

Compliance 101

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NCAA General Background and History

Before 1906, many college sports were dangerous with few safety precautions set in place for student athletes. With injury and even death becoming increasingly commonplace, many universities began to discontinue their support for the most dangerous of sports at the time: football. The corruption and safety issues connected with college football even caught the attention of President Teddy Roosevelt. In the early 20th century, he invited college athletic leaders to the White House as a means to encourage reforms. Following this call to action by the President, the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States was founded in March of 1906 with 62 charter members. By 1910, the IAAUS changed its name to become the NCAA, the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

After 1921, the NCAA became more involved in post-season games and championships. The first NCAA national championship was conducted in 1921 with the National Collegiate Track and Field Championships and the first NCAA basketball championship game was in 1939.

However, by the 1940s problems started surfacing. There was evidence of professional gambling on college sports, with claims that gamblers were fixing the contests. To rectify this crisis, the NCAA tried to enforce extremely strict codes that schools found exceptionally difficult to follow. Since the only penalty for breaking the codes in place was expulsion from the NCAA, violators were rarely punished as no member school wanted to enforce such a harsh penalty. This difficult code to submit to, known as the Sanity Code, was repealed in 1951 after numerous complaints by member institutions. To replace the Code, new regulations and enforcement reforms were adopted throughout the 1950s. In 1951, a National Headquarter was established in Kansas City, MO under the leadership of Walter Byers, the first NCAA executive director.

By 1973, college athletics had grown significantly and the scope of athletics within many member schools had changed dramatically. In reaction to this, the NCAA created a structure that divided membership into three legislative and competitive divisions based on varying levels of athletic emphasis. Divisions I and II universities can offer a set number of athletic scholarships, while Division III schools may not offer any athletic scholarships. Oftentimes, Division I schools are larger institutions, like the University of Florida, while Division II and III schools are smaller. In 1978 Division I football was further divided into I-A and I-AA.

In the early 1980s, the 75th NCAA Convention was historic for the advancement of women's athletics. At this convention, a plan to adopt and govern women's sports was established. It also expanded the women's championship program to include 19 events. Prior to this Convention, women's athletics were excluded from the governing body of the NCAA.

The 1990s and 2000s saw reforms ensuring greater autonomy for each division, as well as the creation of stronger academic policies. This time period also saw institutional presidents gaining more power and control within the NCAA. In 2006, Divisions I-A and I-AA were respectively renamed the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) and Football Championship Subdivision (FCS). The University of Florida is a member of the Football Bowl Subdivision.

Currently, each division creates its own rules pertaining to amateurism, recruitment, eligibility, benefits, scholarships, financial aid, and playing and practice seasons. Every program is obligated to affiliate its core program with one of the three divisions. Although it started with 62 members, today the NCAA has more than 1,300 member institutions.

Today, the University of Florida competes at a Division I level in a total of 21 different men's and women's sports.

What is the Purpose of the Compliance Office at the University of Florida?

The athletic compliance office verifies that all NCAA and SEC regulations and rules are met and ensures that student-athletes, employees of the university, and those representing the university's interests are educated in their roles in making sure no NCAA violations occur. The mission of the Compliance Office is to advance the University of Florida's uncompromising and enthusiastic commitment to the highest standards of ethical behavior.

Why are NCAA Regulations Necessary?

NCAA regulations are first and foremost in place to ensure student athletes receive a quality standard of education. The NCAA gives institutions like the University of Florida important guidelines and rules to follow so that student athletes can flourish both academically and athletically in an atmosphere of ethical behavior.

Lesson 1: Who is a Representative of the University of Florida Athletic Interests?

The NCAA recognizes you as a friend, booster, or representative of the athletic department if:

- You have participated or are a member of an agency or organization promoting University of Florida's athletics programs
- You have made financial contributions to the University Athletic Association (UAA) or to an athletic booster organization of UF.
- You have assisted or been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospects.
- You have assisted or are assisting in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families.
- You have been involved in promoting UF'S athletics program.
- You have assisted a student-athlete in finding a job, or employed a student-athlete for a summer job.
- You have ever donated money through being a season ticket-holder.

Once a Booster Always a Booster

According to NCAA rules, once an individual has been identified as a "representative of the institution's athletics interests" the individual retains that identity indefinitely, regardless of when you were involved with the athletic department. The University of Florida is responsible for the behavior of all its athletics representatives in relation to NCAA rules and regulations. A violation by an athletics representative may result in severe sanctions against the University (e.g. loss of scholarships, television and post-season bans). **REMEMBER**, as a representative of athletics interests, you are responsible for making the UAA Compliance Office aware of any infractions of SEC or NCAA rules you know have occurred. Even if a violation was not intentional, the eligibility of a prospective student-athlete or enrolled student-athlete could be jeopardized.

Lesson 2: What is Institutional Control?

Institutional control of athletics is a fundamental requirement of NCAA legislation. Specifically, the NCAA constitution provides that each institution shall be responsible for:

- Controlling its intercollegiate athletics program in compliance with the rules and regulations of the NCAA.
- Monitoring its program to insure compliance, identifying and reporting to the NCAA instances in which compliance has not been achieved and taking appropriate actions.
- Ensuring that members of the institution's staff, student-athletes, and other individuals or groups representing the institution's athletics interest comply with NCAA rules.

Sportsmanship

Individuals employed by (or associated with) a member institution to administer, conduct or coach intercollegiate athletics and all participating student-athletes shall act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that intercollegiate athletics as a whole, their institutions and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

Academic Honesty

The NCAA and the UAA expect student-athletes and institutional staff members to act with honesty and integrity in all academic matters. It is important that students, as well as student-athletes, abide by the UF Student Honor Code.

Academic misconduct includes any violation or breach of an institutional policy regarding academic honesty or integrity (e.g., academic offense, academic honor code violation, plagiarism, academic fraud).

In addition, a violation of NCAA rules occurs when this misconduct involves institutional staff and a student-athlete. Unethical conduct by a prospective or enrolled student-athlete or a current or former institutional staff member may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Refusal to furnish information relevant to an investigation of a possible violation of an NCAA regulation when requested to do so by the NCAA or the University of Florida.
- Knowing involvement in arranging for fraudulent academic credit or false transcripts for a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete.
- Knowing involvement in offering or providing a prospective or an enrolled student-athlete an improper inducement or extra benefit or improper financial aid.

- Knowingly furnishing the NCAA or the University of Florida false or misleading information concerning your involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of an NCAA regulation.
- Receipt of benefits by an institutional staff member for facilitating or arranging a meeting between a student-athlete and an agent, financial advisor, or a representative of an agent or advisor (e.g., “runner”).

If academic misconduct is found to have occurred, severe consequences can result for student-athletes, institutional staff members, the athletic program as a whole and the University of Florida.

Lesson 3: General Eligibility Requirements

Five-Year Rule

A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport and in Division I, shall complete his or her seasons of participation within five calendar years from the beginning of the semester or quarter in which the student-athlete first registered for a minimum full-time program of studies in a collegiate institution.

For purposes of starting the count of time under the five-year rule, a student-athlete shall be considered registered at a collegiate institution when the student-athlete initially enrolls in a regular term of an academic year for a minimum full-time program of studies and attends the student's first day of classes for that term.

Redshirt

This term applies to a student-athlete who does not represent the institution against outside competition and is not charged with a loss of a season of competition. During a redshirt year, a student-athlete may practice, travel to away from home contests and still not be charged with the loss of a season of competition as long as the student-athlete does not engage in outside competition.

Medical Hardship

A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions:

- (A) One of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition at any two-year or four-year collegiate institution; and
- (B) Prior to the completion of the first half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport; and
- (C) When the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable for that sport) or 30 percent (whichever number is greater) of the institution's scheduled completed contests or dates of competition in his or her sport.

Transfer Regulations

The general principle states that a student who transfers to a member institution from any collegiate institution is required to compete one full academic year of residence at the certifying institution before being eligible to compete for or to receive travel expenses unless the student satisfies the transfer requirements specific to his/her situation or receives an exception or waiver as set forth by the NCAA.

A student-athlete transferring from another four-year collegiate institution would be eligible to compete immediately if he or she qualifies for a One-Time Transfer Exception. Student-athletes in the sports of football, men's and women's basketball and baseball are not eligible for the One-Time Transfer Exception.

Lesson 4: Student-Athletes and Money

A student-athlete must meet applicable NCAA, conference and institutional regulations to be eligible to receive financial aid. An institution may also provide a student-athlete financial aid that includes the cost of tuition and required institutional fees. Student-athletes may also be employed, receive outside scholarships, government grants and student loans.

Athletic Scholarships

There are no guaranteed four-year athletic scholarships in Division I, II or III. An athletic scholarship is awarded for one academic year. It may be renewed each year for a maximum of five years within a six-year period.

A full scholarship includes tuition and fees, room and board, required course-related books, and other expenses related to attendance at the institution up to the cost of attendance.

The renewal of a scholarship based in any degree on athletics ability shall be made on or before July 1 prior to the academic year in which it is to be effective. The institution shall promptly notify in writing each student-athlete who received a scholarship during the previous academic year and who has eligibility remaining in the sport in which financial aid was awarded whether the scholarship has been renewed or not renewed for the upcoming year. Notification of renewals and non-renewals must come from the institution's financial aid office and not from the athletics department.

If the institution decides to reduce or not to renew athletic scholarship for the ensuing year, the institution's financial aid authority shall notify the student-athlete in writing of the opportunity for a hearing. The written notification of the opportunity for a hearing shall include a copy of the institution's established policies and procedures for conducting the required hearing, including the deadline by which a student-athlete must request such a hearing.

Employment

A student-athlete may be employed on or off campus at any time under the following conditions:

- a. The student-athlete's compensation does not include remuneration for value or utility that the student-athlete may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame or personal following that he or she has obtained because of athletics ability;
- b. The student-athlete is compensated only for work actually performed; and
- c. The student-athlete is compensated at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.

Lesson 5: Agents and Amateurism

General Rule

An individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if he or she has ever 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. Further, an agency contract not specifically limited in writing to a sport or particular sports shall be deemed applicable to all sports and the individual shall be ineligible to participate in any sport.

Representation for Future Negotiation

An individual 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

An individual shall be ineligible if he or she (or his or her relatives or friends) accepts transportation or other benefits from:

- (a) 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
- (b) 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.

Professional Sports Counseling Panel

The Professional Sports Counseling Panel is a **free** service provided to all student-athletes and parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of student-athletes at the University of Florida.

The Professional Sports Counseling Panel is authorized by the NCAA and its members are appointed by the President of the University of Florida. Members of the Panel provide valuable information and unlimited assistance to student-athletes and their families in evaluating and interviewing prospective agents and their representatives.

The Professional Sports Counseling Panel is charged with the responsibility of helping student-athletes and their families make the transition from college-level play to the professional ranks.

Amateurism

A student-athlete will lose their 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, except that prior to collegiate enrollment an individual may accept prize money based on his or her place finish or performance in an athletic competition;
- 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;
- Subsequent to initial full-time collegiate enrollment, enters into a professional draft or an agreement with an agent
- Enters into an agreement with an agent (oral or written).

Lesson 6: Benefits, Gifts & Services

Under NCAA rules, a student-athlete is not allowed to receive an extra benefit that is not available to the general student body. An extra benefit is defined as any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of athletics interest (booster) to provide a student-athlete, prospect, or their relatives or friends a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

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

- Providing cash or loans in any amount, or signing or co-signing for a loan.
- Providing gifts of any kind, including birthday cards and holiday gifts.
- Providing special discounts for goods and services (e.g., car repairs, legal services, haircuts, tattoos).
- Providing free or reduced rent or housing.
- Providing an honorarium to a student-athlete for a speaking engagement.

Examples of benefits that the NCAA allows institutions to provide their student-athletes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Four (4) complimentary admissions per home or away contest to a student-athlete in the sport in which he or she participates.
- General academic counseling and tutoring services.
- Medical expense benefits incidental to a student's participation in intercollegiate athletics.
- Housing and meal benefits incidental to a student's participation in intercollegiate athletics.
- Transportation expenses for a student-athlete to return home in a situation in which a student-athlete's immediate family member or guardian suffers a life-threatening situation.

Lesson 7: Sports Wagering/Gambling

The following individuals shall not knowingly participate in sports wagering activities or provide information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition:

- (a) Staff members of an institution's athletics department;
- (b) Non-athletics department staff members who have responsibilities within or over the athletics department (e.g., chancellor or president, faculty athletics representative, individual to whom athletics reports);
- (c) Staff members of a conference office; and
- (d) Student-athletes.

University of Florida's Compliance Mission Statement

The mission of the Compliance Office is to advance the University of Florida's uncompromising and enthusiastic commitment to the highest standards and principles of ethical behavior and strict adherence to the letter and spirit of NCAA rules.

Lesson 8: Initial Eligibility Requirements

Definitions

- Full Qualifier: A college-bound student-athlete may receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice and compete in the first year of enrollment at the Division I college or university.
- Academic Redshirt: A college-bound student-athlete may receive athletics aid (scholarship) in the first year of enrollment and may practice in the first regular academic term (semester or quarter) but may NOT compete in the first year of enrollment. After the first term is complete, the college-bound student-athlete must be academically successful at his/her college or university to continue to practice for the rest of the year.
- Nonqualifer: A college-bound student-athlete cannot receive athletics aid (scholarship), cannot practice and cannot compete in the first year of enrollment.

Requirements

Full Qualifier

1. Complete 16 core courses
 - a. Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
 - b. Seven of the 10 core courses must be English, math or science.
2. Have a minimum core-course GPA of 2.300;
 - c. Grades earned in the 10 required courses required before the senior year are “locked in” for purposes of GPA calculation.
 - d. A repeat of one of the “locked in” courses will not be used to improve the GPA if taken after the seventh semester begins.
3. Meet the competition sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score; and
4. Graduate from high school.

Academic Redshirt

1. Complete 16 core courses
2. Have a minimum core-course GPA of 2.000;
3. Meet the academic redshirt sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score; and
4. Graduate from high school.

Nonqualifer

1. A college-bound student-athlete who fails to meet the standards for a qualifier or for an academic redshirt.

Core Courses

16 Core Courses

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher)
- 2 years of Natural/Physical Science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
- 1 year additional course in English, mathematics, or natural or physical science
- 2 years of Social Science
- 4 years of additional courses (from any of the above areas, foreign language, or comparative religion/philosophy)

NCAA Division I Sliding Scale

| DIVISION I | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| FULL QUALIFER SLIDING SCALE | | |
| Core GPA | SAT | ACT Sum |
| | Reading/Math | |
| 3.550 | 400 | 37 |
| 3.525 | 410 | 38 |
| 3.500 | 420 | 39 |
| 3.475 | 430 | 40 |
| 3.450 | 440 | 41 |
| 3.425 | 450 | 41 |
| 3.400 | 460 | 42 |
| 3.375 | 470 | 42 |
| 3.350 | 480 | 43 |
| 3.325 | 490 | 44 |
| 3.300 | 500 | 44 |
| 3.275 | 510 | 45 |
| 3.250 | 520 | 46 |
| 3.225 | 530 | 46 |
| 3.200 | 540 | 47 |
| 3.175 | 550 | 47 |
| 3.150 | 560 | 48 |
| 3.125 | 570 | 49 |
| 3.100 | 580 | 49 |
| 3.075 | 590 | 50 |
| 3.050 | 600 | 50 |
| 3.025 | 610 | 51 |
| 3.000 | 620 | 52 |
| 2.975 | 630 | 52 |
| 2.950 | 640 | 53 |
| 2.925 | 650 | 53 |
| 2.900 | 660 | 54 |
| 2.875 | 670 | 55 |
| 2.850 | 680 | 56 |
| 2.825 | 690 | 56 |
| 2.800 | 700 | 57 |
| 2.775 | 710 | 58 |
| 2.750 | 720 | 59 |
| 2.725 | 730 | 60 |
| 2.700 | 740 | 61 |
| 2.675 | 750 | 61 |
| 2.650 | 760 | 62 |
| 2.625 | 770 | 63 |
| 2.600 | 780 | 64 |
| 2.575 | 790 | 65 |
| 2.550 | 800 | 66 |
| 2.525 | 810 | 67 |
| 2.500 | 820 | 68 |
| 2.475 | 830 | 69 |
| 2.450 | 840 | 70 |
| 2.425 | 850 | 70 |
| 2.400 | 860 | 71 |
| 2.375 | 870 | 72 |
| 2.350 | 880 | 73 |
| 2.325 | 890 | 74 |
| 2.300 | 900 | 75 |
| 2.299 | 910 | 76 |
| 2.275 | 910 | 76 |
| 2.250 | 920 | 77 |
| 2.225 | 930 | 78 |
| 2.200 | 940 | 79 |
| 2.175 | 950 | 80 |
| 2.150 | 960 | 81 |
| 2.125 | 970 | 82 |
| 2.100 | 980 | 83 |
| 2.075 | 990 | 84 |
| 2.050 | 1000 | 85 |
| 2.025 | 1010 | 86 |
| 2.000 | 1020 | 86 |

ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

Lesson 9: Continuing Eligibility

Progress Towards Degree

To be eligible to represent the University of Florida in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.

| Entering <u>Second</u> Year of Collegiate Enrollment | Entering <u>Third</u> Year of Collegiate Enrollment | Entering <u>Fourth</u> Year of Collegiate Enrollment | Entering <u>Fifth</u> Year of Collegiate Enrollment |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 semester credits • 1.8 cumulative GPA (90% of UF's 2.0 cumulative required GPA for graduation) • A maximum of six semester hours remedial courses may be used in the first year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% of degree requirements • 1.9 cumulative GPA (95% of UF's 2.0 cumulative required GPA for graduation) • Declaration of degree program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60% of degree requirements • 2.0 cumulative GPA (100% of UF's 2.0 cumulative required GPA for graduation) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of degree requirements • 2.0 cumulative GPA (100% of UF's 2.0 cumulative required GPA for graduation) |
| <p>* Six semester hours toward degree program during the preceding semester *</p> <p>* 18 semester hours of academic credit during the preceding regular two semesters *</p> <p>(hours earned during the summer may NOT be used to fulfill these two requirements)</p> | | | |

Good to Know

Regaining Eligibility

A student-athlete, who does not meet Progress Towards Degree requirements, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully completing the requirements during the current semester (*Baseball see exception below)

Exception—Final Academic Year of Degree Program—Six-Hour Requirement

A student-athlete who is in the final academic year (final two semesters) of his or her designated degree program may use credit hours acceptable toward any of the institution's degree programs to satisfy the six-hour requirement, provided the institution certifies that the student is enrolled in courses necessary to complete degree requirements at the end of the two semesters. Thereafter, the student shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student completes all degree requirements during the final two semesters and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Minor

Effective August 1, 2017, credit hours earned or accepted toward a minor, including a voluntary or optional minor (a minor that is not a required element of the original baccalaureate degree program for all students) may be used to satisfy the credit-hour requirements after the first two years of enrollment, provided the minor is officially designated (pursuant to institutional policy) by the student-athlete by the beginning of the applicable term.

Missed Term

One time during a student-athlete's entire period of collegiate enrollment, the provisions of the 18-semester credit hour requirement (may be prorated at NINE hours per term of actual attendance if the student-athlete misses a complete term or consecutive terms during an academic year, subject to the following conditions:

1. The student-athlete engaged in no outside competition in the sport during the academic term or terms in which the student was not in attendance; and
2. At the time of certification, the student has fulfilled the progress-toward-degree requirements for the terms in which the student was in attendance.

Graduate Student Exception

A graduate student-athlete shall be exempt from the Progress Toward Degree requirements, except the student-athlete shall successfully complete a minimum of six-semester hours of academic credit during each regular academic term in which the student is enrolled full time as a graduate student at any collegiate institution

Minimum GPA

- A student-athlete who is entering his or her 2nd year of collegiate enrollment shall present a cumulative minimum GPA of 1.8 (90% of UF's required 2.0 cumulative GPA required for graduation)
- A student-athlete who is entering his or her 3rd year of collegiate enrollment shall present a cumulative minimum GPA of 1.9 (95% of UF's required 2.0 cumulative GPA required for graduation)
- A student-athlete who is entering his or her 4th or later year of collegiate enrollment shall present a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.0 (100% of UF's required 2.0 cumulative GPA required for graduation)

Sport Specific Rules

- In football, a student-athlete must complete at least NINE-semester hours of academic credit during the fall term and earn the Academic Progress Rate (APR) eligibility point for the fall term in order to be eligible to compete in the first FOUR contests against outside competition in the following season (additional exceptions apply for potential to earn eligibility back)
- In baseball, a student-athlete who does not meet required progress toward degree requirements at the beginning of an institution's fall term and fails to meet the requirement based on the student-athlete's academic record in existence at that time shall not be eligible during the remainder of the academic year.

Lesson 10: NCAA Rules Pertaining to Faculty and University of Florida Staff

The NCAA has strict guidelines pertaining to faculty interaction with currently enrolled student-athletes as well as prospective student-athletes (recruits). It is very important that all university faculty and staff be informed of these basic rules to ensure that no violations occur that might affect the reputation of the University of Florida and potentially affect any student-athlete's educational and athletic endeavors.

Extra Benefits

As a basic principle, enrolled student-athletes are not permitted to receive any extra benefits from University of Florida faculty and staff. What is an extra benefit? The NCAA defines an extra benefit as, "any special arrangement by an institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletics interests to provide a student-athlete or the student-athlete's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Receipt of a benefit by student-athletes or their relatives or friends is not a violation of NCAA legislation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution's students or their relatives or friends or to a particular segment of the student body (e.g., international students, minority students) determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability." Basically, an extra benefit is anything that you give to a student-athlete based on his or her status as a student-athlete that you would not generally provide to other students.

Below are examples of extra benefits (please note this list is not an all-inclusive list):

- The use of a copy machine or typing services that are not available to the general student body;
- Providing any transportation or the use of an automobile to an enrolled student-athlete;
- Purchasing meals, drinks, or snacks for any student-athletes;
- Allowing a student-athlete to charge long-distance phone calls or faxes from UF equipment;

Recruiting

In the case of prospective student-**athletes** (recruit), faculty and staff members are not permitted to have off-campus contact or to recruit on behalf of the athletic department. At the University of Florida, we like to say, "Leave the recruiting to the people that do it best—the coaches!" Also, it is never permissible for any university employee or staff member to provide a prospective student-**athlete** with any improper benefit or inducement to persuade them to attend the University of Florida.

Below are examples of recruiting that the NCAA has deemed IMPERMISSIBLE by UF faculty and staff (please note this list is not an all-inclusive list)

- Contact a prospective student-**athlete** in-person on-campus or off-campus;

- Contact a prospective student-**athlete** by telephone, e-mail, letter, or social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, etc.);
- Provide gifts or free or reduced-cost services to a prospective student-**athlete** or the prospective student-**athlete's** relatives/guardians;
- Become directly or indirectly involved in making arrangements for a prospective student-**athlete** or the prospective student-**athlete's** relatives or guardian to receive money or financial aid of any kind;
- Provide any material benefit (e.g., meals, cash) to the coach of a prospect, including high school, two-year college, AAU and summer team coaches;
- Provide free or reduced-cost tickets for a prospect or the prospect's relatives or guardian to attend an athletic event.; or
- Provide transportation for a prospect or the prospect's relatives or guardian.

There is a fine line between recruiting on behalf of the University of Florida as an academic institution and recruiting on behalf of the athletic department. Below are some examples that can help demonstrate the difference:

Situation 1:

You are presenting to a high school class as part of your role as a professor at the University of Florida. After your presentation, you are approached by a student that says he is really interested in attending the University of Florida. The conversation leads to you talking to him about how to apply to UF, advice on extracurricular activities that will help him stand out above everyone else, and general information about UF's academic and research opportunities.

Is this permissible?

YES, this is permissible because even though you are recruiting, you are recruiting for UF as an academic institution.

Situation 2:

However, let's continue with this example and say that after you are done presenting, you are approached by a student that mentions that he is interested in attending the University of Florida, but he also mentions that he is a football player and wants to attend a school where he can receive an athletic scholarship and play football.

Is this permissible?

No, this is not permissible because the conversation any conversations about athletics can lead to impermissible contact and recruiting on behalf of the athletic department. Our advice would be to avoid this type of conversation as it may lead to impermissible recruiting for the athletic department. However, you may direct the student to contact the athletic department on their own to express their interest in attending UF and playing football.

Situation 3:

You are attending your son's high school basketball game. After the game your son introduces you to his friend on the opposing team. Your son mentions that his friend is interested in attending UF. You respond by saying that UF is a great academic and research institution that offers more than 100 undergraduate majors. You also mention that if he needs any help or advice on the application process to contact you.

Is this permissible?

Yes, this is permissible because again, the conversation is strictly about UF's academics.

Situation 4:

However, let's continue with this example and say that when you are introduced to your son's friend he mentions that the basketball program is currently recruiting him, as he is a four star prospect. In response, you then ask what other schools he is interested in attending. He mentions other schools in the state of Florida, as well as other SEC schools. You respond by saying that UF's basketball team is one of the best in the country, having won five SEC regular season titles and two national championships.

Is this permissible?

No, this is not permissible because the situation is now geared more towards UF's basketball program and it may appear that you are recruiting the prospective student-**athlete** to attend UF to help the basketball team.

You are hosting a dinner party and your daughter brings some of her soccer teammates. One of her teammates mentions that she is being recruited by UF and is going to the game on soccer game on Friday, but doesn't have anything to wear. You respond by telling the teammate that your daughter has some old Gator t-shirts that she can have.

Is this permissible?

No, because once she mentions that she is being recruited by the soccer program, you cannot give her anything to encourage or persuade her to attend UF, even something as small as an old Gator t-shirt.