth on or after September 1 - period of eligibility begins at the start of the subsequent academic year.
 - Note: Unless the student-athlete enrolls full-time in a collegiate institution earlier.
- Date of birth on or before August 31 - starts the current academic year.

Application of 19th Birthday, Cont'd



	Date of birth on or before August 31	Date of birth on or after September 1
	August 15, 2027 19 th birthday	September 15, 2027 19 th birthday
2027-28	Grade 12 (High School Graduation Spring 2028) Start of five-year period. (Year 1) – Fall 2027	Grade 12 (High School Graduation Spring 2028)
2028-29	Year 2	Start of five-year period. (Year 1) – Fall 2028
2029-30	Year 3	Year 2
2030-31	Year 4	Year 3
2031-32	End of five-year period. (Year 5) – Spring 2032 [Use 4 SOC's by Spring 2032]	Year 4
2032-33		End of five-year period. (Year 5) – Spring 2033 [Use 5 by Spring 2033]

Implementation

Different Cohorts

- Current student-athletes that have previously enrolled full-time in any college before the 2026-27 academic year.
- Student-athletes that will initially enroll full-time at any college during the 2026-27 academic year.
- Student-athletes that will initially enroll full-time during the 2027-28 academic year and thereafter.

Cohort No. 1: Current Student-Athletes – Collegiate Enrollment Before the 2026-27 Academic Year



Eligibility remaining (semesters/quarters <u>and</u> seasons of competition remaining)	Previous rules <u>or</u> age-based, whichever is most beneficial
Exhausted eligibility (no semesters/quarters <u>and</u> no seasons of competition remaining)* Used their final season of competition during the 2025-26 academic year but have-semester/quarters remaining*	Previous rules only

**May file a waiver to receive an additional season(s) of competition and/or an extension to their 10 semesters/15 quarters. Must be submitted in RSRO no later than August 31, 2026, for fall sports, golf and tennis or September 30, 2026, for winter and spring sports.*

James



- James is a football player.
- They graduated high school in June 2023.
- Their 19th birthday was October 15, 2023.
- Initial full-time enrollment: Fall 2023.

James, Cont'd



Spring 2023 HS Graduation	Previous Rules	Age-Based Rules
2023-24 Initial FT Enrollment	Enrolled – competed. (Season 1) First and second semesters	Enrolled – competed. (Year 1) Start of five-year period.
2024-25	Enrolled – competed. (Season 2) Third and fourth semesters	Enrolled – competed. (Year 2)
2025-26	Enrolled – competed. (Season 3) Fifth and sixth semesters	Enrolled – competed. (Year 3)
2026-27	Enrolled – competes. (Season 4) Seventh and eighth semesters	Enrolled – competes. (Year 4)
2027-28		Enrolled – competes. (Year 5) End of five-year period.
Result:	Participated in four seasons of competition (two semesters remaining).	Five years to participate in Division II.

Current Student-Athletes: Collegiate Enrollment Before the 2026-27 Academic Year, Cont'd



- Student-athletes with eligibility remaining who are assessed under the previous rules.
 - Currently enrolled during the 2026-27 academic year = must use their remaining 10-semesters/15-quarters consecutively.
 - **NOT** currently enrolled during the 2026-27 academic year = must use their remaining 10-semesters/15-quarters consecutively upon re-enrollment.

Suzanne



- Suzanne is a softball player.
- They graduated high school in June 2023.
- Their 19th birthday was June 1, 2023.
- Initial full-time enrollment: Fall 2023.

Suzanne, Cont'd



Spring 2023 HS Graduation	Previous Rules
2023-24 Initial FT Enrollment	Enrolled. First and second semesters
2024-25	Enrolled. Third and fourth semesters
2025-26	Does not enroll.
2026-27	Does not enroll.
2027-28	Re-enrolls. Fifth and sixth semesters
Result:	Upon re-enrolling during the 2027-28 academic year, Suzanne will be required to use semesters seven and eight (2028-29) and nine and 10 (2029-30).

Suzanne, Cont'd



Spring 2023 HS Graduation	Previous Rules
2023-24 Initial FT Enrollment	Enrolled. First and second semesters
2024-25	Enrolled. Third and fourth semesters
2025-26	Does not enroll.
2026-27	Enrolled. Fifth and sixth semesters.
Result:	Suzanne is required to use semesters seven and eight (2027-28) and nine and 10 (2028-29).

Current Student-Athletes: Collegiate Enrollment Before the 2026-27 Academic Year, Cont'd



- All student-athletes assessed under previous rules have until the conclusion of the 2030-31 academic year to use their remaining eligibility.
 - After the 2030-31 academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.

Cohort No. 2: Current Student-Athletes – Initial Collegiate Enrollment During 2026-27



- Assessed under the previous rules or the age-based eligibility rules, whichever is most beneficial.
- All student-athletes assessed under previous rules have until the conclusion of the 2030-31 academic year to use their remaining eligibility.
 - After the 2030-31 academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.

Cohort No. 3: Prospective Student-Athletes – Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment 2027-28 and Thereafter



- Assessed under the age-based eligibility rules only.
- EX: Zoey initially enrolls during the 2028-29 academic year, their period of eligibility will conclude during the 2032-33 academic year.
- Will not have access to any waivers/exceptions.

Waivers

Blanket Waiver: Financial Aid Equivalency Limits



- Issued by the NCAA Division II Management Council.
- Permits a student-athlete, regardless of sport, who would have exhausted their eligibility (seasons or semesters/quarters) during or at the conclusion of the 2026-27 academic year, but for the adoption of the age-based proposal, to receive athletics aid for the 2027-28 academic year without counting towards team equivalency limits.
- Must remain at their original institution.
- Effective for the 2027-28 academic year only.

Athletics Eligibility Waivers



- Institutions have until 11:59 p.m. Eastern time, August 31, 2026, for fall sports, golf and tennis and September 30, 2026, for winter and spring sports to submit the following cases to the national office **in** RSRO to be considered under the previous rules:
 - Season-of-competition waivers.
 - Hardship waiver appeals.
 - Extension-of-eligibility waivers.
 - Organized competition waivers.
- For circumstances that occurred during or before the 2025-26 academic year **only**.

Organized Competition Waivers -- Prospective Student-Athletes Initially Enrolling 2026-27



- Organized competition waivers for prospective student-athletes initially enrolling during the 2026-27 academic year must be submitted to the national office via RSRO within 30 calendar days of the prospective student-athlete’s final athletics certification decision to be considered under the previous rules.
- Final athletics certification decisions received before August 1, 2026.

Sport	Timing
Fall sports, golf and tennis prospective student-athletes	Organized competition waivers must be submitted no later than August 31, 2026.
Winter and spring sport prospective student-athletes	Organized competition waivers must be submitted no later than September 30, 2026.

Athletics Eligibility Waivers, Cont'd



- Any denied medical hardship waivers must be submitted to the national office in RSRO by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on August 31 or September 30.
- Double check waivers you've already submitted to see if age-based legislation is applicable and cases can be withdrawn.
- If a student-athlete needs multiple waivers, submit them all prior to August 31 or September 30.
 - Example: Requesting a season-of-competition waiver and, if approved, student-athlete would also need an extension of student-athlete's period of eligibility. Submit the extension request as a separate yet corresponding case in RSRO.

Athletics Eligibility Waivers, Cont'd



- If a student-athlete has already experienced circumstances during or before the 2025-26 academic year that might warrant relief under the previous “four-seasons” legislation, please submit the waivers by August 31 or September 30.
 - Student-athlete signed Buckley Statement related to the request.
 - All documentation required under the legislation must be submitted with the waiver requests as well (e.g., contemporaneous medical documentation, training room records, financial records, etc.).

Athletics Eligibility Waivers, Cont'd



- Staff is currently prioritizing waivers needed for student-athletes to be eligible during the 2026-27 academic year.
- Reminder: Review Q & A document.

Resources



Education Column



Implementation Chart

Questions and Answers