ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
POLICY MANUAL

5-209 Athletic Policies

Revision Dates

11/19/2026, 9/27/2018, 9/27/2012, 5/26/1994, 9/9/1988, 4/25/1987, 5/31/1986, 3/12/1983 (adopted; effective 5/1/1983)

A. Purpose

Participation in and enjoyment of intercollegiate athletics are important components of the overall university experience and also provide valuable benefits to the communities in which universities are located. The Arizona Board of Regents is committed to promoting such participation and authorizes the universities under its control to operate programs of intercollegiate athletics on their respective campuses. These programs must be operated in an ethically and fiscally responsible manner and in compliance with the rules, regulations, and principles of the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA"), all other collegiate governing bodies and/or enforcement entities with jurisdiction over the universities, and the conferences of which the universities are voluntary members (collectively, "Applicable Rules"). Compliance with the Applicable Rules includes timely submission and filing of all disclosures mandated by the Applicable Rules. The Applicable Rules constitute minimum requirements; consistent with the board's plenary power to control and operate the universities, however, the board reserves the right to impose rules and regulations in addition to those set forth by the Applicable Rules.

B. Authority

Jurisdiction and control over the Arizona public universities is vested in the Arizona Board of Regents. These athletic policies are promulgated by the board in the exercise of such powers. The president of each university, who is ultimately responsible for the program on his/her respective campus, including approval of the budget and audit of expenditures of intercollegiate athletics must ensure that appropriate monitoring and control mechanisms are in place to fulfill these responsibilities. The university president and the athletic director shall review and approve the university's student-athlete code of conduct as part of these monitoring and oversight responsibilities.

C. Admission and Retention

1. Standards for admission to and retention of student status apply equally and without variation to athlete or non-athlete, and must be supervised, administered, and uniformly applied by the respective registrars and directors of admissions.

2. Each university must monitor student athlete academic progress and graduation rates annually.

3. University-wide programs for disadvantaged students shall be coordinated with special programs to assist similarly situated student athletes.

4. The universities will provide to the executive director of the board copies of the annual reports submitted to the NCAA and conferences regarding academic progress and graduation success rates of student-athletes. The executive director of the board will submit a summary of the university reports to the members of the board and will advise the board chair of any board actions needed.

D. Eligibility for Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics

1. Head coaches, the directors of athletics, and other university staff members must fully cooperate with their respective academic eligibility certification officers (e.g. registrars, faculty athletics representatives, compliance officers) in evaluating or verifying any issue of eligibility under the Applicable Rules, including providing any relevant information.

2. All student-athletes are subject to the same procedures and penalties as may apply to any student who misrepresents or falsifies status or circumstances either to be admitted to or enrolled at a university or to receive a benefit from the university. Student-athletes are subject to the same rules of conduct as all students. Additionally, student-athletes are subject to the university's student-athlete code of conduct and all Applicable Rules.

3. To be eligible for competition in intercollegiate athletics, a student-athlete must be making satisfactory academic progress and be enrolled in an academic program leading to a degree or other approved curriculum, as required by the Applicable Rules.

E. Financial Administration

1. Apart from revenues derived from permitted usage of institutional facilities, proceeds from university athletic events may not be shared with or divided between any interests other than those (1) of the participating organizations, (2) of conferences or conference members in accord with conference regulations, or (3) affiliated entities.

2. All contracts and agreements between a university and any athletic booster group that is not under the direct control and jurisdiction of the university itself must be approved by the university president. The contract or agreement may provide that annual external audits be required

and that copies of these audits be provided to the university administration.

3. The financial records of affiliated booster groups of the three universities must be open to examination and study by an examiner designated at each university by its president so that the receipts, expenditures, and any other relevant matters pertaining to these organizations may be ascertained.

F. Recruiting of Prospective Student Athletes

1. The universities may only attempt to interest eligible prospective student-athletes to enroll to the extent allowed by the Applicable Rules. Additionally, the following practices are also prohibited:

   a. The recruiting of prospective student-athletes solely on the basis of expected athletic prowess without due regard to character, demonstrated scholastic achievement, and other desirable qualities.

   b. Efforts to secure admission to the university of applicants with expected athletic prowess on standards different than those applicable to other prospective students, and.

   c. Efforts to secure the enrollment of prospective student-athletes in any of the universities by the offering of any inducements that do not conform with the standards and requirements of the university and of these policies.

2. All funds for the recruiting of prospective student-athletes must be deposited with the member institution. The university is exclusively and entirely responsible for the manner in which it expends the funds.

Policy History

3/12/1983 The Policy Manual was adopted by the Board to be effective 5/1/1983.

5/31/1986 Policy revision approved by the Board on second reading.

4/25/1987 Policy revision approved by the Board on second reading.

9/9/1988 Policy revision approved by the Board on second reading.

5/26/1994 Policy revision approved by the Board on second reading.

9/27/2012 Policy revision approved by the Board on second reading.

9/27/2018 Policy revised to reflect “Executive Director” in place of “President.”

11/19/2026 Policy revision approved by the Board on second reading.

Related Information

See 3/12/1983 meeting minutes.