

## Inside this

2025-26 Eligibility Waiver
Exam Week Reminder
The REAL ID Act
Eligibility Center Reminders
Is This Permissible?
Recruiting Calendars

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# Focus of the Month

#### 2025-26 ELIGIBILITY WAIVER

The NCAA released a Q&A document to provide guidance on the waiver to permit student-athletes who attended and competed at a non-NCAA school for one or more years to remain eligible to compete in the 2025-26 academic year.

Who does the waiver apply to?

- DI athletes who enrolled full time and used at least one season of competition at a non-NCAA institution and would have otherwise used their final season of competition during the 2024-25 academic year. The student-athlete must still meet all other eligibility requirements.
- The waiver does NOT apply to student-athletes who only attended NCAA institutions; they must have attended a non-NCAA institution for at least one year in order to be eligible.

What does the waiver do?

 The waiver allows student-athletes who meet the above criteria to be eligible to compete in the 2025-26 academic year, provided the student-athlete is otherwise academically and athletically eligible.

#### **EXAM WEEK REMINDER**

Final exams will take place from Monday, April 28th through Thursday, April 25th.

- For in-season sports, daily and weekly CARA limits apply during the final exam period.
- For out-of-season sports other than football, CARA is prohibited for the week prior to exams (April 21st—April 27th) and during the exam period.

#### THE REAL ID ACT

The REAL ID Act goes into effect May 7, 2025. After this date, every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID-compliant identification form to board commercial aircraft. A license or ID card is REAL ID-compliant if it has a star logo in the top right.

Other acceptable forms of ID can be found here:

https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification

#### **ELIGIBILITY CENTER REMINDERS**

On April 1st, PSAs enrolling in Fall 2025 can begin requesting final amateurism in their EC accounts. On May 1st, high school guidance counselors can begin uploading proof of graduation to the EC for domestic and international PSAs.

#### Is This Permissible?

Bunny Hopkins is a star track long jumper at Carrot University. She is looking to transfer and has posted the following message on Instagram:

First I want to thank everyone at Carrot who has helped me get to where I am today. The relationships I have built here will last a lifetime. With that said, I would like to announce that I am transferring out of Carrot with 2 remaining years of eligibility.

A coach at Spring University sees the post and immediately direct messages Bunny to inquire her interest in transferring to Spring. However, Bunny has not actually signed her written notification of transfer and has not been entered into the transfer portal at Carrot University.

Is this permissible?

<u>NO</u>. It is impermissible to contact student athletes at other institutions before they have entered the transfer portal. The coach at Spring should have checked with their compliance office to confirm Bunny was in the portal before contacting her (13.1.1.4).

#### **APRIL RECRUITING CALENDARS**

<b>Contact Period</b>	Quiet Period	<b>Evaluation Period</b>	Dead Period	Recruiting Shutdown
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W	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL*							
Su	М	Tu	w	Th	F	Sa		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

MEN'S BASKETBALL							
Su	Gu M Tu W Th F						
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

ALL OTHER SPORTS							
Su	Su M Tu W Th F Sa						
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

	FOOTBALL								
Su	М	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa			
		1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30						

	VOLLYBALL							
Su	M Tu W Th F Sa							
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

#### For Women's Basketball

- 4/1-4/2: Contact period for seniors and two-year college PSA's only.
   Evaluation period for other PSAs for scholastic events only.
- 4/24 & 4/28: Dead period for high school and two-year college PSA's only.
- 4/25-4/27: Evaluations permitted at NCAA certified non-scholastic events only.