

# NCAA Eligibility Update

AACRAO 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

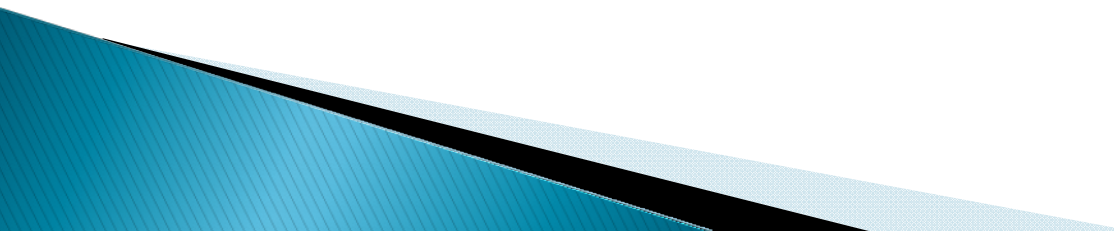
March 26, 2008

**Lisa Mills**

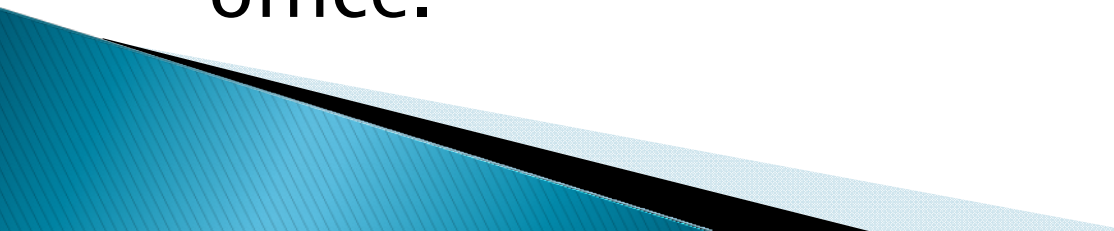
**NCAA Eligibility Center**



# Overview

- ▶ What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?
  - ▶ What's new with NCAA eligibility?
  - ▶ How to work with your athletics department.
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# What is the Eligibility Center?

- ▶ Brings all pre-enrollment certification under one roof: academics and amateurism.
    - Replaced the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.
    - Enables the NCAA to serve as a resource to meet changing academic needs and initiatives.
  - ▶ The Eligibility Center brings this core NCAA service under the "umbrella" of the national office.
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# Eligibility Center Responsibilities


- ▶ Pre-enrollment initial-eligibility services:
  - Academic certification.
  - Amateurism certification.
  - Academic review.
    - Prospective student-athlete review.
    - Initial-eligibility waivers.
  - High school review.
  - Core-course review.
  - Customer service.
  - National Letter of Intent.

# What's New?

## ► Early Academic Certification.

- Allows a final certification to be performed after six semesters of high school.
  - SAT minimum combined score of 1000 (critical reading/math only); or
  - ACT sum score of 85; AND
  - Core GPA of 3.00 or higher in at least 13 (NCAA Division I) or 12 (NCAA Division II) core courses:
    - 3 English
    - 2 Math
    - 2 Science
    - 6 Additional for Division I or 5 Additional for Division II
- If conditions are met, these students will be certified as final qualifiers.
- These conditions must be certified by the Eligibility Center, using an official high school transcript and an official test score.

# Did You Know?

- ▶ Transcripts must come from the high school or from the institution's admissions office.
    - U.S. Mail.
    - Overnight delivery.
    - Faxes not accepted.
  - ▶ Transcripts from the student can't be used.
  - ▶ Test scores must come directly from the testing agency.
    - Scores will not be taken from transcripts.
    - Eligibility Center code 9999 at time of registration will deliver scores directly to us.
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# What's New?

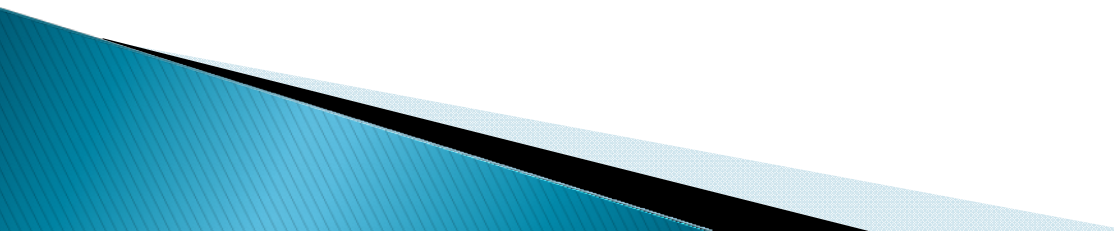
- ▶ **Division I** increase from 14 to 16 core courses takes effect 8-1-08 for all students first enrolling on or after 8-1-08.
- ▶ Adopted in 2003 to allow lead time.
  - 4 years of English;
  - 3 years of math at Algebra I or higher;
  - 2 years of natural/physical science (one lab);
  - 1 year of additional English/math/science;
  - 2 years of social science; and
  - 4 years of additional core courses in any area above or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy.

# What's New?

- ▶ **Division II** increase from 14 to 16 core courses adopted in January 2008.
- ▶ Effective 8-1-2013 to allow lead time.
  - 3 years of English;
  - 2 years of math at Algebra I or higher;
  - 2 years of natural/physical science (one lab);
  - 3 years of additional English/math/science;
  - 2 years of social science; and
  - 4 years of additional core courses in any area above or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy.

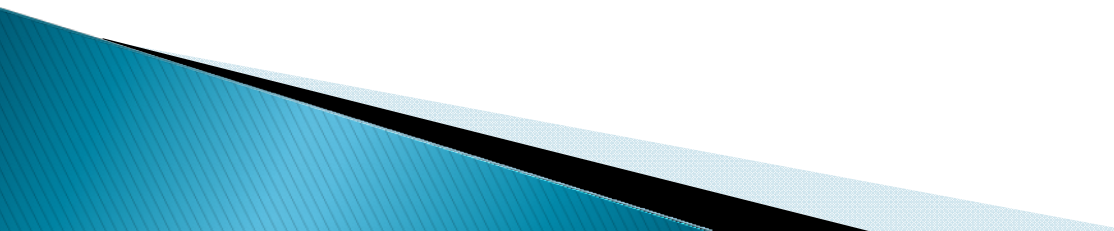


# Don't Forget!

- ▶ Division II does not have a sliding scale. The minimum core GPA is 2.000.
  - ▶ Division II minimum SAT score is 820 (critical reading/math only) or 68 sum ACT score.
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# What's New?

## ▶ Division I Core–Course Time Limitation.

- ▶ A prospective student–athlete (PSA) has eight semesters from the onset of ninth grade to complete the core–curriculum requirements.
  - ▶ International PSAs are held to their country's prescribed educational time frames.
  - ▶ Only courses taken within the eight semesters (or international equivalent) will be used in the evaluation.
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# What's New?

- ▶ **Division I Core–Course Time Limitation: One Additional Course.**
  - If a PSA graduates on time with his/her class (eight semesters from the onset of ninth grade or international equivalent), one additional course taken after high school graduation may be used.
    - Course may be taken in the summer or the following academic year.
    - Course may be taken at a different high school.
    - The PSA may enroll at any time, and no longer has to wait until the next academic year.
    - For international students, this may be a subject pass (for example, a GCSE exam) or one course, but not both.

# What's New?

## ▶ Amateurism Certification.

- Used to be done on campus, now certified by Eligibility Center.
- PSAs answer questions when they register with the Eligibility Center.
  - Related to athletics participation, contracts, compensation, agents, etc.
- Amateurism certification tied to competition.

# Academic Certification Steps:

## *Domestic*

- ▶ Preliminary certification.
  - Six-semester transcript(s).
  - Official test score(s).
  - Active Institutional Request List (IRL).
  - Early certification will be run for those who meet the standard.
- ▶ Final certification.
  - Final transcript with proof of graduation.
  - Transcripts from all high schools attended.
  - Official test score(s).
  - Active IRL.
  - Tied to practice, competition and financial aid.

# Academic Certification Steps:


## *International*

- ▶ No preliminary certifications.
  - Evaluation based on terminal certificate.
- ▶ Certified copies of original certificates/exams accompanied by a word-for-word, line-by-line translation.
- ▶ Reference the Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility located on the Eligibility Center's resource page.
- ▶ Official test score(s) needed (SAT/ACT).
- ▶ Active IRL.
- ▶ Tied to practice, competition and financial aid.

# Tips for International Certification:

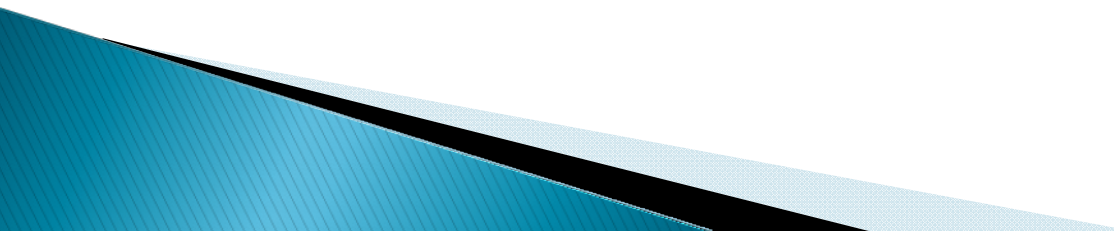
- ▶ Don't issue the I-20 until the PSA has a final "Yes" decision from the Eligibility Center.
  - Vital if the PSA's source of aid is from the athletics scholarship.
  - No scholarship, no means of financial support.
  - PSA may have to be sent home.
  - Verify that PSA is a final "Yes" before proceeding.
  - It's a matter of student-athlete well-being.
- ▶ Do as much as you can as soon as you can.
  - PSAs with 60 days OR LESS from reporting to campus may be expedited through the Eligibility Center.
    - Call the Eligibility Center to request.

# Work with Athletics Department

- ▶ Perform evaluations on campus early.
    - Helps catch and rectify potential issues.
  - ▶ Check the high school's list on the Eligibility Center Web site.
    - Is there a list? If so, is it current?
    - Contact high school.
  - ▶ Look at irregular academic and athletics behavior.
    - GPA increases, core-course increases, test-score increases.
    - Multiple high schools, schools without CEEB codes or a list of courses.
    - How old is the PSA?
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# Work with Athletics Department

- ▶ Is a matriculation letter needed?
    - If the PSA has delayed enrollment, it likely will be needed.
  - ▶ Teach athletics personnel your industry “lingo” and learn theirs.
  - ▶ Keep on-campus communication lines open and incorporate a system for updating the status of prospective student-athletes.
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# Contact Information

## ▶ Mail:

- NCAA Eligibility Center, P.O. Box 7110, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-7110

## ▶ Overnight:

- NCAA Eligibility Center, 1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

## ▶ Phone:

- 877/262-1492 or 317/223-0700

## ▶ Fax:

- 317/968-5101
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# Questions?

