



This tipsheet is intended to provide a basic summary of NCAA rules information concerning NCAA rules that apply to a "Representative of the University of South Carolina Athletics. Please remember to contact the Compliance Office if you have any questions as the applicable NCAA, SEC and USC rules change over time.

"Booster" Defined

An individual is a representative of USC athletics interests, commonly known as a "booster," if the individual meets any of the following conditions:

- The individual is a member of any agency or organization that promotes the USC athletics program.
- The individual has made a financial contribution to USC athletics or its booster organizations.
- The individual has assisted in the recruitment of prospects for USC.
- The individual has provided benefits (e.g., jobs, occasional meals) to enrolled student-athletes.
- The individual has purchased season tickets for any USC athletics program.
- The individual has ever, in any way, promoted the athletics program at USC.

Once an individual or organization becomes a booster, the individual or organization retains that identity indefinitely.

What Does It Mean To Be A Booster?

Boosters are subject to specific restrictions under NCAA rules. Among other things, boosters are prohibited from doing the following:

- Providing any extra benefits to current or prospective student-athletes or their families or friends.
 - As a reminder, an extra benefit is any benefit not expressly permitted by NCAA rules and includes meals, transportation, and tickets.
- Contacting prospective student-athletes or their parents for the purpose of recruiting.
- Paying a current or prospective student-athlete to appear at an event or speaking engagement.
- Employing student-athletes unless:
 - a) the employment has been approved by the Office of Compliance Services,
 - b) the student-athlete is paid only for work actually performed; and
 - c) the student-athlete is paid consistent with the going rate for similar services and receives only those benefits provided to similarly situated employees.

Remember, once an individual is identified as a booster, he/she retains that identity forever. Boosters are bound by NCAA, Southeastern Conference and University of South Carolina rules. As a result, boosters are responsible for notifying the University of South Carolina Office of Compliance Services of any potential rules violations. Even if a violation is unintentional, the eligibility of a prospective student-athlete (recruit) or enrolled student-athlete could be placed in jeopardy.