REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
OCTOBER 24-25, 2011, MEETING

***KEY ITEM*.**

- **Comprehensive Package of Academic Proposals.** Charged by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors to provide recommendations setting academic success as a first expectation, the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance, with the help of the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet, presents the Board of Directors with a package of proposals. The proposals are in three main areas: initial eligibility, two-year college transfer requirements and the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program (APP) penalty structure. The recommendations emphasize the primacy of academics within Division I and further the embedding of academic success as a first expectation. Attachment A provides some highlights of the recommendations contained in this report.

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

1. Legislative Items.

a. NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2011-69 Eligibility -- Transfer Regulations -- 2-4 and 4-2-4 College Transfers and Proposal No. 2011-70 Eligibility and Committees -- 2-4 and 4-2-4 Transfers -- Waivers -- Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers Committee.

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance recommends the Board of Directors adopt Proposal No. 2011-69 and Proposal No. 2011-70.

(2) Effective Dates. For Proposal No. 2011-69: August 1, 2012; for student-athletes initially enrolling full time in a collegiate institution on or after August 1, 2012. For Proposal No. 2011-70: April 1, 2012.

(3) Rationale. The Academic Cabinet developed the proposals regarding two-year college transfers based on extensive research. Transfer student-athletes from two-year institutions underperform academically at four-year institutions in all academic measures studied by the NCAA [e.g., graduation rates, NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR), eligibility after initial year in residence, "0/2" rates] compared to transfers from four-year institutions or nontransfers. Additionally, statistical prediction modeling of four-year college outcomes from two-year college academic variables indicated three key predictors of academic success at the four-year institution. The key predictors are: (1) two-year college grade-point average; (2) a low number of physical education activity

courses; and (3) successful completion of core credits in English, math, and natural or physical science. The recommendations put forth in the proposal increase the academic requirements of two-year transfers consistent with the research and are intended to improve the academic success of two-year college transfer student-athletes at the time of enrollment at an NCAA Division I institution.

The focus on the academic preparedness and potential academic success of two-year transfers when transferring to NCAA four-year institutions, requires waiver appeals be heard by an academic governance body with the appropriate expertise to evaluate such waivers. Thus, the second proposal expands the NCAA Division I Progress-Toward-Degree Waiver Committee to consider waivers of two-year college transfer requirements.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. Minimal in that the current committee only meets by teleconference, not in person.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Establishes legislation that data predict will assist two-year college student-athletes in achieving improved academic success at four-year institutions.

b. Initial-Eligibility Standards.

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance, based in large part on the recommendations of the Academic Cabinet, recommends the Board of Directors sponsor legislation in the area of initial eligibility as outlined below thus providing the membership with the opportunity to comment prior to final action from the Board in January or April, 2012:

(a) Require prospective student-athletes meet the current qualifier standard for eligibility for practice during the first regular academic term and receipt of athletically related financial aid during the first year. Second semester (and second and third quarter) eligibility for practice will be based on successful completion of nine semester or eight quarter hours in the first regular academic term of enrollment.

(b) To require prospective student-athletes to meet the following standard in order to compete in the first year of full-time collegiate enrollment:

(i) Obtain a core grade-point average/test score combination that is set at approximately one-half of a standard deviation below the national student body mean. This represents an increase from the current one standard deviation below the national student mean. The new sliding scale requires a high school core grade-point average to be approximately 0.5 grade-point average units higher for a given test score compared to the current qualifier standard (e.g., SAT of 1000 requires a 2.5 high school core grade-point average for competition rather than the current 2.0 grade-point average).

(ii) Obtain a minimum core grade-point average of 2.3 in the 16 core courses currently required.

(iii) Complete successfully 10 core courses *prior to* the seventh semester (or equivalent) of high school. Seven of the 10 core courses must be successfully completed in English, math and natural/physical science. These 10 core courses and grades obtained must be used in the core grade-point average calculation for the purposes of meeting the grade-point average minimum and the sliding scale.

(iv) Expansion of the early academic qualifier program, details of which will be worked out over the next year.

(2) Effective Date. August 1, 2015; for students initially enrolling full time in a college institution on or after August 1, 2015.

(3) Rationale. Based on work done by the Academic Cabinet, these recommendations represent a philosophical shift requiring demonstration of academic success in order for a student-athlete to compete in his or her initial year of enrollment. The standards continue to use high school grades in core academic classes, ACT or SAT score and core course accumulation. However, these components are combined in a more nuanced way (as identified through NCAA research) to identify students at risk of academic difficulties in college and intervene with them in educationally appropriate ways through an academic redshirt year. The new competition standard targets those student-athletes that systematic research has shown to have the most academic difficulties in Division I colleges. Setting a higher standard for competition during the first year of

enrollment allows for identification of student-athletes who are likely to be academically successful to compete during their first year of enrollment. Student-athletes who need more time to acclimate to college life in order to ensure academic success may be provided athletically related financial aid and practice (assuming they meet the standard for practice and financial aid). In addition, academic redshirt student-athletes must demonstrate academic success in the first term of enrollment by passing nine semester or eight quarter hours in order to be eligible for practice in the second academic term.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. Limited.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Establishes legislation that data predict will assist student-athletes in achieving academic success and ultimately graduation from an NCAA Division I institution.

c. Access to Postseason Competition.

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance recommends the Board of Directors adopt the following legislative recommendations regarding to access to postseason competition:

a. To stipulate that all teams must meet the APR benchmark identified within the Committee on Academic Performance policies and procedures to gain access to any postseason competition. This includes NCAA championships, bowl games, National Invitation Tournament, Women's National Invitation Tournament and all other postseason events.

b. To stipulate that in individual sports if a team's multiyear APR falls below the APR benchmark for access to postseason competition no individual from that team may compete in any postseason competition.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate for postseason competition conducted during the 2012-13 academic year and beyond.

(3) Rationale. This recommendation establishes a minimum academic standard necessary to participate in postseason competition. Postseason participation is contingent on minimally acceptable team academic performance. Creating an academic standard needed for access to

postseason furthers the commitment to embedding academic success as a first expectation. Waivers of postseason access will be limited and subject to a very high threshold for approval which includes demonstration of a significant impact on a team's four-year APR.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. Reduction in revenue for some sports where revenue sharing is applicable based on postseason participation.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Student-athletes whose teams do not meet the standards or the APP will not be able to participate in postseason competition.

d. APP Penalty Structure.

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance recommends the Board of Directors adopt changes to the APP penalty structure, as specified in Attachment B. The proposed single-penalty structure will eliminate the current contemporaneous and historical penalties and replace them with a single three-level penalty structure. Level Three penalties will be assessed from a menu of penalties established by the committee. Once a final decision is reached by the committee, Level Three penalties may be appealed by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Academic Performance Program Historical Penalties Appeals Subcommittee if the appellate threshold as outlined in the committee policies and procedures is met.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate: for penalties assessed during the 2012-13 academic year and beyond.

(3) Rationale. Data demonstrate that underperforming teams and institutions are positively influenced by the presence of some consequences for consistent academic underperformance. However, the primary purpose of the APP is not to penalize teams, but instead to promote academic improvement. Penalties should not only serve as a reason for avoiding academic underperformance, but also through a cumulative and progressive structure, serve as a motivating factor for teams and institutions to improve. The committee believes the new penalty structure will achieve the goals of the APP more effectively.

Specifically, integrating and streamlining the penalty structure will affirm the principle that the APP should be straightforward and understandable,

avoiding the complexities associated with the current two penalty structures. The contemporaneous-penalty structure has fulfilled its initial purpose, which was to bridge the gap between the inception of the APP and when historical penalties would eventually be applicable to teams. Thus, as was originally intended, this recommendation creates a single-penalty structure.

The waiver and appeals process will remain similar to the current historical-penalty structure with an initial NCAA staff review. All teams subject to Level Three penalties will be required to submit self-imposed penalties from the menu and/or other appropriate penalties. The institution's suggested penalties will be evaluated by the staff and will either be accepted or forwarded to the committee for a final penalty determination.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

e. Conference Policy.

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance recommends the Board of Directors adopt legislation that requires conferences to adopt a written policy regarding teams subject to a postseason restriction with respect to the conference's automatic qualification for postseason/championships and revenue distribution.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate: for postseason conducted during the 2012-13 academic year and beyond.

(3) Rationale. This requirement allows conference to develop their own policy and to determine what the best course of action is for their conference. The legislation simply requires that a written policy exist. Written policies are necessary to ensure conferences have discussed and are prepared to handle teams that may be ineligible for postseason competition.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **New APP Penalty Structure, APR Penalty Benchmark and Filter.**

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance recommends the Board approve the following revisions to the committee's policies and procedures:

(a) Amend the APR penalty benchmark from the current multiyear rates of 900 and 925 to a multiyear rate of 930 or above in order to avoid penalties within the new penalty structure and for access to postseason competition. Transition for implementation to 930 benchmark is outlined in (c).

(b) Replace the current filter system used for determining historical penalties with the following filter system:

(i) Resource/Mission Filter: This filter is only available for access to postseason competition and is only available the first time a team falls below the established benchmark. In order to be eligible an institution must be in the bottom 15 percent of resources as defined by the current Committee on Academic Performance policy and the team must have a four-year Graduation Success Rate (GSR) of 50 percent or higher.

(ii) Improvement Filter: This filter is available the second time and beyond a team falls below the penalty benchmark and for Level Two and Level Three penalties only. In order to be eligible for the filter the team must demonstrate meaningful improvement defined as an APR of 950 or higher calculated using the two most recent years of data.

(c) Approve a transition timeline as follows:

Access to championships - Transition

Championship/Postseason Competition Year	Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason	Two Most Recent Years Average APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason
2011-12	Status Quo – current penalty structure and benchmarks apply.	N/A
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2014-15	Four-Year APR of 930 or higher OR	Two most recent years average at or above 940
2015-16 and beyond	Four-Year APR of 930 *Improvement Filter applies the second time and beyond a team is subject to postseason ineligibility. This filter requires two most recent years average at or above 950 APR.	N/A

*Note: Mission filter applies only the first time a team is subject to postseason ineligibility.

Level One, Two and Three Penalties - Transition

Championship/Postseason Competition Year	Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility Level One, Two, Three Penalties	Improvement Filter
2011-12	Status Quo.	Status Quo.
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.
2014-15 and beyond	Four-Year APR of 930 or higher OR	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.

(d) Teams Transitioning within the Penalty Structure. Teams will be reset to Level One of new penalty structure, except for those teams that have already been subject to Occasion-Two Historical Penalties. Teams that have been subject to Occasion-Two Historical Penalties will continue to move through the penalty structure (i.e., to Level Three penalties if they do not experience three "clean" years). Teams that are subject to the new penalty structure based on submission of 2010-11 data and that have

already been subject to Occasion-Two Historical Penalties would immediately be subject to the Level Three menu of penalties, and possible in-person hearings in spring 2012.

(e) Amend the APP policy consistent with the penalties identified for each of the three levels noted in Attachment B.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate for postseason competition conducted during the 2012-13 academic year and beyond and penalties applied during the 2012-13 academic year and beyond.

(3) Rationale. Based on a comprehensive review of the Academic Performance Program, the committee recommends these changes to enhance the Academic Performance Program. The Board has continued to emphasize the importance of the APR penalty benchmark equating to an approximate minimum GSR of 50 percent. It is estimated an APR of 930 equates to just above an approximate 50 percent GSR.

Further, the committee noted that for the first time a team falls below the penalty benchmark, limited filter and/or waivers would be available. The mission filter provides a limited exception for low-resourced teams that have shown historical success with graduation. The filter is available only one time and only for access to championships. This filter is intended to give low-resourced institutions more time to meet the benchmark provided they have demonstrated past graduation success.

The primary purpose of the APP is not to penalize teams, but instead to promote academic improvement. The improvement filter exempts from Level Two and Level Three penalties and postseason competition ineligibility in the second year and beyond teams that have demonstrated meaningful improvement while not yet achieving a four-year APR of 930 or above.

The transition timeline outlined provides for a fair transition to the new penalty structure and the access to championship component. The transition timeline allows for teams above 900 (the current APR penalty benchmark) to avoid penalties and remain eligible for postseason competition. The transition timeline also provided another avenue for teams to avoid ineligibility for championships by having an average APR for the last two years above a higher threshold. The timeline recognizes the need to provide adequate notice to teams regarding the increased

benchmark, while still holding teams accountable for past academic deficiencies and APRs below 900.

The penalty structure and access to championships continues existing APP policies related to three clean years and individual eligibility for championships. Specifically, teams will reset back to Occasion/Level One only after three years in which no penalties are assessed and teams that are ineligible for postseason competition also results in individual student-athletes from those teams being ineligible for any postseason events.

Finally, the penalties associated with the new three-level penalty structure identified in Attachment B, are cumulative and progressive and represent penalties intended to help institutions move toward meeting the 930 benchmark. The menu of penalties established at level three provides the committee with a variety of penalties that may be assessed base on the unique circumstances of a team's situation. The committee notes that financial aid penalties were removed at the earliest levels of the penalty structure. The committee may revisit this recommendation based on outcomes from other presidential retreat working groups. In addition, Level Two currently contains a variety of nonchampionship season penalties. If the concept of reducing or eliminating the nonchampionship season progresses, the committee will revisit these penalties.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

- **Formation of a Historically Black Colleges and University Advisory Group.**

(1) Recommendation. The Committee on Academic Performance recommends the Board of Directors form a Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Group to assist on issues that impact HBCU institutions. Specifically, this group would serve in an advisory capacity to the Committee on Academic Performance on policy-related issues. A member of the group would serve as an ad hoc member of the Committee on Academic Performance if no committee member is on the advisory group.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. An in-depth examination of APR trends indicates that a higher proportion of HBCU teams are subject to APP penalties. The NCAA staff has begun several initiatives to assist HBCU institutions and to provide additional services to meet the NCAA and the institution's objectives. The formation of this advisory group would represent a collaborative and proactive effort between HBCU institutions and the NCAA to serve as a conduit to communicate issues and concerns that may impact HBCUs collectively within the Academic Performance Program. HBCU institutions have played an important role in helping shape the traditions and public impression of the NCAA. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to find ways to assist HBCUs as members of Division I.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. Costs of meetings for advisory group. Travel costs for staff to attend advisory group meetings and travel costs for ad hoc member to attend the Committee on Academic Performance meetings.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Timing of Announcement of Postseason Access and Penalties. The committee recommends continuation of the current data collection and penalty announcement process. Under this timeline, data are submitted each fall, waivers and appeals are conducted in the winter and spring and the announcement will be made after the last postseason event each year. Ineligibility for postseason competition and any penalties assessed will be taken in the next academic year (e.g., data years for eligibility for postseason in 2012-13 will be 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11).

The Committee on Academic Performance will continue to study the feasibility of a more rapid collection and turnaround of data to expedite the timing of the announcement of APRs.

2. Review of NCAA Proposals in the 2011-12 Legislative Cycle. The committee reviewed the following proposals in the current legislative cycle and provided its position as follows:

- **Proposal No. 2011-65 – Two-Year Transfers - Academic Year of Readiness –** The committee recommends Proposal No. 2011-65 continue in legislative cycle, which could result in Board approval in January or April 2012. Although the

committee is generally supportive of the academic year of readiness, the committee believes further membership discussion is useful.

- **Proposal No. 2011-68 -- Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Fulfillment of Credit-Hour Requirements -- Additional Requirements -- Football -- Exception -- Team Academic Progress Rate.** The committee opposes Proposal No. 2011-68, which would specify that in football, a student-athlete shall not be subject to the eligibility penalty for failure to successfully complete at least nine-semester hours or eight-quarter hours during the fall term and earn the APR eligibility point for the fall term, provided the institution's APR for football is 965 or higher as of the first day of classes of the fall term in which the penalty would otherwise apply. The committee noted the importance of maintaining a reasonable standard for ineligibility as a means to facilitate behavior change for individual student-athletes during the fall term in football. The committee also continues to support the work of the NCAA Division I Football Academic Working Group and noted the original concept derived from this group's work was recently adopted and has yet to be implemented fully. The committee noted that it would be prudent to see the impact of the adopted legislation prior to changing it.

3. **Annual Release of GSR and Federal Graduation Rate Information.** Release of the GSR and Federal Graduation Rate data for the 2001-04 cohort for all NCAA Division I institutions occurred Tuesday, October 25, 2011. This year's results indicate Division I student-athletes continue to perform well in the classroom. The single-year GSR for student-athletes who began college in 2004 is 82 percent, a new high for the NCAA, and three points higher than last year's data. The GSR for the last four graduating classes (2001-2004) is 80 percent as well, a new high for Division I athletics and one point higher than the last four-year average.

4. **Historically Black Colleges and Universities Summit.** During a meeting with a number of chancellors and presidents from Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Washington D.C., three main issues were discussed. These issues included an update on the proposed changes to the APP penalty structure; discussion regarding the funding and use of the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program Supplemental Support Fund; and the creation of an advisory group to the Committee on Academic Performance made up of chancellors, presidents, faculty athletics representatives and others.

5. **APP Guides and Policy Documents.** The committee supported the concept of consolidating the Committee on Academic Performance Policies and Procedures, APP Penalty Guide, APP Data Collection Guide, and various other directives and policies into one document. Consolidation will allow the membership to locate APP-related

information in one document and will eliminate duplicative information. It is anticipated that a final document will be provided to the committee for its approval in spring 2012.

Committee Chair: Walter Harrison, University of Hartford, America East Conference
Staff Liaisons: Diane Dickman, Academic and Membership Affairs
Kevin Lennon, Academic and Membership Affairs
Todd Petr, Research
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ATTACHMENT A

NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance
Summary of Suggested Action Items for the NCAA Division I Board of Directors
Regarding Setting Academic Success as a First Expectation

This document outlines concepts and proposals in response to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors charge following the NCAA Presidential Retreat in August. The NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance, with help in a number of areas from the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet, presents the Board of Directors with a package of academic concepts for its adoption and consideration. The recommendations are in three areas: (a) Access to championships; (b) Initial-eligibility standards; and (c) Two-year college academic requirements.

The recommendations emphasize the primacy of academics within Division I and further the embedding of academic success as a first expectation. **[Note: The details regarding these recommendations are included in the attached PowerPoint.]**

Student-Athlete Success – Initial Eligibility.

1. Sponsor legislation in the area of initial eligibility, to be acted on in January or April as summarized below.

   a. Require prospective student-athletes to meet the current qualifier standard for eligibility for practice during the first regular academic term of full-time enrollment and receipt of athletically related financial aid during the first year. Second semester (and second and third quarter) eligibility for practice would be based on passing nine semester or eight quarter hours in the first regular academic term of enrollment.

   b. Require prospective student-athletes to meet the following standard in order to compete in the first year of full-time enrollment:

      - Require a core grade-point average/test score that is set at approximately one-half of a standard deviation below the national student body mean. This represents an increase from the current one standard deviation below the national student mean. The new sliding scale requires a high school core grade-point average to be approximately 0.5 grade-point average units higher for a given test score compared to the current qualifier standard (e.g., SAT of 1000 would require 2.5 high school core grade-point average for competition).

      - Require successful completion of 10 core courses prior to the seventh semester (or equivalent) of high school. Seven of the 10 core courses must be successfully completed in English, math and natural/physical science. These 10 core courses must be used in the core GPA calculation.

   c. Expansion of the early academic qualifier program, details of which will be worked out over the next year after the initial-eligibility standard is adopted.

Student-Athlete Success – Two-Year College Transfer Standards.

1. Adopt NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2011-69 which increases two-year college transfer requirements for qualifiers and nonqualifiers with an effective date of August 1, 2012, for students first entering any collegiate institution (e.g., increases minimum grade-point average from 2.0 to 2.5; limits use of physical education activity credits to two units; requires a transferable physical/natural sciences course for nonqualifiers).

2. Adopt Proposal No. 2011-70, as written, with an effective date of August 1, 2012.

3. Allow Proposal No. 2011-65, the year of academic readiness, to progress through the normal legislative cycle.

Team Success - Access to Championships and a New NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program (APP) Penalty Structure.

Adopt legislation and amend policy, as summarized below, regarding the Academic Performance Program:

1. Establish 930 NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR) as a minimum academic standard to participate in postseason competition. This includes a mission filter only the first time a team fails to meet the benchmark and an improvement filter the second time and beyond.

2. Transition to the 930 APR to occur over the next three years.

3. Approve a three-level penalty structure.

4. Create a Historically Black Colleges and Universities Advisory Group.

5. Require all conferences to develop and maintain a written policy regarding teams subject to postseason restriction with respect to automatic qualifications for postseason competition and revenue distribution.

ATTACHMENT A

NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance

Embedding Academic Success

NCAA Division I Board of Directors
and
NCAA Division I Presidential Advisory Group
October 2011

Overview of Discussion

- Initial-Eligibility Standards.
- Two-Year College Transfer Standards.
- Changes to the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program, including eligibility for postseason competition.

Initial-Eligibility Standards: Academics as a First Expectation

Key Concepts

- Academic success as a first expectation through more rigorous initial-eligibility standards.
- Establish an academic redshirt year during initial year of collegiate enrollment at Division I institution. Permit practice and athletic financial aid during this year.
- More rigorous combination of high school grades and ACT/SAT scores required for competition in year one.
- Focus on academic preparation of prospective student-athletes by requiring core-course benchmarks be met in an educationally appropriate progression during high school.

New Initial-Eligibility Standard Practice and Athletically Related Financial Aid

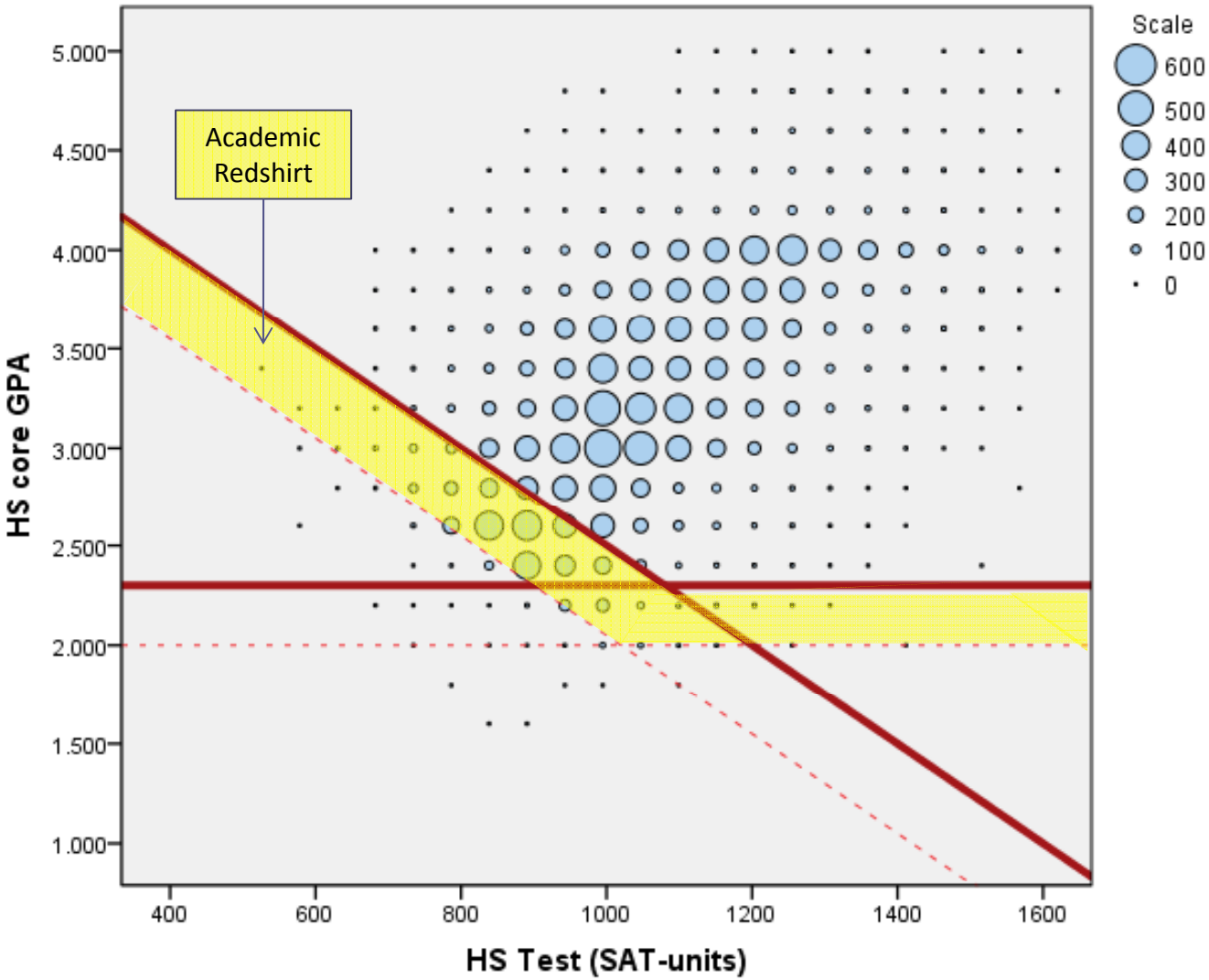
Sponsor legislation in the area of initial eligibility, as outlined below:

- Require PSAs to meet the current qualifier standard for eligibility for practice during the first regular academic term and receipt of athletically related financial aid during the first year. Second semester (and second and third quarter) eligibility for practice based on successful completion of nine semester or eight quarter hours in the first regular academic term of enrollment.

New Initial-Eligibility Standard Competition

- PSAs must meet the following standard in order to compete in the first year of full-time collegiate enrollment:
  - Obtain a core GPA/test score that is set at approximately one-half of a standard deviation below the national student body mean. This represents an increase from the current one standard deviation below the national student mean. The new sliding scale requires a high school core GPA to be approximately 0.5 GPA units higher for a given test score compared to the current qualifier standard (e.g., SAT of 1000 requires 2.5 high school core GPA for competition).
  - Obtain a minimum core GPA of 2.3 in the 16 core courses currently required.
  - Meet core-course requirements described in slide 8.

Sliding Scale Elevated to ~0.5 SD Below National Mean; 2.30 Floor



% Current SAs Ineligible for Practice/ Aid	0.4%
% Current SAs Ineligible for Competition Only	15.5%

Note: All SAs in yellow area would be ineligible for competition only. New sliding scale for competition requires HSCGPA ~ 0.50 units higher for given test score compared to current rule.

Core Course Progression
-For Competition in First Year-

- Successfully complete 10 core courses *prior to* seventh semester (or equivalent) of high school.
- Seven of the 10 core courses must be successfully completed in English, math and natural/physical science.
- These core courses must be used in calculating the core GPA for purposes of meeting the sliding scale and GPA minimum.
- This requirement must be met in order to compete in the first year of full-time collegiate enrollment.

Timeline for Implementing New Standards

- New initial-eligibility standards will be effective for students entering any collegiate institution on or after of August 1, 2015.

- Timeline provides notice for student-athletes in their freshman year of high school. Consistent with prior changes to initial-eligibility standards.

Early Academic Qualifiers

- Continuation and enhancement of prospective student-athletes who are early academic qualifiers being certified as eligible after six semesters.

- Details to be finalized over the next year.

Two-Year College Transfer Standards

Academic Success as a First Expectation

Key Research Findings

- Research data indicate that two-year college transfer student-athletes lag behind nontransfer and four-year transfer SAs in all measurable academic categories, and leave college ineligible at much higher rates than any other group of SAs.
- GPA at the two-year institution is the strongest predictor of first-year academic success at the four-year institution.
- For two-year college transfer ineligibility rates to mirror those of college freshman, the current 2.00 GPA minimum at the two-year school must increase.
- Number of PE activity credits at two-year institution has a significant independent negative relationship with four-year college success.
- SAs with more core academic credits perform better at four-year institutions.

Two-Year College Transfers

- Adopt NCAA Division I Proposal Nos. 2011-69 and 2011-70 sponsored by the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet.

- Allow Proposal No. 2011-65 (academic year of readiness) to continue in normal legislative cycle, which could result in Board vote in January or April 2012.

- Effective for students initially enrolling in any college on or after August 1, 2012.

Two-Year College Transfers

- Proposal Nos. 2011-69 and 2011-70 include:
  - Increase the minimum transferable GPA for eligibility for competition to 2.5, from the current 2.0.
  - Permit use of no more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses in all sports to meet requirements.
  - Require completion of three semester or four quarter credits hours of transferable natural/physical science credit for nonqualifiers.
  - Modified the NCAA Division I Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers Committee structure so that it accommodates requests for waivers to these requirements.

Academic Performance Program

Team Success
and
Academic Accountability

Access to Postseason Competition

- Establish 930 Academic Progress Rate (APR) as a minimum academic standard to participate in postseason competition. Transition to this benchmark to occur over next three years.
- Postseason includes all postseason events conducted after last regular season contest or end of conference tournament (e.g., includes bowl games, NIT, WNIT, etc.).
- Denied access to postseason includes individual competitors for teams not meeting academic standard.
- Appeals/waivers via penalty structure process.

Mission Filter for Postseason Access Only

- **Mission Filter**: Institution is in bottom 15% of resources as defined by the current Committee on Academic Performance policy AND the team's most recent four year Graduation Success Rate (GSR) is 50% or higher.
  - Filter provides relief only to access to postseason competition, not to Level One, Two and Three penalties.
  - This filter is only available the first time a team is below the penalty benchmark. A team that is below the penalty benchmark for a second occasion and beyond would not be permitted to use this filter and would therefore be ineligible for postseason competition.
  - The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Group to the Committee on Academic Performance will be given an opportunity to provide feedback on this filter and offer possible modifications.

Improvement Filter for Access to Postseason Competition

Improvement filter for teams that have demonstrated meaningful improvement, defined as:

- Team must have an average APR of 950 over the two most recent years to demonstrate meaningful improvement.
- This filter only applies the <u>second time and beyond</u> that a team is subject to postseason ineligibility.

Conference Policy

- Require that conferences adopt a written policy regarding teams subject to a postseason restriction with respect to the conference's automatic qualification for postseason/championships and revenue distribution.

- Allows conference to develop its own policy. Simply requires that a written policy exist.

New PENALTY STRUCTURE: THREE LEVELS

LEVEL ONE:

Playing and Practice:

(4 hours/1 day per week in -season, to be replaced with academic activities)

LEVEL TWO:

Playing and Practice: Four hours/1 day week in-season **AND** out of season as follows:

Non-championship season/spring football eliminated

OR

10% of season/contests for sports with no non-championship season.

LEVEL THREE:

Menu of Penalties

Teams would be subject to level three penalties until APR improves.

Note on the Ongoing Work of Other NCAA Working Groups

- Financial aid penalties were removed at the earliest levels of the penalty structure. The committee may revisit this recommendation based on outcomes from other working groups.

- At Level Two, currently the committee has a variety of non-championship season penalties. If the concept of reducing or eliminating the non-championship season progresses, the committee will revisit these penalties.

Penalty Structure: Level One

Level One:

- Reduction of four hours/one day of practice per week in-season. Results in 16 hours per week rather than 20 and five days per week rather than six.

- Must be replaced by academic activities.

Penalty Structure: Level Two

1. Reduction of four hours/one day of practice per week in-season.
   - Must be replaced by academic activities.
2. Reduction of four hours of practice per week out-of-season.
   - Must be replaced by academic activities.
3. Cancellation of non-championship season or spring football.
4. For sports without non-championship season, 10% reduction in contests **and** length of season.

Penalty Structure: Level Three Menu of Penalties

Teams would be subject to Level Three menu of penalties repeatedly until APR improves.

Menu options:

- Financial Aid Penalties (any amount, any type).
- Practice Penalties (reduction of 4 hours/week and up).
- Contest Reductions (10% up to full season).
- Restricted and Corresponding Membership.
- Coach-Specific Penalties, including game restrictions, recruiting restrictions.
- Restricting access to practice for incoming student-athletes that fall below pre-determined academic standards.
- Multiyear postseason competition ban.

Three "Clean" Years Concept Penalty Structure

- The current policy that allows teams to "reset" back to Occasion/Level One only after three years in which no penalties are assessed would continue to apply in the new penalty structure.

- The new penalty structure is cumulative and progressive consistent with the current structure.

Improvement Filter for Penalty Levels Two and Three

Improvement filter for teams that have demonstrated meaningful improvement, defined as:

- Team must have a 950 APR average over the two most recent years to demonstrate meaningful improvement.
  - Does not apply to Level One penalties – applies to Level Two and Three penalties only.

Transitioning to the New 930 Benchmark

- Beginning with postseason competition that occurs in the 2012-13 academic year, a minimum academic expectation will be in place in order to be eligible for postseason competition (see next slide for implementation specifics).
- The new penalty structure and filters will be in place for 2012-13 academic year. For penalties associated with the penalty structure, the following phased in approach will be used:

  2012-13 – penalty benchmark 900 APR

  2013-14 – penalty benchmark 900 APR

  2014-15 – penalty benchmark 930 APR

- Full implementation of the new 930 APR benchmark begins with postseason competition in the 2015-16 year.

APR Benchmarks during Transitional Phase for Access to Postseason

Championship/Postseason Competition Year	Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason	Two Most Recent Years Average APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason
2011-12	Status Quo – current penalty structure and benchmarks apply.	N/A
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 OR	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 OR	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2014-15	Four-Year APR of 930 OR	Two most recent years average at or above 940
2015-16 and beyond	Four-Year APR of 930 *Improvement filter applies the second time and beyond team below 930. Reference slide 18.	N/A

Note – Mission filter applies only first time a team is subject to postseason ineligibility

Waivers/Appeals Process

- Access to Postseason - First Occasion Team Below Penalty Benchmark / Level One penalties:
  - Staff makes initial decision on any submitted waiver.
  - Institution may appeal to the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance Subcommittee on Appeals “on paper”.
  - Relief provided only for extraordinary mitigation. Expect few, if any, waivers to be granted.
- Access to Postseason - Second Occasion Team Below Penalty Benchmark / Level Two penalties:
  - Staff makes initial decision on any submitted waiver.
  - Teleconference appeals with institution and the CAP appeals subcommittee.
  - Relief provided based on waiver directive.

Waivers/Appeals Process

- Access to Postseason - Third Occasion Team Below Penalty Benchmark / Level Three penalties:
  - Institutions are required to submit proposed penalties from menu of options. Staff makes initial decision on proposed penalties.
  - If staff is unable to make decision or decision is not accepted, institution appears at an in-person Committee on Academic Performance hearing.
  - Relief provided based on waiver directive.
  - Appeals reviewed by NCAA Division I Board of Directors Academic Performance Program Historical Penalties Appeals Subcommittee.

APR Improvement Plans

- Will be required immediately for all teams under 930 multiyear APR.
- Plans must include element that assesses and evaluates team's academic admissions profiles and academic outcomes with resulting institutional changes.

Timing for Announcing/Taking Penalties

Committee on Academic Performance recommends continuation of the current data collection and penalty announcement process.

- Data submitted in fall, opportunity for waivers in winter/spring and announcement after last postseason event.
- Penalties taken in next academic year.

The current process has a number of positive aspects, including:

- Promotion of student-athlete well-being by providing notice to student-athletes prior to start of season allowing student-athletes to make informed decisions;
- Not announcing teams ineligibility for postseason in the middle of a season.
- Allowance of sufficient time for waivers and appeals; and
- Treatment of fall sports similar to winter/spring sports.

Committee will continue to study the feasibility of a more rapid collection and turn around of data to expedite the timing of the announcement of APRs.

Teams Transitioning within Penalty Structure

- Teams will be reset to Level One of new penalty structure, except for those teams that have already been subject to Occasion Two penalties. Teams that have previously been subject to Occasion Two penalties will continue to move through the penalty structure (i.e., to level three penalties if do not experience three “clean” years).

- Teams that are subject to the new penalty structure based on submission of 2010-11 data AND that have already been subject to Historical Penalties Occasion Two penalties would immediately be subject to the Level Three menu of penalties, and possible in-person hearings in spring 2012.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Advisory Group

- Create a Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Group to assist on issues that impact HBCU institutions.

ATTACHMENT B

NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program Recommended New Penalty Structure

The NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance requests the NCAA Division I Board of Directors sponsor legislation to revise the current NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program (APP) penalty structure as noted in this attachment. This document outlines the penalties teams would be subject to at each level of the revised penalty structure. Note that current contemporaneous penalties will be eliminated.

Level One:

1. Public notice.

2. Playing and practice seasons (four-hour reduction per week to 16 hours, as well as loss of one day): Lost hours must be used for academic purposes.

Level Two:

1. Public notice.

2. Playing and practice seasons (four-hour reduction per week to 16 hours, as well as loss of one day): Lost hours must be used for academic purposes.

3. Additional playing season restrictions, as follows:

    a. For the penalized team, reduction from eight hours to four hours per week for athletics activities outside of the playing season. These four hours must be replaced with academically-focused activities. Of the remaining four hours of athletics activities, not more than two hours per week may be spent on skill-related workouts.

    AND

    b. For the penalized team, cancellation of the nonchampionship playing season in sports that maintain a legislated nonchampionship segment as well as football, which would include:

        (1) Baseball: No fall practice or competition.

        (2) Football: No spring practice.

        (3) Softball: No fall practice or competition.

        (4) Men's Volleyball: No fall practice or competition.

(5) Women's Volleyball: No spring practice or competition.

(6) Men's and Women's Soccer: No spring practice or competition.

(7) Field Hockey: No spring practice or competition.

(8) Women's Lacrosse: No fall practice or competition.

OR

c. For a penalized team in a sport without a legislatively declared nonchampionship playing season, a 10 percent reduction in the length of the playing season[1] and 10 percent reduction of allowable contests. (Attachment No. 1)

Level Three:

1. Public notice.

2. Playing and practice seasons (four-hour reduction per week, as well as one day): Lost hours must be used for academic purposes.

3. Additional playing season restrictions, as follows:

a. For the penalized team, reduction from eight hours to four hours per week for athletics activities outside of the playing season. These four hours must be replaced with academically-focused activities. Of the remaining four hours of athletics activities, not more than two hours per week may be spent on skill-related workouts.

AND

b. For the penalized team, cancellation of the nonchampionship playing season in sports that maintain a legislated nonchampionship segment as well as football, which would include:

(1) Baseball: No fall practice or competition.

(2) Football: No spring practice.
(3) Softball: No fall practice or competition.

[1] This 10 percent reduction would be *in addition to* any in-season playing and practice restrictions.

(4) Men's Volleyball: No fall practice or competition.

(5) Women's Volleyball: No spring practice or competition.

(6) Men's and Women's Soccer: No spring practice or competition.

(7) Field Hockey: No spring practice or competition.

(8) Women's Lacrosse: No fall practice or competition.

OR

c. For a penalized team in a sport without a legislatively declared nonchampionship playing season, a 10 percent reduction in the length of the playing season[2] and 10 percent reduction of allowable contests. (Attachment No. 1)

4. In addition to the penalties from Levels One and Two, the committee would have the legislated authority to implement any or all of the following additional types of penalties.

a. Financial Aid Penalties (any amount, any type);

b. Practice Penalties (in addition to the four hours and one day per week already imposed);

c. Contest Reductions (in addition to the ten-percent already imposed);

d. Restricted and Corresponding Membership;

e. Coach-specific Penalties, including, but not limited to game restrictions and recruiting restrictions;

f. Restricting access to practice for incoming student-athletes that fall below predetermined academic standards; and

g. Multiyear postseason competition ban.

[2] This 10 percent reduction would be *in addition to* any in-season playing and practice restrictions.

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

List of Playing and Practice Reductions for Applicable Sports

The following list outlines the additional playing and practice season penalties that teams would be subject to at Level Two of the revised penalty structure. Note that these penalties would only apply to sports where there is not a legislatively declared nonchampionship segment.

1. Men's and Women's Basketball:

a. Reduction of 10 percent of playing and practice days between first allowable practice and end of playing season.[3]

b. Reduction from 29 to 26 contests.[4]

2. Bowling:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 26 to 23 dates of competition.

3. Cross Country:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from seven to six dates of competition.

4. Equestrian:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 15 to 13 dates of competition.

5. Fencing:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 11 to 10 dates of competition.

6. Golf:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 24 to 22 dates of competition.

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[3] The start date for men's and women's basketball varies depending on the year.

[4] For teams that plan to participate in a qualifying regular-season multiple team event (e.g., Maui Invitational), the reduction would be from 27 to 24 contests.

7. Gymnastics:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 13 to 12 dates of competition.

8. Ice Hockey:

a. Reduction from 132 day season to 119 day season.

b. Reduction from 34 to 31 contests.

9. Men's Lacrosse:

a. Reduction from 132 day season to 119 day season.

b. Reduction from 17 to 15 dates of competition.

10. Rifle:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 13 to 12 dates of competition.

11. Rowing:

a. Reduction from 156 day season to 140 day season.

b. Reduction from 20 to 18 dates of competition.

12. Rugby:

a. Reduction from 132 day season to 119 day season.

b. Reduction from 11 to 10 contests.

13. Skiing:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 16 to 14 dates of competition in both alpine and nordic events.

14. Squash:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 15 to 13 dates of competition.

15. Swimming and Diving:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 20 to 18 dates of competition.

16. Tennis:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 25 to 22 dates of competition.

17. Track and Field (Indoor or Outdoor only):

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 18 to 16 dates of competition.

18. Track and Field (Indoor *and* Outdoor):

a. Reduction from 156 day season to 140 day season.

b. Reduction from 18 to 16 dates of competition.

19. Water Polo:

a. Reduction from 132 day season to 119 day season.

b. Reduction from 21 to 19 dates of competition.

20 Wrestling:

a. Reduction from 144 day season to 130 day season.

b. Reduction from 16 to 14 dates of competition.