

MISSION OF THE VIRGINIA TECH ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

Virginia Tech Athletics is committed to excellence, both academically and athletically, and to the personal development of our student-athletes. In the spirit of Ut Prosim, we stand together to serve and represent our university and community with integrity and respect.

INTRODUCTION

Compliance with NCAA and ACC rules is a shared responsibility requiring the support of numerous constituencies both on and off campus. Directing this cooperative effort, the Virginia Tech Athletics Compliance Office staff:

- Educates key groups and stakeholders about relevant NCAA and ACC regulations;
- Coordinates policies and procedures to effectively meet these regulations; and,
- Implements systems to monitor the effectiveness of these policies and procedures.

NCAA rules dictate that Virginia Tech is responsible for the actions of its coaches, administrators, staff, student-athletes, alumni, fans, and friends. Even inadvertent violations can result in penalties for our student-athletes and the University. So please, ask before you act.

The information included hereafter is an overview of Division I intercollegiate athletics compliance. It is not an exhaustive. If you have any questions about any NCAA, ACC or Virginia Tech regulations, please contact a member of the Compliance Team for assistance.

VIRGINIA TECH ATHLETICS COMPLIANCE DIRECTIVE

In an effort to maintain full compliance with NCAA and ACC legislation, as well as meet its obligation to the principle of Institutional Control, Virginia Tech has developed the following blueprint for its Athletics Compliance Program:

- Develop and implement operating systems designed to meet applicable NCAA regulations.
- Clearly articulate the policies and procedures which comprise these systems.
- Delineate the responsibilities of those individuals impacted by these systems.
- Educate the involved constituencies regarding relevant regulations.
- Monitor the performance and success of the operating systems to ensure that the goal of full compliance is constantly pursued.
- Prioritize, enhance and fine-tune the systems, policies, and procedures, whenever necessary, to maximize effectiveness and efficiency.

EXTERNAL REVIEW

Additionally, so that the effectiveness of these systems, policies, and procedures will not be measured solely by the athletics department, Virginia Tech has committed itself to an extensive program of external review. This review process provides an opportunity for the inclusion of individuals outside of the athletics department in the evaluation of the compliance program and the formulation of compliance-related goals. This program consists of:

- Annual review by the University's Office of Internal Audit, focusing on the major components of athletics compliance (recruiting, eligibility, financial aid, rules education) on a four-year cycle. This report is forwarded to the Board of Visitors and the Office of Management Services.
- Annual review by the University Athletics Committee (Compliance Subcommittee). This report is forwarded to the President, Provost, and the Commission on Undergraduate Studies.
- Compliance reviews conducted by the ACC staff scheduled in accordance with NCAA expectations.

INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL

To help ensure the proper level of Institutional Control, we have established partnerships with key University offices external to the athletics department, including the:

- Student-Athlete Academic Support Services (Liaisons: entire staff)
- Registrar's Office (Liaisons: Rebecca Jones and Clyde Cridlin)
- Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid (Liaisons: Dawn Brown)
- Office of Admissions (Liaisons: Michael James)
- Bursar's Office (Liaisons: Kelly Perkins)
- Each of these partnerships relies on the work of designated liaisons, who are educated regarding those NCAA rules and regulations which are relevant to their area of responsibility.

TEAM CONCEPT

Utilizing a Team Concept, individuals with compliance-related duties in the same general area have been identified as members of a specific "team." Team members combine efforts and share information in order to complete various compliance-related issues and tasks:

- Eligibility Certification Team
- Financial Aid Team
- Recruiting Team
- External Team

These teams work together on behalf of the University and in many cases across departmental lines to help Virginia Tech meet its goal of full compliance, and to remain true to its compliance mission.