



MOUNTAIN WEST MEDIA CREDENTIAL CRITERIA

(Excluding Football, Men's & Women's Basketball)

Guidelines.

- Requests for credentials should be made by the assigning editor or news/sports director from legitimate news-gathering agencies.
- Agencies shall direct requests for working media credentials through the media Coordinator/Conference communications contact, depending on the championship.
- Media seating preference will be given to applications that are received by the posted application deadline.
- Individuals will need to display a government-issued ID at credential distribution when picking up approved credentials.
- Issued credentials are non-transferable and must always be worn in a visible manner.
- Credentials WILL NOT be issued to spouses, guests, or children of media members; persons writing or gathering material for books and/or documentaries; representatives of syndicated television or cable programmers who are not producing programs for immediate news coverage (i.e., to air within 48 hours); social media only entities; podcasts which do not fall under credential policies and guidelines listed below; agents; scouts and other representatives of professional organizations and publications devoted solely to gambling.

Eligible Media.

Subject to space limitations, a "media agency" for the purposes of these criteria shall mean a daily or weekly publication, cable system, radio station, television station or television network, or online entity requiring immediate news coverage. Immediate news coverage for purposes of these criteria shall mean that the editorial, audio and/or visual deadline for the championship action being documented occurs not later than 48 hours after the competition at the site has been completed.

Subject to limitations of space, credentials shall be assigned as follows:

- A representative of a national newspaper (e.g. with circulation greater than 60,000).
- A media agency in the geographic area of the host city.
- A media agency in the geographic area and/or locale of a participating institution that has staffed its games on a consistent basis throughout the season.
- Individuals certified by a participating institution who will represent specific campus-related entities.

- The designated representative of a national television, cable system, radio network, or radio station that originates a daily “sports talk” program and daily circulation newspapers that do not otherwise meet the aforementioned criteria.
- Reporters and photographers from national publications, online entities, broadcast networks, and wire services that cover collegiate sports consistently on a national basis.
- An online entity that covers the respective sport at the collegiate level on a consistent basis with exclusive content.
- Participating team flagship radio networks.
- Full-time reporters representing international agencies that regularly cover the sport.
- Media agencies in the geographic area and/or locale of a participating institution that have staffed its contests on a consistent basis throughout the season.
 - Online writers, daily print reporters, and photographers from the local host and participating team markets who regularly cover collegiate athletics (i.e., credentialed and cover the vast majority of a participating or host institution’s home games).
 - Individuals certified by a participating institution who will represent specific campus-related entities (e.g., student newspapers, television stations, and radio stations) that are affiliated with a participating or host institution. Credentials may be issued to three individuals, plus three photographers, certified by the director of athletics or designated representative of each participating and host institution, who will be the sole representatives of all such campus media organizations.

Television.

Subject to limitations of space, television credentials shall be assigned as follows:

- An individual or crew designated by a national television network or cable system that originates daily sports news programs.
- An individual or crew from a television affiliate in the geographic area of the host city.
- An individual or crew from the locale of a participating institution that has regularly staffed its games throughout the season.
- An individual or crew, certified by a participating institution, who will represent campus-related entities.

Photographers.

Subject to limitations of space, photography credentials shall be assigned as follows:

- A photographer from a media outlet that covers the collegiate sport consistently on a national basis.
- A photographer from a media agency in the geographic area of the host city.
- A newspaper photographer from the locale of a participating institution that has consistently staffed its games throughout the season.
- A photographer, certified by a participating institution, who will represent campus-related entities.

Online.

Subject to limitations of space, credentials for online entities shall be assigned as follows:

- An online entity may receive a credential only if its own staff writes an overwhelming percentage of that site's material.
- The website is regularly credentialed and covers the sport at the college level on a consistent basis.
- The official website of a competing institution, as approved by that school's sports information department.

Miscellaneous.

- Having been credentialed for previous Mountain West championships or major events does not automatically qualify an agency or individual for credentials.
- Freelance reporters or photographers will not be credentialed unless they are working under a specific assignment. Credential applications must be submitted by the sports editor, sports director/producer, photo editor or participating institution representative.
- At the discretion of the media coordinator, a minority media enterprise that does not meet established criteria may receive one media credential, space permitting. A "minority media enterprise" shall mean a media agency that regularly covers collegiate athletics and provides coverage to individuals socially or economically disadvantaged from cultural, racial or chronic economic circumstances, or other similar cause.
- Membership in a writers' or broadcasters' association (e.g., United States Basketball Writers Association) does not automatically qualify an agency for credentials.