

## Understanding the New Organized Competition Legislation

<b>General Rule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student immediately following the grace year shall use one season of competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which an individual participates in organized competition.</li> </ul>
<b>Grace Period</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Traditional Date of High School Graduation (e.g., May/June)</u>: Summer plus the next academic year following high school graduation prior to the first opportunity to enroll full time in college in the fall term.</li> <li>• <u>Nontraditional Date of High School Graduation (e.g., November/December)</u>: Week(s) between terms plus the calendar year following high school graduation prior to the first opportunity to enroll in the winter/spring term.</li> </ul> <p>Exception to Grace period: An individual who participates on a Major Junior men's ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs.</p>
<b>High School Graduation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual's high school graduation date (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) is the graduation date of the final high school class of which he or she was a member.</li> <li>• If an individual graduates early from high school, he or she becomes a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.</li> <li>• If an individual is required to repeat an entire year of high school attendance for any reason, he or she becomes a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class. The academic authority shall specify in writing to the NCAA Eligibility Center.</li> </ul>
<b>Definition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletics competition shall be organized if <u>one</u> of the following conditions exist:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Competition is scheduled in advance;</li> <li>- Official score is kept;</li> <li>- Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained;</li> <li>- Official timer or game officials are used;</li> <li>- Admission is charged;</li> <li>- Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;</li> <li>- Team uniforms are used;</li> <li>- An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or</li> <li>- The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Year in Residence</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An individual who uses a season of competition in a specific sport per Bylaw 14.2.4.2 shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition.</li><li>• A student who has attended a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution for at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters and who has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12 semester or 12 quarter hours of transferable degree credit for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year or four-year collegiate institution is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (See Bylaws 14.4 and 14.5 for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.)</li></ul>
<p><b>Exceptions/ Waivers</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>U.S. Armed Services Exception.</b> Participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 during time spent in the U.S. Armed Services shall be excepted as long as the competition is organized and administered by the military.</li><li>• <b>National/International Competition Exception.</b> For a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted if the competition is national or international competition that includes participation in:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Official Pan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University and Olympic training, tryouts and competition;</li><li>(b) Officially recognized training and competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic tryouts; or</li><li>(c) Official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport).</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Skiing Exception.</b> For a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted in skiing when such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the U.S. Skiing Association and its international counterparts.</li><li>• <b>Men's Ice Hockey Exception.</b> In men's ice hockey, for a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted, provided such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the United States Hockey Association or the international equivalent.</li></ul>

**DISCLAIMER:** *The information contained in this document is provided as a reference to member institutions and does not constitute binding advice on compliance with NCAA rules and bylaws. Any inquiries related to NCAA rules and bylaws should be directed to the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff. The most updated information regarding Division II rules, bylaws and procedures can be found by accessing the NCAA Division II Manual on the Legislative Services Database for the Internet (LSDBi).*