

Embedding Academic Success

**NCAA Division I Board of Directors
Actions Taken During October 2011 Meeting
November 4, 2011**

Overview of Actions Taken by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors – October 2011

- Adopted increased initial-eligibility standards.
- Adopted increased two-year college transfer standards.
- Adopted changes to the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program, including eligibility for postseason competition.

Initial-Eligibility Standards: Academics as a First Expectation

New Initial-Eligibility Standard Practice and Athletics Aid

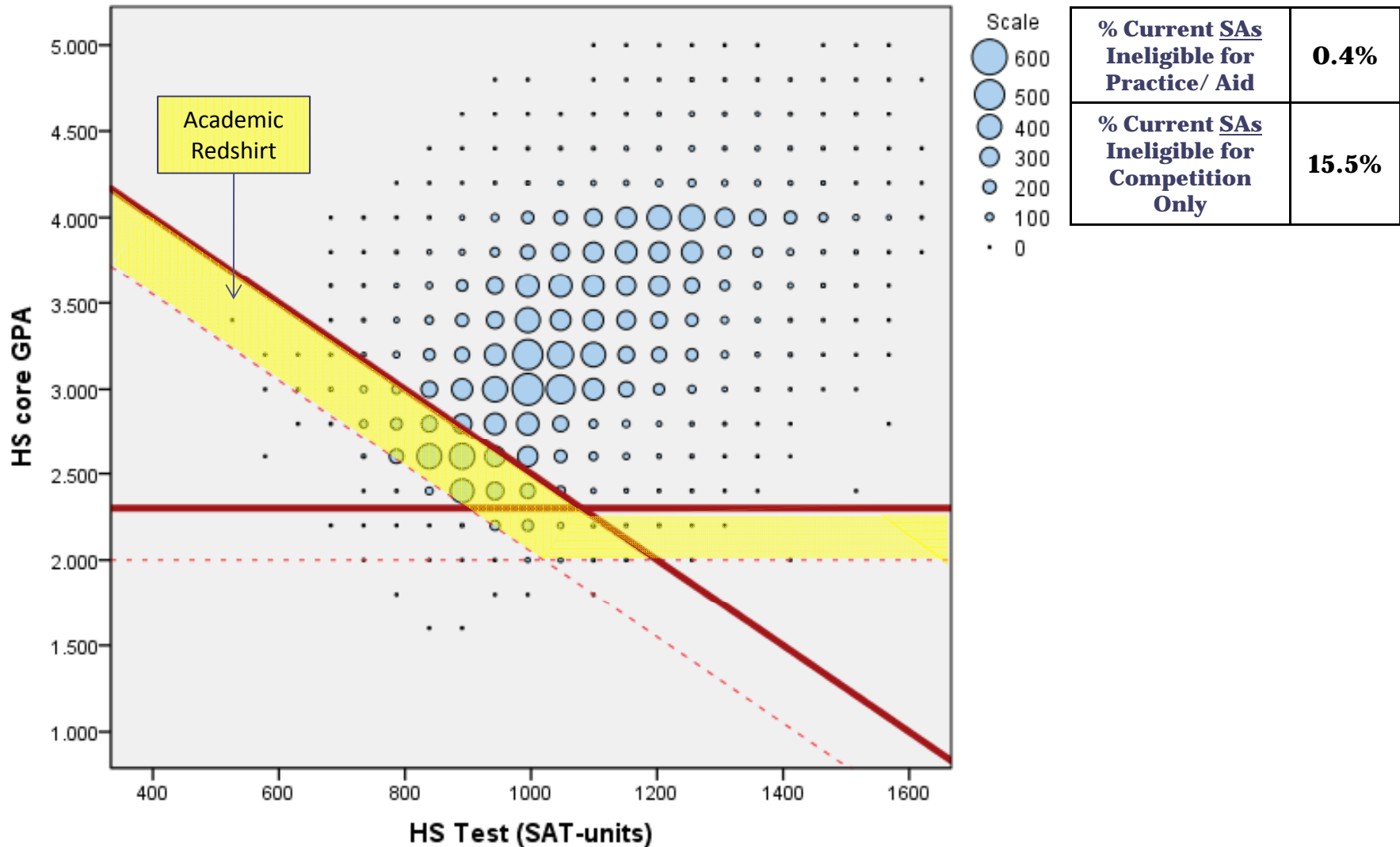
Adopted legislation in the area of initial eligibility, as outlined below:

- Require PSAs to meet the current qualifier standard for eligibility for practice during the first regular academic term and receipt of athletically related financial aid during the first year. Second semester (and second and third quarter) eligibility for practice based on successful completion of nine semester or eight quarter hours in the first regular academic term of enrollment.

New Initial-Eligibility Standard Competition

- PSAs must meet the following standard in order to compete in the first year of collegiate enrollment:
 - Obtain a core GPA/test score that is set at approximately one-half of a standard deviation below the national student body mean. This represents an increase from the current one standard deviation below the national student mean. The new sliding scale requires a high school core GPA to be approximately 0.5 GPA units higher for a given test score compared to the current qualifier standard (e.g., SAT of 1000 requires 2.5 high school core GPA for competition).
 - Obtain a minimum core GPA of 2.3 in the 16 core courses currently required.
 - Meet core-course requirements described in slide 7.

New Initial-Eligibility Standard Sliding Scale Elevated to ~0.5 SD Below National Mean; 2.30 Floor



Note: All SAs in yellow area would be ineligible for competition only. New sliding scale for competition requires HSCGPA \sim 0.50 units higher for given test score compared to current rule.

Core Course Progression Competition

- This requirement must be met in order to compete in the first year of collegiate enrollment.
- Students must successfully complete 10 core courses *prior to* seventh semester (or equivalent) of high school.
- Seven of the 10 core courses must be successfully completed in English, math and natural/physical science.
- These core courses (and grades) must be used in calculating the core GPA for purposes of meeting the sliding scale and GPA minimum.

Timeline for Implementing New Standards

- New initial-eligibility standards are effective for students entering any collegiate institution full time on or after of August 1, 2015.

Early Academic Qualifiers

- Continuation and enhancement of early academic certification for prospective student-athletes after six semesters of high school.
- Details to be finalized over the next year.

Two-Year College Transfer Standards

Academic Success as a First Expectation

Two-Year College Transfers

- Adopted NCAA Division I Proposal Nos. 2011-69 and 2011-70 sponsored by the NCAA Division I Academic Cabinet.
- New transfer requirements effective for students initially enrolling full time in any college on or after August 1, 2012. New waiver subcommittee effective April 1, 2012.
- Allowed Proposal No. 2011-65 (academic year of readiness) to continue in normal legislative cycle, which could result in Board approval in January or April 2012.

Two-Year College Transfers

- Proposal Nos. 2011-69 and 2011-70 include:
 - Increase the minimum transferable GPA for eligibility for competition to 2.5, from the current 2.0.
 - Permit use of no more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses in all sports to meet requirements.
 - Require completion of three semester or four quarter credits hours of transferable natural/physical science credit for nonqualifiers.
 - Modified the NCAA Division I Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers Committee structure so that it accommodates requests for waivers to these requirements.

Academic Performance Program

**Team Success
and
Academic Accountability**

Access to Postseason Competition

- Established 930 Academic Progress Rate (APR) as a minimum academic standard to participate in postseason competition. Transition to this benchmark to occur over next three years.
- Postseason includes all postseason events conducted after last regular season contest or end of conference tournament (e.g., includes bowl games, NIT, WNIT, etc.).
- Denied access to postseason includes individual competitors for teams not meeting academic standard.
- Appeals/waivers via penalty structure process.

Mission Filter for Postseason Access Only

- **Mission Filter:** Institution is in bottom 15% of resources as defined by the current Committee on Academic Performance policy AND the team's most recent four year Graduation Success Rate (GSR) is 50% or higher.
 - ❑ Filter provides relief only to access to postseason competition, not to Level One, Two or Three penalties.
 - ❑ This filter is only available the first time a team is below the penalty benchmark. A team that is below the penalty benchmark for a second occasion and beyond would not be permitted to use this filter and would therefore be ineligible for postseason competition.
 - ❑ The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)/Lower Resource Advisory Group to the Committee on Academic Performance will be given an opportunity to provide feedback on this filter and offer possible modifications.

Improvement Filter for Access to Postseason Competition

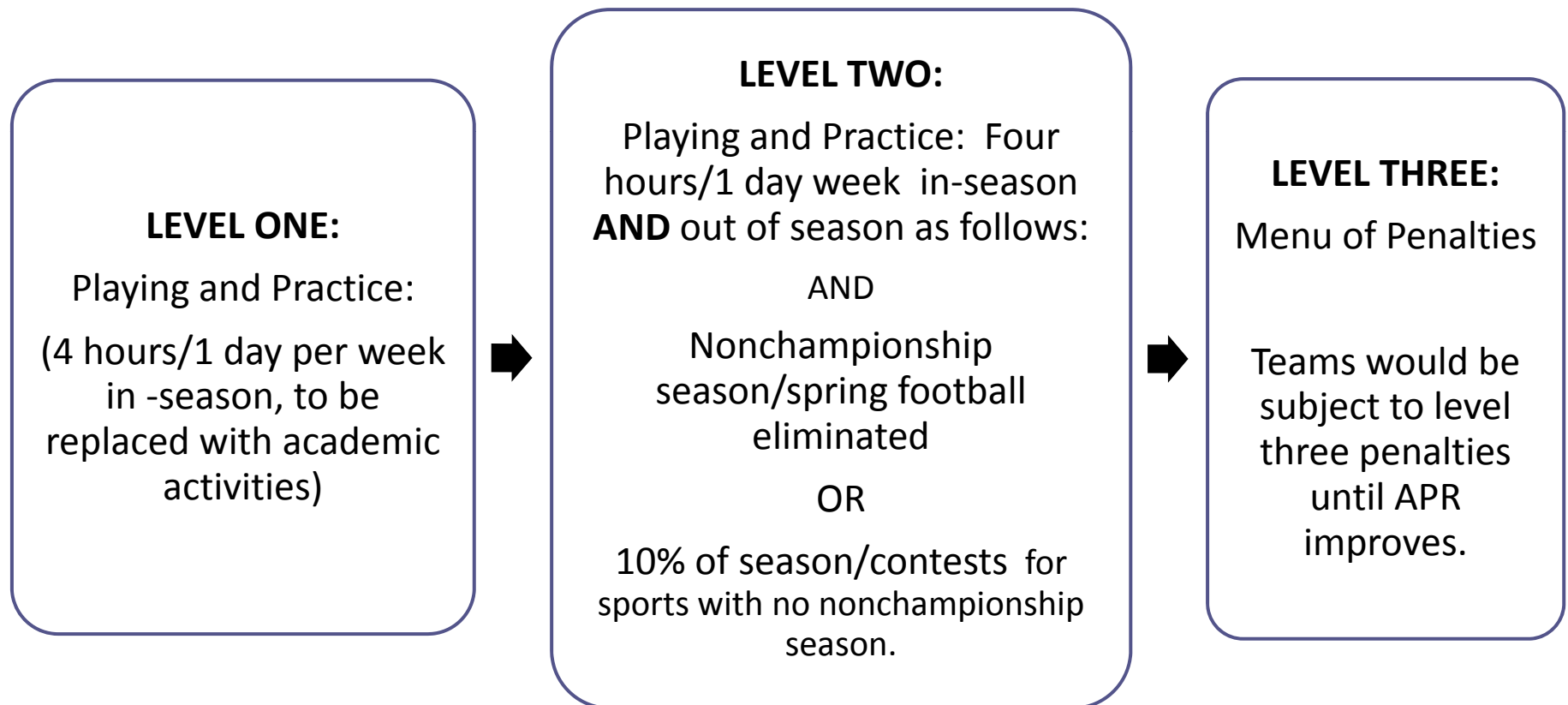
Improvement filter for teams that have demonstrated meaningful improvement, defined as:

- Team must have an average APR of 950 over the two most recent years to demonstrate meaningful improvement.
- This filter only applies the second time and beyond that a team is subject to postseason ineligibility.

Conference Policy Regarding Postseason Restriction

- Requires that conferences adopt a written policy regarding teams subject to a postseason restriction with respect to the conference's automatic qualification for postseason/championships and revenue distribution.
- Allows conference to develop its own policy. Simply requires that a written policy exist.

NEW PENALTY STRUCTURE: THREE LEVELS



Note on the Ongoing Work of Other NCAA Working Groups

- Financial aid penalties were removed at the earliest levels of the penalty structure. The committee may revisit this recommendation based on outcomes from other working groups.
- At Level Two, currently the committee has a variety of nonchampionship season penalties. If the concept of reducing or eliminating the nonchampionship season progresses, the committee will revisit these penalties.

Penalty Structure: Level One

Level One:

- Reduction by four hours/one day of practice per week in-season. Results in 16 hours per week rather than 20 and five days per week rather than six.
- Must be replaced by academic activities.

Penalty Structure: Level Two

1. Reduction of four hours/one day of practice per week in-season.
 - Must be replaced by academic activities.
2. Reduction of four hours of practice per week out-of-season.
 - Must be replaced by academic activities.
3. Cancellation of nonchampionship season or spring football.
4. For sports without nonchampionship season, 10% reduction in contests and length of season.

Penalty Structure: Level Three

Menu of Penalties

Teams would be subject to Level Three menu of penalties repeatedly until APR improves

Menu options:

- Financial aid penalties (any amount, any type).
- Practice penalties (Reduction of four hours/week and up).
- Contest reductions (10% up to full season).
- Restricted and corresponding membership.
- Coach-specific penalties, including game restrictions, recruiting restrictions.
- Restricted access to practice for incoming student-athletes that fall below pre-determined academic standards.
- Multiyear postseason competition ban.

Three “Clean” Years Concept Penalty Structure

- The current policy that allows teams to “reset” back to Occasion/Level One only after three years in which no penalties are assessed would continue to apply in the new penalty structure.
- The new penalty structure is cumulative and progressive consistent with the current structure.

Improvement Filter for Penalty Levels Two and Three

Improvement filter for teams that have demonstrated meaningful improvement, defined as:

- Team must have a 950 APR average over the two most recent years to demonstrate meaningful improvement.
 - ❑ Does not apply to Level One penalties – applies to Level Two and Three penalties only.




Access to Championships

Access to championships – effective 2012-13
(see slide #26 for details of transition)

New penalty structure – effective 2012-13
(see slide #27 for details of transition)




- Data used – for 2012-13.
 - 2010-11.
 - 2009-10.
 - 2008-09.
 - 2007-08.

APR Benchmarks during Transitional Phase for Access to Postseason

Championship/Postseason Competition Year	Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason	Two Most Recent Years Average APR to Avoid Ineligibility for Postseason
2011-12	Status Quo – current penalty structure and benchmarks apply.	N/A
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR 	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR 	Two most recent years average at or above 930
2014-15	Four-Year APR of 930 or higher OR 	Two most recent years average at or above 940
2015-16 and beyond	Four-Year APR of 930 *Improvement Filter applies the second time and beyond a team is subject to postseason ineligibility. This filter requires two most recent years average at or above 950.	N/A

Note: Mission filter applies only the first time a team is subject to postseason ineligibility.

APR Benchmarks during Transitional Phase for Level One, Two, Three Penalties

Championship/Postseason Competition Year	Multiyear APR to Avoid Ineligibility Level One, Two, Three Penalties	Improvement Filters
2011-12	Status Quo.	Status Quo.
2012-13	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR 	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.
2013-14	Four-Year APR of 900 or higher OR 	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.
2014-15 and beyond	Four-Year APR of 930 or higher OR 	Level One = None. Levels Two and Three = Two most recent years APR average of 950 or higher.

* Mission filter does not apply to Level One, Two, Three penalties.

** Improvement filter does not apply to Level One penalties, only to Level Two and Three penalties.

Waivers/Appeals Process

- Access to Postseason - First Occasion Team Below Penalty Benchmark / Level One Penalties:
 - Staff makes initial decision on any submitted waiver.
 - Institution may appeal to the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Performance Subcommittee on Appeals “on paper.”
 - Relief provided only for extraordinary mitigation. Expect few, if any, waivers to be granted.
- Access to Postseason - Second Occasion Team Below Penalty Benchmark / Level Two Penalties:
 - Staff makes initial decision on any submitted waiver.
 - Teleconference appeals with institution and the Committee on Academic Performance Appeals Subcommittee.
 - Relief provided based on waiver directive.

Waivers/Appeals Process

- Access to Postseason - Third Occasion Team Below Penalty Benchmark / Level Three Penalties:
 - Institutions are required to submit proposed penalties from menu of options (e.g., self-imposed). Staff makes initial decision.
 - If staff is unable to make decision or decision is not accepted, institution appears at an in-person Committee on Academic Performance hearing.
 - Relief provided based on waiver directive.
 - Appeals reviewed by NCAA Division I Board of Directors Academic Performance Program Historical Penalties Appeals Subcommittee.

APR Improvement Plans

- Will be required immediately for all teams under 930 multiyear APR.
- Plans must include element that assesses and evaluates team's academic admissions profiles and academic outcomes with resulting institutional changes.

Timing for Announcing/Taking Penalties

Board approved continuation of the current data collection and penalty announcement process.

- Data submitted in fall, opportunity for waivers in winter/spring and announcement after last postseason event.
- Penalties taken in next academic year.

Committee on Academic Performance will continue to study the feasibility of a more rapid collection and turn around of data to expedite the timing of the announcement of APRs.

Teams Transitioning within Penalty Structure

- Teams will be reset to Level One of new penalty structure, except for those teams that have already been subject to Historical Penalties Occasion Two penalties. Teams that have previously been subject to Occasion Two penalties will continue to move through the penalty structure (i.e., to Level Three penalties if do not experience three “clean” years).
- Teams that are subject to the new penalty structure based on submission of 2010-11 data AND that have already been subject to Historical Penalties Occasion Two penalties would immediately be subject to the Level Three menu of penalties, and possible in-person hearings in spring 2012.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Advisory Group

- Approved a Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Group to assist on issues that impact HBCU institutions.

Questions/Comments may be directed to:

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