



# 2025 NCAA Convention Division II Proposals

# Positions on Division II Convention Proposals



When considering a position (support, oppose, no position) on a proposal, the FARA Division II Legislative Subcommittee (subcommittee) considered whether the proposal fell under the following category or categories:

- Academic integrity;
- Institutional control; and/or
- Student-athlete well-being.

If the subcommittee determined the proposal did not fall under the category or categories above, or the subcommittee was split, the committee took no position.



# 2025 NCAA Convention Division II Proposals

# NCAA DIVISION II PROPOSAL NO. 2025-1: NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- WOMEN'S WRESTLING



**Intent:** In women's wrestling, to establish a National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a women's wrestling committee.

**Effective Date:** Immediate.

**Sources:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).

## DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-1: NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- WOMEN'S WRESTLING, (Contd.)

### Rationale:

- Women's wrestling has been an emerging sport in all three divisions since 2020. In fall of 2023, 41 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports-sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate Championship status.
- More than 70 NCAA member schools have indicated plans to sponsor women's wrestling in the 2023-24 academic year.
- Women's wrestling is an Olympic sport and has the support of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

## DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-1: NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- WOMEN'S WRESTLING, (Contd.)

### Rationale:

- The women's wrestling committee would begin its work in January 2025 to prepare for the first National Collegiate Championship in winter 2026.

**FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC  
INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-  
BEING**



- No position.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?



# DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-2: RECRUITING AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- TRYOUTS AND GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- MANDATORY MEDICAL EXAMINATION -- TIMING OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION



**Intent:** To specify that a medical examination or evaluation must be administered within one year prior to a prospective student-athlete's and/or enrolled student's participation in a tryout and for a student-athlete beginning their initial season of eligibility, within one year prior to their participation in any practice, competition or out-of-season conditioning activities; further, to specify that in following years an updated medical history must be administered within one year prior to a student-athlete's participation in any practice, competition or out-of-season conditioning activities for the applicable academic year.

- **Note:** NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examinations) is a common provision. Therefore, if adopted, Division II Bylaw 17.1.5 will not change until Divisions I and III approve a similar change.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Source:** Northeast-10 Conference, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Peach Belt Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, South Atlantic Conference and Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

# **DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-2: RECRUITING AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- TRYOUTS AND GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- MANDATORY MEDICAL EXAMINATION -- TIMING OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION, (Contd.)**



## **Rationale:**

- This proposed change would extend the time period in which the medical examination and updated medical history must be conducted prior to participation in such activities from a six-month period to a one-year period.
- The change would align with current insurance protocol of receiving one no-cost physical under the Affordable Care Act.
- This means that any prospective student-athlete that intends to participate on or after August 1 must have had a physical in the months of February to July.
- This is not achievable to most physicians' offices to accommodate. Any physical exam occurring between September and January requires the student-athlete to pay out-of-pocket to seek another physical exam.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-2: RECRUITING AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS  
-- TRYOUTS AND GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- MANDATORY  
MEDICAL EXAMINATION -- TIMING OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- This is often provided by urgent cares and minute clinics that do not have a history with the patient and may not include pertinent health history as part of the clearance process.
- These second exams may only be feasible to those with a socioeconomic status to afford them.
- It is less likely for Division II institutions to provide physical examinations by a team physician as the institution is required to absorb the cost should it provide this service.

# FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-BEING



- Oppose.
- Student-athlete well-being.
  - Need to balance financial hardship and a prospective student-athlete's health and wellness when they are coming on campus to participate.
  - Understand trying to streamline, but Division II should not be in a different place than both Divisions I and III.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-3: ELIGIBILITY -- ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY -- PROGRESS-TOWARD-DEGREE REQUIREMENTS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION -- CREDIT HOURS EARNED DURING THE REGULAR ACADEMIC YEAR -- ELIMINATION OF THE 18-SEMESTER/27-QUARTER HOURS REQUIREMENT**



**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that a student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year to be eligible for competition.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025, for certifications of progress-toward-degree requirements for fall 2025, and thereafter.

**Sources:** NCAA Division II Executive Board [Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee)].

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-3: ELIGIBILITY -- ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY -- PROGRESS-TOWARD-DEGREE REQUIREMENTS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION -- CREDIT HOURS EARNED DURING THE REGULAR ACADEMIC YEAR -- ELIMINATION OF THE 18-SEMESTER/27-QUARTER HOURS REQUIREMENT, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Currently, to meet progress-toward-degree requirements, a student-athlete must earn at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during each full-time term of attendance, at least 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year and at least 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit annually.
- Based on a review of the 2022 Academic Performance Census (APC) data, 96% of student-athletes from semester schools who satisfied the nine-semester hours requirement in their spring semester also satisfied the 18-semester hours requirement for the academic year.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-3: ELIGIBILITY -- ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY -- PROGRESS-TOWARD-DEGREE REQUIREMENTS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION -- CREDIT HOURS EARNED DURING THE REGULAR ACADEMIC YEAR -- ELIMINATION OF THE 18-SEMESTER/27-QUARTER HOURS REQUIREMENT,  
(Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- 98% of student-athletes from quarter schools who satisfied the eight-quarter hours requirement in their spring quarter also satisfied the 27-quarter hours requirement.
- Eliminating the legislation will simplify the certification process without jeopardizing the overall academic success of student-athletes, because they will still be required to meet the term-by-term requirement, annual credit hour requirement and grade-point average (GPA) requirement.
- This change will ease the burden on compliance administrators and student-athletes.



**FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-BEING**



- Oppose.
- Academic integrity.
  - Opens up the option for student-athletes to take more summer classes.
  - Another guardrail removed that keeps student-athletes on track to graduate.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-4: ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION, PRACTICE AND ATHLETICS AID -- ALL OTHER QUALIFIERS AND PARTIAL QUALIFIERS -- ELIMINATION OF ENGLISH, MATH AND SCIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR QUALIFIERS**



**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that a qualifier, who is a two-year college transfer, must earn transferable credit hours in English, math and science.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.

**Sources:** NCAA Division II Executive Board [Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee)].

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-4: ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION, PRACTICE AND ATHLETICS AID -- ALL OTHER QUALIFIERS AND PARTIAL QUALIFIERS -- ELIMINATION OF ENGLISH, MATH AND SCIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR QUALIFIERS, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Currently, two-year college transfers that do not graduate from the two-year college or who are not a final qualifier with one term of attendance at the two-year college, are required to satisfactorily complete and transfer in at least six-semester or eight-quarter hours of English, three-semester or four-quarter hours of math and three-semester or four-quarter hours of natural or physical science as part of the two-year college transfer requirements.
- A two-year college transfer student who is a qualifier, has already displayed their academic readiness through completion of core courses while enrolled in high school; therefore, eliminating the requirement would simplify transfer certification for qualifiers.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-4: ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- TWO-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION, PRACTICE AND ATHLETICS AID -- ALL OTHER QUALIFIERS AND PARTIAL QUALIFIERS -- ELIMINATION OF ENGLISH, MATH AND SCIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR QUALIFIERS, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Qualifiers would still need to satisfy the remaining two-year college transfer requirements (e.g., two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters, an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit each full-time term, 2.200 transferable GPA) outlined in the two-year college transfer legislation.

# FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-BEING



- Support.
- Academic integrity, student-athlete well-being and institutional control.
  - Some institutions don't require English; however, they have to require it to satisfy NCAA legislation.
  - High school graduates that transfer to a four-year institution are not required to take English, math and science in order to be immediately eligible.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-5: ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- PARTICIPATION DURING INITIAL YEAR OF COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT**



**Intent:** To specify that a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) without using a season of competition.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Sources:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee).



**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-5: ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- PARTICIPATION DURING INITIAL YEAR OF COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Under current legislation, any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport.
- Allowing a Division II student-athlete in any sport to participate in minimal competition during their initial year of collegiate enrollment will provide consistency in applying the season of competition legislation.
- The opportunity for all sports to participate in minimal competition will ease the decision for coaches and help with student-athlete development and transition to the college game.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-5: ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- PARTICIPATION DURING INITIAL YEAR OF COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT, (Contd.)**

**Rationale:**

- Additional flexibility with substitutes may allow starters and more experienced student-athletes additional rest and/or to feel less pressure to play through injuries.
- Amending the season of competition legislation to allow minimal competition in all sports will assist with roster management and student-athlete retention.

**FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-BEING**



- Oppose.
- Academic integrity, student-athlete well-being and institutional control.
  - Institutionalizes the sixth-year student-athlete.
  - Encourages a fifth year.
  - Student-athlete could be a national champion and not use a season of competition.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?



**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-6: ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- UP TO FOUR DATES OF COMPETITION -- MEN'S WRESTLING**

**Intent:** In men's wrestling, to specify that a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to four dates of competition without using a season of competition.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Source:** Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and South Atlantic Conference.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-6: ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- UP TO FOUR DATES OF COMPETITION -- MEN'S WRESTLING, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Under current legislation, any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport.
- In college wrestling, most Division II programs are enrollment driven with limited scholarships and many student-athletes walk-on, leaving limited wrestling rosters and depth on gameday.
- Amending the legislation will provide men's wrestling student-athletes with the opportunity to compete in a limited number of dates of competition in their first year of enrollment, which will increase engagement of first year student-athletes, assist with their integration to campus, academic engagement and retention.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-6: ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- UP TO FOUR DATES OF COMPETITION -- MEN'S WRESTLING, (Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- This proposal will enhance the opportunity for institutions to maintain healthy rosters from year to year.

# FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-BEING



- Oppose.
- Academic integrity, student-athlete well-being and institutional control.
  - Institutionalizes the sixth-year student-athlete.
  - Encourages a fifth year.
  - Student-athlete could be a national champion and not use a season of competition.
  - Gender equity concerns (i.e., football already has this exception).



## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-7: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL  
PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- REQUIRED DAY OFF -- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT  
-- EXCEPTION AND POLICY REQUIREMENT**



**Intent:** To permit a team participating in practice or competition during the segment of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship to engage in countable athletically related activities on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, provided student-athletes are given a day off from countable athletically related activities to participate in civic engagement activities and programming within 15 days before or after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November; further, to require an institution to develop civic engagement policies, which must address opportunities available to student-athletes for civic engagement, through a collaborative process involving student-athletes, coaches, and senior athletics department staff members to ensure student-athletes are provided adequate opportunities, resources and programming to participate in civic engagement activities.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Source:** South Atlantic Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, Peach Belt Conference and Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

# DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-7: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- REQUIRED DAY OFF -- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT -- EXCEPTION AND POLICY REQUIREMENT, (Contd.)



## Rationale:

- Currently, all countable athletically related activities are prohibited on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
- The opportunity to participate in civic engagement activities is essential to the student-athlete experience.
- A required day off for student-athletes remains necessary to ensure they are provided time to participate in civic engagement opportunities, including time to vote in local, state and national elections.

# DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-7: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- REQUIRED DAY OFF -- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT -- EXCEPTION AND POLICY REQUIREMENT, (Contd.)



## Rationale:

- This proposal recognizes that a uniform, national day off may not be feasible, especially for sports that are participating in their championship segments.
- The flexibility in this proposal would allow those sports to participate in countable athletically related activities during the most crucial portion of the playing season without interruption, while ensuring a day off is provided for civic engagement.
- This proposal promotes collaboration between student-athletes, coaches and administrators to develop policies, which must include, at a minimum, civic engagement opportunities available to student-athletes, to allow student-athletes to have dedicated time off from athletics to vote and meaningfully engage in their communities.

# FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-BEING



- Support.
- Student-athlete well-being.
  - Benefit to being able to shift a team's schedule.
  - Many student-athletes are attending institutions in states they are not residences of. Therefore, they are not voting on Election Day.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?

# DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-8: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- FOOTBALL



**Intent:** In football, to specify that automatic qualification privileges shall be granted to all conferences that sponsor the sport; further, to eliminate the earned access legislation.

- **Note:** Football-only vote.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Source:** Northeast-10 Conference, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Great Lakes Valley Conference and Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-8: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION --  
ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR  
SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION – FOOTBALL,  
(Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Football is currently the only team sport in Division II that does not require that all football-sponsoring conferences be represented in the championship bracket.
- Division II football is the only team sport across all three divisions that does not utilize automatic qualification, including Division I Football Championship Subdivision and Division III football.
- Division II football student-athletes should expect that winning a regular season or conference championship is an accomplishment worthy of postseason selection.



**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-8: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION --  
ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR  
SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION – FOOTBALL,  
(Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- Enhancing the student-athlete experience and championship access are both hallmarks of Division II, and football student-athletes, as with every other team sport, deserve to have one team represented from each football-sponsoring conference.
- The selection of automatic qualification shall remain the purview of each conference.
- Division II football should be able to guarantee access to all football-sponsoring conferences as that promotes fairness.

**DII PROPOSAL NO. 2025-8: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION --  
ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR  
SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS – AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION – FOOTBALL,  
(Contd.)**



**Rationale:**

- There is now automatic qualification in sports with brackets smaller than football.
- How competitive a league has been historically or its size, should not be a reason to preclude access.

**FARA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE POSITION: ACADEMIC  
INTEGRITY, INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, AND/OR STUDENT-ATHLETE WELL-  
BEING**



- No position.

## DIVISION II FARA POSITION



- Categories:
  - Academic integrity;
  - Institutional control; and/or
  - Student-athlete well-being?
- Support, oppose or no position?

# Questions?