



Compliance Monthly

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Recruited / Nonrecruited Student-Athletes, Financial Aid

15.02.8

Recruited Student-Athlete

For purposes of Bylaw 15, a recruited student-athlete is a student-athlete who, as a prospective student-athlete:

- Was provided an official visit to the institution's campus;
- Had arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with a member of the institution's coaching staff (including a coach's arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with PSA or the parents/legal guardians); or
- Was issued a National Letter of Intent or a written offer of athletically related financial aid by the institution for a regular academic term

15.5.6.3.2

Recruited Student-Athlete Entering in Fall Term, Aided in First Year.

A student-athlete recruited (per Bylaw 15.02.8) by the awarding institution who enters after the first term of the academic year and immediately receives institutional financial aid (based in any degree on athletics ability) shall be an initial counter for either the current academic year (if the institution's annual limit has not been reached) or the next academic year. The student-athlete shall be included in the institution's total counter limit during the academic year in which the aid was first received.

15.5.6.3.4

Nonrecruited Student-Athlete Receiving Institutional Financial Aid

A student-athlete not recruited (per bylaw 15.02.8) by the institution who receives institutional financial aid (based in any degree on athletics ability) after beginning football practice becomes a counter but need not be counted as an initial counter until the next academic year if the institution has reached its initial limit for the year in question. However, the student-athlete shall be considered in the total counter limit for the academic year in which the aid was first received.

Football Championship Division

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Evaluation Period

*Evaluation period — Not exceeding a period of 42 evaluation days (54 for U.S. service academies) during the months of September, October and November selected at the discretion of the institution and designated in writing in the office of the director of athletics; authorized off-campus recruiters shall not visit a prospective student-athlete's educational institution on more than one calendar day during this period. All other dates shall be considered a quiet period.

Note: This is a color coded visual of the recruiting calendars, please consider this when printing.

(September 9 , 2011) Staff interpretation :
Calculating the Average Number of Grants-in-Aid -- Football Championship Subdivision Opponent (I)

The academic and membership affairs staff determined that an institution may count the greater of the number of grants-in-aid awarded as of the first day of classes for the academic year or the number of grants-in-aid awarded by the conclusion of the academic year when calculating the number of grants-in-aid averaged over a rolling two-year period. Further, financial aid that could otherwise be exempted from an institution's equivalency computation (e.g., academic honor awards) may be included when calculating this average, provided the full amount of the aid is also counted toward the individual student-athlete's equivalency and the institutional grant-in-aid limitation. It is not permissible to exempt financial aid for the purpose of meeting institutional limitations and count the same aid for purposes of the rolling two-year average.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 15.5.6.2 (championship subdivision football); 18.7.2.2.1 (exception -- football championship subdivision opponent) and 20.9.7.2.1 (exception -- football championship subdivision opponent)]

(April 25 , 2011) Educational Column :
Midyear Replacement

NCAA Division I institutions should note that pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 15.5.6.3.2 and 15.5.6.3.5, in Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) and NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), a counter in football who graduates midyear or graduated during the previous academic year (including summer), may be replaced midyear by an initial counter or by a student-athlete who was an initial counter in a previous academic year and is returning to the institution after time spent on active duty in the armed services or on an official religious mission. In this case, the initial counter may be counted against the initial limit for the year in which the aid is awarded (if the institution's annual limit has not been reached) or for the following year. If the institution has reached its limit on the number of initial counters for the year in which the aid is initially awarded, the initial counter must be counted against the initial limit for the ensuing academic year.

For example, Institution X has 85 total counters during the fall of the 2010-11 academic year and only 22 initial counters. Five counters graduate at midyear and Institution X would like to replace those five counters in the second semester with five recruited transfer student-athletes from a two-year college who will receive athletically related financial aid. In this scenario, Institution X may provide the transfer student-athletes with financial aid in accordance with Bylaws 15.5.6.3.2 and 15.5.6.3.5. The five transfer student-athletes would replace the five graduating student-athletes as overall counters during the 2010-11 academic year. The transfer student-athletes may be included in the institution's initial-counter limitations in the sport of football during the 2010-11 academic year or during the 2011-12 academic year.

Under the same fact scenario, if Institution X only had 83 total counters during the fall semester of the 2010-11 academic year, it may provide financial aid pursuant to Bylaw 15.5.6.3.2 to the first two transfer student-athletes. Those student-athletes would increase the total number of counters for the 2010-11 academic year to 85, and they may be included in the initial-counter total for either the 2010-11 or 2011-12 academic year. The midyear replacement provisions of Bylaw 15.5.6.3.5 would not apply to these two transfer student-athletes. However, if Institution X awards athletically related financial aid to the remaining three transfer student-athletes it must do in accordance with Bylaw 15.5.6.3.5, because Institution X now has reached its total counter limit of 85. Those three transfer student-athletes would replace three of the midyear graduates as overall counters during the 2010-11 academic year. With the adoption of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2010-78, those three student-athletes may be included in the institution's initial-counter limitations in the sport of football during the 2010-11 academic year (if the institution's annual limit on the number of initial counters has not been reached) or during the 2011-12 academic year (even if one or more of the three student-athletes does not return to the institution for the 2011-12 academic year).

In FBS, an institution may use the midyear replacement exception only if it previously has provided financial aid during that academic year to the maximum number of overall counters (85 total counters). In FCS, an institution may use the midyear replacement exception only if it previously has provided financial aid during that academic year that equals the maximum number of overall equivalencies or overall counters.

[References: Bylaws 15.5.6.3.2 (recruited student-athlete entering after fall term, aided in first year) and 15.5.6.3.5 (midyear replacement)]