

NCAA Rules for Eligibility

This page contains a summary of the NCAA rules for eligibility that are in effect at the start of the 2022-23 academic year. Students should check with the athletic department (or read the current Student-Athlete Handbook) to determine if there have been any changes in the rules.

Admissions Standards/Initial Eligibility Standards:

A student-athlete must have been admitted as a regularly-enrolled, degree-seeking student in accordance with regular, published entrance requirements of the institution. Special admissions are only permitted if the exceptions are set forth in an official document published by the University (at Stetson, the Catalog).

Freshmen must meet NCAA academic requirements. Certification of “qualifier” status is performed by the NCAA Eligibility Center. This certification is verified through Stetson’s eligibility certification process. While permissible by the NCAA, the Atlantic Sun Conference does not permit its members to award athletics scholarships to partial or non-qualifiers.

Continuing Eligibility Standards:

To maintain eligibility to practice and compete, all student-athletes must...

1. Maintain full-time enrollment (12 credits for undergraduates*).
2. Earn at least six credits in the preceding REGULAR academic term (football student-athletes must earn at least nine credits in each Fall semester).
3. Earn a minimum number of credits each year. Rising sophomores must earn 24 credits in the preceding (freshman) academic year, at least 18 credits of which must be completed during the regular academic terms (fall and spring). All other undergraduates must earn at least 18 credits in the preceding academic year.
4. Declare a major by the beginning of the third year of full-time enrollment (at this point, all credits used to satisfy continuing eligibility standards MUST be degree-applicable).
5. Maintain satisfactory progress toward a degree. Student-athletes must complete 40%, 60%, and 80% of degree requirements by the beginning of their third, fourth, and fifth years, respectively, of full-time enrollment. Satisfactory progress rules are first applied at the completion of two years of full-time enrollment.
6. Maintain a satisfactory GPA. The cumulative GPA must be 1.80 or better for those entering their second year of full-time enrollment, 1.9 or better for those entering their third year of full-time enrollment, and 2.0 or better for those entering their fourth year or beyond of full-time enrollment.

*-there are exceptions for undergraduate students in their last semester of enrollment and for graduate students.

Certification of continuing eligibility is performed by the Registrar's Office, Athletics Compliance and Academics Offices, Financial Aid Office and is also reviewed and approved by the Faculty Athletics Representative. Adherence to the "six credit" ("nine credit") and GPA rules is certified after both the Fall and Spring terms, as applicable. Adherence to the other continuing eligibility rules is certified annually, usually at the completion of the Spring semester (or at the completion of the Fall semester for students beginning initial full-time enrollment mid-year).