THE ACADEMIC PRIMER Summarizing NCAA academic matters.

## Why the Immediate Loss of Access to Postseason Competition?

- 1. The NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program (APP) allows a member school to demonstrate its commitment to an exemplary educational and college athletics experience for its student-athletes. The program helps schools support the academic mission and focus on the ability of student-athletes to earn a degree.
- 2. The multiyear Academic Progress Rate (APR) benchmark serves as a minimum threshold to both access postseason competition and avoid APP penalties. Teams should consider 930 as an access point to the postseason in the same way they look at competitive record and strength of schedule.
- 3. Teams lose access to postseason competition the first time they earn a multiyear APR below 930.
- 4. Under the structure prior to 2012, a team did not lose access to the postseason until it earned a multiyear APR below the benchmark for three years. However, this was not effective because team APRs generally did not improve until the threat of a lost postseason became real.
- 5. Since making an APR benchmark a requirement for access to the postseason, data show that teams that dip below the benchmark make improvements much faster to avoid future loss of postseason access.
- 6. Waivers to regain access to postseason competition are very difficult to obtain. Schools must demonstrate extraordinary mitigation, which the committee has established as clearly out of the control of the school, the athletics department and the team's student-athletes. This mitigation must have impacted the team over multiple years that comprise the four-year APR.

