

General Guidelines of Student-Athletes

It is the responsibility of each student-athlete to comply at all times with NCAA, Mountain West and Colorado State University regulations. Failure to do so can result in loss of eligibility (temporarily or permanently), forfeiture of games and/or loss of athletically related financial aid.

Student-athletes should not take chances with their eligibility. Student-athletes should contact the Compliance Office or their head coach before doing anything that may have an impact on their eligibility.

Playing and Practice Seasons

In general, during the playing season, a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week with one calendar day per week designated as a day off. A day of competition counts as three hours regardless of how much time is actually spent in competition and competition related activities.

Outside the playing season but during the academic year, student-athletes may participate in required weight training, conditioning and individual skill instruction up to eight hours per week with not more than two hours per week spent on individual skill workouts.

Travel, academic meetings, rehabilitation and similar activities do not count towards the permissible time limitations.

Student-Athlete Employment

A student-athlete may receive legitimate employment earnings from authorized on or off campus employers throughout the school year as long as:

- The student-athlete's compensation does not include any payment or benefit from the employer based on the student-athlete's athletics ability, reputation or fame;
- The student-athlete is compensated only for work actually performed; and
- The student-athlete is compensated at a rate equal to the going rate for similar services in that area.

Prior to employment, the student-athlete must complete the Student-Athlete Employment Written Agreement, which is available in the Compliance Office.

Gambling

NCAA bylaws state that student-athletes shall not knowingly:

- Provide information to individuals involved in organized gambling activities concerning intercollegiate athletics competition;
- Solicit a bet on any intercollegiate team;
- Accept a bet on any team representing the institution;
- Solicit or accept a bet on any intercollegiate competition for any item (e.g., cash, clothing, dinner) that has tangible value; or
- Participate in any gambling activity that involves intercollegiate athletics or professional athletics, through a bookmaker, a parlay card or any other method employed by organized gambling.

Academic Eligibility

Prior to the Start of:	2 nd Academic Year	3 rd Academic Year	4 th Academic Year	5 th Academic Year
Minimum GPA	1.8* *See note below	1.9* *See note below	2.0	2.0
Credit Hour Requirements	6 per Term* 18 Fall/ Spring 24 Year *See note below			
Major/PTD Requirements	N/A	Must Declare a Major and Meet 40% of Degree Requirements	Must Meet 60% of Degree Requirements	Must Meet 80% of Degree Requirements

- Student-athletes must always be enrolled as a full-time student (minimum 12 credit hours) in order to practice and compete. *Exception: During a student-athlete's final semester, he or she may be enrolled in less than 12 credit hours if he or she is enrolled in the hours necessary to graduate.*
- Student-athletes must meet credit hour requirements in the major they are in at the time the credits were taken. If a student-athlete changes his or her major during a semester, he or she can use either major to meet credit hour requirements for that particular term.
- **Football student-athletes are required to pass nine credit hours every fall.** Failure to successfully complete nine credit hours will result in a four game suspension the following year.
- Progress towards degree requirements are certified the first day of classes at the start of the academic year, unless a student began his or her college career mid-year.
- *CSU GPA Policy: Students who have three consecutive semesters below a cumulative 2.0 GPA will be dismissed from the University.
- Any student-athlete who is placed on academic suspension by the University becomes immediately ineligible to participate in any practice activities or competition until such time that he or she has been readmitted to the institution and his or her eligibility has been certified.

Financial Aid

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Under NCAA rules, athletic scholarships are awarded for one year and may be renewed annually. Student-athletes are entitled to appeal to a committee outside of the Athletic Department if their scholarships are cancelled, reduced or not renewed.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE /STUDENT-ATHLETE OPPORTUNITY FUND

The NCAA provides funds to assist student-athletes in meeting certain financial needs (emergency travel, clothing, medical expenses, etc). Applications are available from the Athletic Director's office.



Student-Athlete Guide to Compliance



Agents

GENERAL RULE

A student-athlete shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if he or she ever has agreed (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purpose of marketing his or her athletics ability or reputation in that sport.

REPRESENTATION FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS

A student-athlete shall be ineligible if he or she enters into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations that are to take place after the individual has completed his or her eligibility in that sport.

BENEFITS FROM PROSPECTIVE AGENTS

A student-athlete shall be ineligible if he or she (or his or her relatives or friends) accepts benefits from:

- Any person who represents any individual in the marketing of his or her athletics ability. The receipt of such expenses constitutes compensation based on athletics skill and is an extra benefit not available to the student body in general; or
- An agent, even if the agent has indicated that he or she has no interest in representing the student-athlete in the marketing of his or her athletics ability or reputation and does not represent individuals in the student-athlete's sport.

Promotional Activities

Student-athletes may participate in promotions for institutional, charitable, educational or nonprofit organizations but only after receiving prior written approval and verification that the promotion will meet certain criteria set forth by the NCAA. Prior written approval must be received through the Compliance Office. Failure to receive such approval could impact the student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate competition.

NCAA rules strictly prohibit a student-athlete from promoting or endorsing a business, commercial product or service and/or receiving any type of compensation for promoting or endorsing. This restriction includes but is not limited to the use of a student-athlete's name, photograph, likeness, spoken words or appearance in any type of promotion or advertisement from a business, product or service.

Amateurism

NCAA Bylaws state that an individual loses amateur status and thus shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition in a particular sport if the individual:

- Uses his or her athletics skill (directly or indirectly) for pay in any form in that sport;
- Accepts a promise of pay even if such pay is to be received following completion of intercollegiate athletics participation;
- Signs a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics, regardless of its legal enforceability or any consideration received;
- Receives, directly or indirectly, a salary, reimbursement of expenses or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization based upon athletics skill or participation, except as permitted by NCAA rules and regulations;
- Competes on any professional athletics team, even if no pay or remuneration for expenses was received; or
- Enters into an agreement with an agent.

Extra Benefits

The term "extra benefit" refers to any special arrangement by an institutional employee (e.g., coach, teacher, counselor) or representative of the institution's athletics interest (booster) to provide the student-athlete or his or her family with a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

In general, student-athletes may not receive anything or have special arrangements made for them that are not available to the general population.

Examples of extra benefits not allowed by NCAA rules include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Special discount for goods and services (e.g., airline tickets, movie tickets, car repair, rental car, clothing, meals);
- Free or reduced-cost professional services (e.g., legal or medical);
- Use of an automobile, telephone or credit card for personal reasons at no charge or at a reduced rate;
- Cash or loans in any amount, including signors or co-signors for loans;
- Receipt of gifts of any kind, including birthday cards and holiday gifts;
- Receipt of free or reduced rent/housing; or
- Receipt of money or any thing of value for the exchange of complimentary tickets;

Note: A student-athlete who receives an extra benefit or expense not authorized by the NCAA will be ineligible for athletics competition.

Drug Testing

- If a student-athlete tests positive for a NCAA drug test (consistent with NCAA drug-testing protocol), he or she will be ineligible to participate in regular season and post-season competition for one calendar year (i.e., 365 days) after his or her positive drug test and he or she will be charged with the loss of a minimum of one season of competition in all sports.
- If a student-athlete tests positive a second time for the use of any drug, other than a "street drug," he or she will lose all remaining regular-season and post season eligibility in all sports.
- If a student-athlete tests positive for the use of a "street drug" after being restored to eligibility, he or she shall be charged with the loss of one additional season of competition in all sports and also shall remain ineligible for regular-season and post-season competition at least through the next calendar year.
- The penalty for missing a scheduled drug test is the same as the penalty for testing positive for the use of a banned drug other than a street drug. A student-athlete will remain ineligible until he or she retests negative and his or her eligibility has been restored by the NCAA Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

Colorado State also has its own institutional drug testing program. Information of CSU's drug testing program can be found on www.csurams.com. Click on "Student-Athletes" under the "Athletics" tab.

Transfer Regulations

Once a student-athlete enrolls at Colorado State University (or reports for official practice in his or her sport), NCAA rules prohibit him or her from contacting another four-year institution about the possibility of transferring and participating in its athletic program without written permission from Colorado State's Director of Athletics (or his/her designated representative). Permission will not be granted without the consent of the head coach. If a student-athlete's request for permission to speak with another institution is denied, he or she is entitled to appeal the decision to a University panel. If the student-athlete loses the appeal and transfers, he or she must serve a year in residence and is not eligible to receive athletically related aid during his or her first year at the new institution.

The Mountain West has an intra-conference transfer rule. A student-athlete who has received athletically-related financial aid and who transfers, directly or indirectly, from one Conference institution to another shall meet the following requirements prior to being permitted to compete at another Mountain West member institution:

- The student-athlete shall complete an academic year in residence;
- The student-athlete shall forfeit one season of competition; and
- The student-athlete shall not receive athletically related financial aid during the academic year in residence.

Colorado State Compliance

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CSU Compliance
www.csurams.com
Mountain West
www.themw.com
NCAA
www.ncaa.org

ASK BEFORE YOU ACT

As a member of the NCAA, Colorado State University is responsible for the actions of its student-athletes. Given the complexity of NCAA rules, even the best-intentioned action may be a violation. Therefore, the Colorado State University Compliance Office should be contacted for proper interpretations in specific cases.

Colorado State University Compliance Office
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www.csurams.com

