



Delayed Enrollment

After a prospective student-athlete's expected date of high school graduation, he or she has a certain amount of time (grace period) to continue sports participation before enrolling full time at any two-year or four-year collegiate institution. If the prospective student-athlete does not enroll at the first opportunity after the grace period **and** continues to participate in organized competition, he or she will use a season of NCAA eligibility for each calendar year during which the prospective student-athlete continues to compete. The prospective student-athlete may also be required to serve an academic year in residence (two full-time semesters or three quarters) at the NCAA school before becoming eligible to compete.

Grace Periods by Division and Sport

Sport	Division I Grace Period	Division II Grace Period
<i>Tennis (Men and Women)</i>	Six months	12 months
<i>Men's Ice Hockey</i>	21st birthday	Two years
<i>Skiing (Men and Women)</i>	21st birthday	Two years
<i>All other sports</i>	12 months	12 months

Examples:

- Callum is a men's soccer PSA with an expected high school graduation date of June 1, 2021. Callum's grace period for Divisions I and II ends on June 1, 2022. If Callum continues to compete in soccer matches after fall 2022, he will lose season(s) of competition and may have to sit out his first year at the NCAA school.
- Julia is a women's tennis PSA with an expected date of high school graduation date of June 1, 2020. Julia's grace period for Division I ends on November 1, 2020. If Julia competes in tennis matches after January 2021, she will lose season(s) of competition and may have to sit out her first year at the Division I school. Julia's grace period for Division II ends on June 1, 2021. If she continues to compete in tennis matches after fall 2021, Julia will lose season(s) of competition and may have to sit out her first year at the Division II school.

Certifying Delayed-Enrollment Legislation Compliance

The Eligibility Center requires the following to certify compliance of delayed-enrollment legislation:

- Your final expected date of high/secondary school graduation (all transcripts may be required).
- A [matriculation letter](#) (from the NCAA school recruiting you) identifying your initial full-time collegiate enrollment.
- The dates of every game, match or meet you competed in *after* your expected graduation date but *before* initial full-time collegiate enrollment.



NCAA rules may be different based on division, sport and/or timing (pre- or post-enrollment). If you have questions regarding your amateur status or NCAA legislation, contact the athletics compliance office at the NCAA institution recruiting you or the NCAA's public and legislative line at 877-262-1492.