



2023-2024 ELIGIBILITY PROCESS

To the Certifying Official or Registrar,

These instructions are to assist you in completing the eligibility process for the U.S. Collegiate Ski & Snowboard Association (USCSA)'s 2023-2024 season. All Team Eligibility Report(s) must be certified by the institution to ensure the team meets its academic eligibility for competition with the USCSA. Your role in the eligibility process is crucial for fair competition.

Every Wednesday during the registration season, Team Contacts (usually the team's captain or president) receive a status report that includes their Team Roster(s) and uncertified Team Eligibility Report(s). The Team Roster contains academic information that each registered competitor submitted during the registration process. The USCSA is not able to certify if the records provided in the Team Roster are accurate, which is why this step with the registrar is critical for eligibility verification. We ask that you review and certify the Team Eligibility Report in order for each student athlete to be eligible to compete for the season, and then submit the certified Team Eligibility Report(s) directly to the USCSA.

Process for the registrar:

1. The Team Contact will submit their Team Eligibility Report(s) to you, along with these guidelines. (If you request that each competitor sign an Individual Academic Eligibility Release Form, the Team Contact should submit those signed Forms as well.)
2. Read the highlights below before reviewing the Team Eligibility Report(s).
3. On the Team Eligibility Report(s), check the "NOT ELIGIBLE" box if you find any academic circumstances that deem a student ineligible.
4. Cross out items or information provided on the Team Eligibility Report(s) that may be inconsistent with current university records. Please write in corrections to stated records, if needed to certify.
5. Sign the Team Eligibility Report(s) and apply the institution seal or stamp to certify official review of competitor eligibility.
6. Return ONLY the certified Team Eligibility Report(s) (not the Individual Academic Eligibility Release Forms) to the USCSA electronically through the Send Safely secure platform: <https://www.sendsafely.com/u/registration@uscsa.org>.

Please contact registration@uscsa.org with any questions.

Thank you,

Collin Casper
Vice President of Academic Affairs

Meegan Moszynski
Managing Director

ELIGIBILITY HIGHLIGHTS

Your role as the certifying official is an important part of each athlete's ability to compete. Listed below are some important highlights of the USCSA eligibility rules that will assist you in validating the academic standing of your students. This section does not cover all of the rules. Each team is responsible for understanding and confirming the eligibility of each of its members.

1. Each athlete must be enrolled as a **full-time student** during the competition season. NCAA Division II Rules 14.01.2 and 14.1.7.
2. Each athlete has 10-Semesters/15-Quarters of full-time collegiate enrollment during which to use **four years** of eligibility. This starts with the initial semester or quarter enrolled full-time in school. NCAA Division II Rule 14.2.2.
3. **Freshmen** competitors must follow the NCAA freshman qualifier rules. NCAA Division II Rule 14.3.1.1. Registrars should consult with their admissions department to confirm records.
 - a. Minimum **high school** grade-point average (GPA) of 2.20 as outlined in the NCAA Division II Rule 14.3.1.1.3.
 - b. Minimum combined score on the SAT verbal/critical reasoning and math sections of 840 or a minimum sum score of 70 on the ACT prior to March 1, 2016. Tests taken after March 1, 2016 would need to follow the concordance table outlined in NCAA Division II Figure 14-3. As of the most recent publication, the new combined SAT minimum would need to be 920.
4. Each athlete must maintain a minimum satisfactory **cumulative grade-point average (GPA)** of 2.000 prior to the beginning of each fall term. NCAA Division II Rule 14.4.3.5.
5. Each athlete must earn **9 semester hours or 8 quarter hours** of academic credit the preceding regular academic term in which the student-athlete has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution. NCAA Division II Rule 14.4.3.2.
6. Each athlete must be making "**normal progress**" in a degree program. A student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term or since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters. NCAA Division II Rule 14.4.3.3.
7. Each athlete must earn **24-semester or 36-quarter hours** of academic credit during any year in which the student-athlete is enrolled full time in at least one academic term. NCAA Division II Rule 14.4.3.4
8. The amount of **financial aid** awarded to a student athlete is limited to "institutional financial aid" which includes, but is not limited to: scholarships, grants, athletic aid, tuition waivers, and loans. NCAA Division II Rule 15.2.1
9. **Transfer students** may only use transfer credits accepted by the institution of which they are competing in determining eligibility. Transfer students may not be eligible to participate during their first year in attendance at the transferring university. (See NCAA Division II Rules to confirm eligibility status.) NCAA Division II Rule 14.5.
10. No **recruiting** from existing collegiate programs is allowed without prior written permission from the first institution. NCAA Division II Rule 13.1.1.2.
11. **Medical Hardship**: A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by USCSA's Academic Affairs Committee for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred when a competitor is injured

during the season and has competed in no more than one-quarter of the school's season of practices and meets prior to the injury. USCSA Rule 2.5.4.1.3.

12. The following are the Operating Bylaws of the NCAA Division II rules referenced in this document:

- a. Operating Bylaw, Article 13, Recruiting
- b. Operating Bylaw, Article 14, Eligibility: Academic and General Requirements
- c. Operating Bylaw, Article 15, Financial Aid

Eligibility Special Cases

Study Abroad Fall Term; Full-Time Spring Term

In these situations, the athlete is deemed eligible, and they would need to provide transcripts that show they are or were on a study abroad program, or a letter showing they have been accepted for the study abroad program. Study abroad is considered full-time enrollment.

Proof of Eligibility:

- Transcripts from Study Abroad Term OR
- Letter of Acceptance into Study Abroad Term

Part-Time Fall Term; Full-Time Spring Term

In these situations, the athlete initially will be deemed 'not eligible' because they are not full-time. However, they need to submit a transcript that shows the courses in which they are enrolled for the Spring Term, and that will allow us to deem them eligible.

Proof of Eligibility:

- Proof of enrollment in full-time course load in Spring Term (delayed registration)

Freshman Without Unofficial Transcript

These students need to show a transcript with the courses in which they are enrolled (without grades) and submit their high school transcripts in registration, per Freshman Eligibility in NCAA Division II rules. If these are students that are enrolled as 'second semester' starting students, then a transcript showing their initial course enrollment is also necessary. This should be available either once they have registered for the semester/quarter, or the start of the term.

Proof of Eligibility:

- High School Transcript, preferably included in their competitor registration
- Confirmation from registrar in full-time enrollment (grades not necessary)

Graduate Enrollment with Different Full-Time Requirements than Undergraduate

Full-time enrollment is defined by the university, and not technically the NCAA. If the number of units requirements for any grad program is less than that stipulated by the NCAA for full-time, then the university must provide a letter stating what the full-time requirements are for the grad school program at the university."

Proof of Eligibility:

- Letter from registrar confirming Full Time Requirements if less than stipulated by NCAA

Final Semester/Quarter

A student-athlete enrolled in their final semester or quarter may compete while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies. This is a one-time exception and may not be used again if the student-athlete does not end up graduating in that semester/quarter.

Proof of Eligibility:

- Confirmation from registrar that the student-athlete is carrying for credit the courses necessary to complete their degree and that they are enrolled in their final semester or quarter.