

COVID-19 Q&A: CURRENT EIU STUDENT-ATHLETES

Last updated: 4/24/2020

NCAA Division I Bylaw 12 – Amateurism

Promotion of Relief Opportunities

Question: May a student-athlete, or group of student-athletes, promote fundraising efforts of charitable organizations where all proceeds are intended for specific relief purposes?

- Answer: Yes, please contact Assistant AD for Compliance, Kiersten Klekner-Alt (kklekneralt@eiu.edu), to receive approval *prior* to engaging in fundraising/promotional activities.

Seasons of Competition and Extension of Eligibility

Question: Which EIU sports are considered *spring* sports?

- Answer: Baseball, Softball, Men's & Women's Golf, Men's & Women's Tennis, and Men's & Women's Outdoor Track and Field. All spring sport student-athletes who competed during the 2019-20 academic year and were eligible for competition during spring 2020 will receive an additional season of competition in their spring sport due to COVID-19.

NCAA Division I Bylaw 14 – Academic Eligibility

Question: Are student-athletes who used a less-than-full-time exception during the 2019-20 academic year eligible for 2020-21 if they were unable to graduate due to the COVID-19 impact?

- Answer: Yes, relief may be self-applied to allow returning student-athletes to retain their remaining eligibility if they are not able to complete graduation requirements due to the impact of COVID-19.

Question: Can student-athletes who used the final term exception during the 2020 spring term but did not graduate due to COVID-19 be less than full time again during fall 2020 if they remain on track to graduate at the conclusion of fall 2020?

- Answer: Yes.

Question: I am a spring sport student-athlete graduating with my bachelor's degree in May 2020 or August 2020. What are my enrollment options if I want to compete at EIU in 2020-21?

- Answer: Student-athletes who will graduate before fall 2020 classes start have three options to maintain academic eligibility in 2020-21 at EIU:
 - (1) Enroll full-time in a second bachelor's degree program (12 cr/hrs); or
 - (2) Enroll full-time in graduate school (9 cr/hrs); or
 - (3) Enroll in post-baccalaureate work (12 cr/hrs).

Please contact your athletic-academic advisor (Cindy, Jenn, or Rasheed) to confirm which option you intend to pursue.

COVID-19 Q&A: CURRENT EIU STUDENT-ATHLETES

Last updated: 4/24/2020

NCAA Division I Bylaw 15 – Financial Aid

Question: As a spring sport student-athlete who has been awarded an additional year of eligibility due to COVID-19, is my EIU athletic scholarship guaranteed for my additional year?

- Answer: EIU is actively working to determine how the additional season of competition for spring sports will impact athletic grant-in-aid agreements.

NCAA Division I Bylaw 17 – Playing and Practice Seasons

Question: Does an institutional staff member with current CPR and AED certification need to be present any time a student-athlete is participating in *physical* countable athletically related activity?

- Answer: Yes. Therefore, it is *not* permissible to conduct *virtual physical* countable athletically related activity.

Question: May an institutional strength and conditioning coach or coaching staff member distribute workouts to student-athletes to use for *voluntary* athletically related activities?

- Answer: Yes, provided the workouts are approved by applicable institutional athletics and/or medical personnel and otherwise adhere to applicable legislative, policy and institutional requirements (for example, Interassociation Recommendations Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes). Coaching staff members may not supervise or conduct such workouts and it is not permissible for strength & conditioning coaches to record student-athletes engaged in voluntary athletically related activities (i.e. may not report back to coach or take pictures/video and post to social media).

Question: May a student-athlete film voluntary athletically related activities and report back to coaching staff members while home and enrolled in online classes?

- Answer: No. However, student-athletes may post to their own social media account a voluntary athletically related activity, not at the direction of an institutional staff member.

Question: How has countable athletically-related activity (CARA) been affected?

- Answer: CARA is not permissible from Monday, April 27 through Friday, May 8 inclusively. From May 9-May 31, all sports may engage in virtual CARA up to 8hrs/week (excluding physical activities) with 1 required day-off each week.