Division II
Progress Toward Degree
Fundamental Introduction

Jennifer Smith
Eric Mayes

Agenda

- Session outcomes.
- Learning objectives.
- Case studies.

Session Outcomes

- Leave with a clear understanding of:
  - Basic progress-toward-degree legislation.
  - Application of basic progress-toward-degree legislation.
  - Basic path to graduation information.
Learning Objectives

› Understand general progress-toward-degree legislation, including triggers.
› Increase understanding of basic progress-toward-degree legislation by working through progressive case study.
› Develop a basic understanding of the upcoming changes to the progress-toward-degree legislation.

Why Progress Toward Degree?

Progress Toward Degree

› Maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.
› In general, the application of progress-toward-degree requirements is interpreted at each member institution by the academic authorities who determine the meaning of such for all students (subject to conference or NCAA legislation).
  • Institution determines if the legislation is being met.
Good Academic Standing

- As defined by each member institution.
- Could be more stringent depending on individual institutional policy.
  - [e.g., minimum grade–point average (GPA)].
- Interpreted by the institution’s academic officials who determine the meaning for all students.

NCAA Bylaw 14.02.6

Eligibility for Aid and Practice

- During each academic year in which the student-athlete (SA) is enrolled full time, after his or her initial year in residence or after the use of one season of eligibility.
  - Based on the rules of the institution and its member conference(s).

Bylaw 14.4.2

Eligibility for Competition

- Six–Hour Requirement.
  - Six hours of academic credit in the preceding regular full time term in which the SA was enrolled at any collegiate institution.
  - Must be transferable degree credit for any SA transferring into the institution from another two–year or four–year institution.
  - Note, other transfer requirements in 14.5 apply.

Bylaw 14.4.3.1 (a)
Eligibility for Competition

- Six-Hour Requirement Exceptions.
  - Final academic year of degree program.  
    Bylaw 14.4.3.1.6.1
  - Cooperative education and study abroad.  
    Bylaw 14.4.3.3.11
  - Graduate-student exception.  
    Bylaw 14.4.3.4 (d)

Case Study

- Samantha is a soccer student-athlete.
- Samantha enrolled full time at the institution in the 2011 fall term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Term</th>
<th>Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Hours Completed</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2.875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Institution has a minimum GPA of 2.000 to be declared in good academic standing.

Case Study

- Is Samantha eligible for competition in the 2012 spring term?
- Yes.
  - Samantha is meeting the requirements for good academic standing.
  - Samantha passed six hours of academic credit in the 2011 fall term.
Eligibility for Competition

- Degree Applicable Hours.
  - During first two years of enrollment.
  - Beginning of fifth semester/seventh quarter.

Bylaw 14.4.3.1.6

Eligibility for Competition

- 12/24-Hour Requirement.
  - Applies to the following SAs:
    - Midyear transfer;
    - Following the completion of his or her first academic year in residence; and
    - Used one season of competition.

Bylaw 14.4.3.1 (b)

Eligibility for Competition

- 12/24-Hour Requirement.
  - Actual method.
    - Completion of 24-semester or 36-quarter hours.
      - Since the beginning of the previous fall term; or
      - Since the beginning of the certifying institution’s preceding two regular semesters or three quarters.

Bylaw 14.4.3.1 (b)
Is Samantha eligible for competition at the conclusion of the 2012 spring term?

- Actual Method.
  - Fa11 (15) + Sp12 (9) = 24.
  - Yes.

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**Eligibility for Competition**

- 12/24-Hour Requirement.
  - **Averaging method.**
    - Completion of an average of 12 semester/quarter hours before each fall term.
    - Includes each academic term during any academic year in which the SA is enrolled in a term or terms.
    - Credit hours earned by a SA may be used only if the SA is held accountable for that academic term in the averaging calculation.

Bylaw 14.4.3.1 (b)
Bylaw 14.4.3.1.3

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Term</th>
<th>Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Hours Completed</th>
<th>Eligible?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 spring term</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Is Samantha eligible for competition at the conclusion of the 2012 spring term?

- Averaging Method.
  - Fa11 (15) + Sp12 (9) = 24/2 = 12.
  - Yes.
Is Samantha eligible for competition in 2013 fall term?

- Actual Method.
  - Fall 12 (15) + Sp13 (6) = 21.

No.

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<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012 fall term</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 spring term</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility for Competition

- 75/25 Rule.
  - Must earn at least 75% of the minimum number of semester or quarter hours during the regular academic year.
  - Must earn no more than 25% of the minimum number of semester or quarter hours during the summer.
Is Samantha eligible for competition in 2014 spring term?
- Actual method.
  - Sp13 (6) + Fall 13 (12) = 18.
- No.

Is Samantha eligible for competition in 2014 spring term?
- Averaging method.
  - Averaging method can only be used to certify a SA at the beginning of the fall term.
- No.

Is Samantha eligible for competition in 2014 fall term?
- Actual method.
  - Fall 13 (12) + Sp14 (9) = 21.
- No.
Is Samantha eligible for competition in 2014 fall term?

- Averaging method:
  -fall 11 (15) + sp12 (9) + fall 12 (15) + sp13 (6) + fall 13 (12) + sp14 (9) = 66.
  -Academic Terms = 6.
  -66 hours/6 academic terms = 11.

  No.

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<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 spring term</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 spring term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Is Samantha eligible for competition in 2014 fall term?

- Actual method:
  -Fall 13 (12) + sp14 (9) + su14 (3) = 24.

  Yes.

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<td>No</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 spring term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 summer term</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade–Point Average

- 24 semester/36 quarter hours = 1.800.
- 48 semester/72 quarter hours = 1.900.
- 72 semester/108 quarter hours = 2.000.

Bylaw 14.4.3.2
Grade–Point Average

Triggers for GPA requirements.

- Applies to the following student-athletes:
  - Midyear transfer;
  - Following completion of first academic year in residence; and
  - Used one season of competition.

Bylaw 14.4.3.2.3

When is GPA certified?

- Prior to fall term.
  - If eligible in fall, eligible for the academic year.
    - Even if they reach the next hour requirement during the year?
  - Ineligible in fall?
    - SA can be recertified midyear.

How is GPA calculated?

- Institutions policy for calculating GPA for ALL students.
- Includes all credit hours that are on the transcript.

Bylaw 14.4.3.2.1 and 14.4.3.2.2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Term</th>
<th>Hours Completed</th>
<th>Required GPA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 spring term</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 spring term</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 fall term</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014 spring term</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 summer term</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What GPA does Samantha need?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Term</th>
<th>Hours Completed</th>
<th>Required GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Has not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>triggered PTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 spring term</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2012 fall term</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.80</td>
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<td>2013 spring term</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2014 summer term</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using Credits to Meet Progress Toward Degree

- Advanced placement/credit by examination.
  Bylaw 14.4.3.3.3

- Nontraditional Coursework from Other Institutions.
  Bylaw 14.4.3.3.4

- Can a student-athlete take a full-time load of nontraditional courses?
  - Yes, must be considered full time and degree seeking by institution.
Remedial, Tutorial and Noncredit Courses

- May be used if they meet the following:
  - Must be considered prerequisites;
  - Must be considered toward full-time status;
  - Noncredit courses may not exceed the maximum institutional limit;
  - Shall not take more than 12 semester or 18 quarter hours; and
  - Must be taken in first academic year of collegiate enrollment.

Bylaw 14.4.3.3.5

Remedial, Tutorial and Noncredit Courses (continued)

- Applicable interpretation.
  - Remedial, tutorial and noncredit courses taken the summer following initial enrollment may be used to meet progress-toward-degree requirements.

Official Interpretation: 9/1/10

Incomplete Grades

- Must follow institution’s regulations;
- Counted only once after acceptable grade has been achieved;
- Counted in term according to institutional policy; and
- If no policy, can be counted in either the term it was taken or when grade was achieved.

Bylaw 14.4.3.3.6
Repeated Courses

- Course repeated due to unsatisfactory grade may be used once after satisfactorily completed.
- Credit for a course that may be taken several times is limited by institutional regulations.
- May not exceed maximum institutional limits.
  
  Bylaw 14.4.3.3.7

Cooperative Educational, Work Experience and Study–Abroad Programs

- Six-hour rule is not applicable.
  Bylaw 14.4.3.3.11
- What about full-time enrollment?
  - SA can practice and compete while enrolled in these programs provide institution considers SA full time.
  Bylaw 14.1.7.1.5

Exceptions to PTD

- Missed term.
- Midyear enrollment.
- Nonrecruited, nonparticipant.
- Grad student.
- Two-year nonparticipation.

Bylaw 14.4.3.4
Waivers

- Administered at the conference office.
  - Medical absence.
  - International competition.
- Administered at the NCAA national office.
  - Medical absence for independent institutions.
  - International competition for independent institutions.
  - Other waivers: Olympic games, education–impacting disabilities, other mitigation.

Path to Graduation

The review focused on the following:

- The academic readiness of prospective student-athletes;
- The success of student-athletes once enrolled at a collegiate institution with a focus on graduation and not year-by-year eligibility checks;
- The opportunity for access to athletically related financial aid, practice and competition, and
- Administrative efficiency.
### Progress Toward Degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Institutional Policy</th>
<th>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</th>
<th>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</th>
<th>Twenty-four-semester/36-quarter</th>
<th>Grade-Point Average Options must be maintained each year to regain eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year One</td>
<td>Institutional Policy</td>
<td>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</td>
<td>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</td>
<td>24-semester/36-quarter</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>Institutional Policy</td>
<td>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</td>
<td>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</td>
<td>24-semester/36-quarter or 48-semester/72-quarter or 24-semester/36-quarter for Years 1 and 2 combined</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Designation of Degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Institutional Policy</th>
<th>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</th>
<th>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</th>
<th>Twenty-four-semester/36-quarter</th>
<th>2.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Three</td>
<td>Institutional Policy</td>
<td>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</td>
<td>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</td>
<td>24-semester/36-quarter</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four</td>
<td>Institutional Policy</td>
<td>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</td>
<td>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</td>
<td>24-semester/36-quarter</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five</td>
<td>Institutional Policy</td>
<td>Nine-semester/eight-quarter</td>
<td>Nineteen-semester/27-quarter</td>
<td>24-semester/36-quarter</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Path to Graduation

- Educational Initiatives.