

Contacts with Enrolled Student-Athletes

The NCAA defines a student-athlete as one whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of GW athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the GW intercollegiate athletics program. Any other student becomes a student-athlete only when the student reports for a GW athletic team.

With this in mind, here are some basic do's and don'ts with regard to contacting enrolled student-athletes.

YOU MAY NOT provide student-athletes or their family or friends any special benefits or arrangements. The NCAA specifically prohibits any extra benefits for student-athletes. Such benefits include transportation, room, board, entertainment, loans or any other tangible item.

YOU MAY NOT pay for travel expenses or lend an automobile to a student-athlete to return home or go to any location for any reason.

YOU MAY NOT provide room, board or transportation costs to the friends or family of a student-athlete to visit campus or attend an away contest.

YOU MAY NOT spend money to entertain student-athletes, or their friends or relatives. You cannot even buy them a soda or a slice of pizza.

YOU MAY NOT use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to directly or indirectly advertise, recommend or promote the sale or use of a commercial product or service of any kind. Doing so will render the student-athlete ineligible for competition. All charitable, educational and nonprofit promotional activities involving student-athletes must have prior approval from the Department of Athletics. Please contact the Compliance Office for more information.

YOU MAY NOT provide an honorarium to a student-athlete for any speaking engagement. Student-athletes may only receive necessary travel expenses when speaking to educational or charitable groups. All speaking engagements must be approved in advance and coordinated by the Department of Athletics.

YOU MAY NOT mail items to student-athletes for them to sign and return to you.

YOU MAY NOT use any item (i.e., poster, ball, etc.) signed by a GW coach, student-athlete or staff member in an auction, raffle or any other type of fundraising activity to raise money, specifically for a high school project. The Department of Athletics must give approval for such items to be used.

YOU MAY NOT provide gifts or awards to a student-athlete for his/her athletic performance. All awards must meet NCAA guidelines and, therefore, must have prior approval from the GW Department of Athletics.

YOU MAY NOT allow student-athletes, or their friends or relatives to use your telephone to make free long distance calls.

You can, however, assist the GW athletics program in the following ways:

YOU MAY invite a student-athlete or team to your home for a home-cooked meal. The meal may be catered and must be restricted to infrequent or special occasions (e.g., birthday, holidays). Approval for

such meals **MUST** come from the Department of Athletics so please inform the head coach or Compliance Office if you would like to provide a meal to a student-athlete or team.

YOU MAY invite a team to meet alumni for dinner when the team is on the road for an away contest. The NCAA permits student-athletes as a team to accept certain special benefits. Once again, please contact the GW Department of Athletics first to ensure all applicable NCAA rules are being followed.

YOU MAY make donations to a particular team through the Colonials Athletic Club or the Department of Athletics.

YOU MAY contact GW's development and promotional staff to inquire about promoting GW Athletics.