

PENN STATE ATHLETICS COMPLIANCE OFFICE



NCAA Rules & Extra Benefits

NCAA Rules & Extra Benefits – 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 interest ("booster") to provide a student-athlete a benefit that is not generally available to other students or, is not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation. Therefore, please be aware of the following:

1. All the restrictions that are applicable to student-athletes also apply to the parents, family and friends of student-athletes.
2. NCAA extra benefit restrictions continue to apply after a student-athlete exhausts eligibility in their sport and / or graduates.
3. Transportation provided to a student-athlete or a student-athlete's family is a significant risk area. Examples include boosters or fans providing transportation to the parents of a student-athlete to attend away games, permitting the use of a car on a temporary basis and funding or providing transportation for a student-athlete to return home during vacation periods.
4. A student-athlete cannot accept free or reduced cost room and/or board from any University employee or booster of its athletic programs. This would preclude a student-athlete from "house sitting" without paying rental costs at a comparable rate for similar housing in that locale.
5. Current student-athletes may receive benefits from former student-athletes when the involved individual were previously on the same team and the items being provided are similar in nature to the items the two exchanged while they were teammates.
6. A student-athlete may not accept free or reduced cost storage room for personal belongings for the summer months from any employee or booster of the University's athletic programs.
7. A student-athlete cannot accept free or reduced merchandise or services from any merchant unless that free or reduced cost item is also available to the general public.
8. A student-athlete cannot use a Department of Athletics copy machine, fax machine or make long distance phone calls using departmental equipment except as permitted by NCAA rules.
9. Members of the Department of Athletics staff or an athletic booster are not permitted to type reports, papers, letters, etc., for a student-athlete, even if the student-athlete pays for such services.
10. A Penn State employee or booster cannot provide a student-athlete with a loan of money, a guarantee of bond, or serve as a co-signer in any loan arrangement for a student-athlete or his / her parents.
11. Student-athletes may accept frequent flier miles awarded in conjunction with institutionally funded air travel. However, miles or points may not be gained through institutionally funded non-flight activities, such as hotel stays.
12. On infrequent, special occasions (e.g., a birthday, Thanksgiving, etc.), a student-athlete may accept an invitation from an employee of the University for a meal. Meals provided by University employees may take place at any location, while meals provided by boosters are limited to that booster's home or the PSU campus.
13. An employee may provide a student-athlete only reasonable and occasional local transportation (i.e., within a 30-mile radius of the University campus). However, a PSU employee may not utilize a University vehicle for purposes of assisting the student-athlete's move from one residence to another.

The acceptance by a student-athlete of any of the above extra benefits is a violation of NCAA regulations and places the student-athlete's eligibility for intercollegiate competition in immediate jeopardy. It is extremely important for you to know and abide by all NCAA regulations. Please always ask before you act!!