

## HOW THE NCAA WORKS:

# Division II

Division II offers athletics scholarships and limits competitive and practice seasons to improve balance with student pursuits.

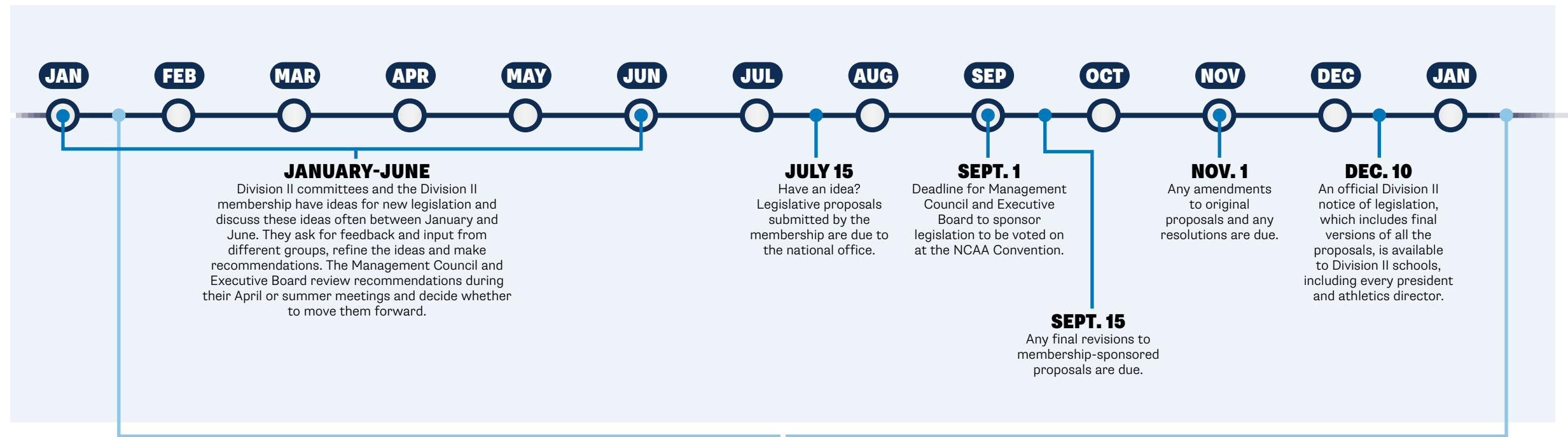
The 293 active member colleges and universities in Division II share a commitment to providing college athletes equal growth opportunities in academics, athletics, and campus and community engagement.

Division II schools generally spend less money on athletics than Division I schools and operate on a partial-scholarship model, in which more than 60% of the 126,000 Division II athletes receive some athletics-based financial aid. Full scholarships that cover all of a college athlete's expenses are uncommon in the division; often college athletes, like the rest of the student body, use a mix of academic scholarships, student loans and employment earnings to fund their education.

Division II prides itself on creating unique championship opportunities. During these championships, teams participate in community engagement efforts, a key component of Division II. Division II is the only division to host championship festivals, where multiple championships are held in the same city over several days. Division II's access ratio to championships is the best in the NCAA.

# DII Legislative Calendar and Convention Process

## Legislative Calendar



## Convention

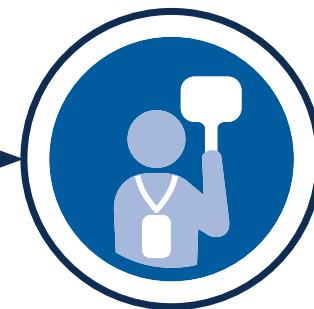
The NCAA Convention, held each year in January, is the finish line for all sponsored proposals in Division II. Delegates from every school and conference gather during a Convention business session to vote on each proposal.

Since the division was established in 1973, it has operated under a "one institution, one vote" model. But in 2016, for the first time, college athletes were added to the mix, with the national Student-Athlete Advisory Committee casting one vote.



### Proposed Legislation

New rules in Division II begin in one of two ways. Proposals can start in Division II committees and be sponsored by the governance structure. Proposals can also be sponsored by the Division II membership if 15 active member schools or two conferences sign on as a sponsor.



### Membership Votes

In most cases, Division II legislation requires only a simple majority vote of members present. Sometimes - such as in 2015, when the NCAA added beach volleyball as a championship sport - legislation applies to the entire Association, and each division must reach its own majority vote to pass.



### Legislation approved

Approved proposal takes effect on the date specified in the legislation, usually Aug. 1 of that year.

# NCAA Division II Governance and Legislative Process

## Start

New rules for Division II start here, with the schools and athletics conferences that make up the division's governance structure. No matter the idea - perhaps a university president wants to limit the length of a competition season or an athletics compliance administrator wants to change how the NCAA collects information from Division II campuses - it begins as a discussion topic in one or more Division II committees.

## DIVISION II COMMITTEES

### Academic Requirements Committee

Reviews academic standards and makes recommendations about initial and ongoing eligibility.

**11 Members:**  
**2** - from Management Council  
**1** - Representative from American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers  
**1** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee  
**1** - DII president/chancellor not on Executive Board  
**6** - DII personnel\*

### Championships Committee\*\*

Oversees the conduct and administration of the 25 Division II championships.

**13 Members:**  
**2** - from Management Council  
**2** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee  
**9** - DII personnel\*

### Committee for Legislative Relief

Makes final decisions on waiver requests in which no other committee or conference has authority.

**5 Members:**  
**1** - from Management Council  
**4** - DII personnel\*

### Committee on Infractions

Meets as needed to participate in hearings involving Division II schools accused of violating NCAA rules.

**7 Members:**  
**1** - from Management Council  
**1** - General public  
**5** - DII personnel\*

### Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement

Decides all matters related to reinstating a Division II college athlete's eligibility.

**6 Members:**  
**1** - from Management Council  
**1** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee  
**4** - DII personnel\*

### Infractions Appeals Committee

Hears and acts on appeals of decisions by the Committee on Infractions.

**5 Members:**  
**1** - from Management Council  
**1** - General public  
**3** - DII personnel\*

### Legislation Committee

Oversees certain bylaws, interprets Division II-specific legislation and considers wording for the NCAA Division II Manual.

**13 Members:**  
**2** - from Management Council  
**2** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee  
**9** - DII personnel\*

### Membership Committee

Reviews issues related to Division II membership, including status of incoming and continuing members.

**12 Members:**  
**2** - from Management Council  
**1** - Division II president not on the Executive Board  
**9** - DII personnel\*

### Nominating Committee

Suggests individuals who can fill vacancies on various Division II committees.

**11 Members:**  
**2** - from Management Council  
**9** - DII personnel\*

### Strategic Planning and Finance Committee

Recommends budget priorities to the councils. Oversees strategic plan.

**11 Members:**  
**2** - from Management Council, including the vice chair  
**1** - Executive Board member who serves as the vice chair  
**1** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee  
**1** - Conference commissioner  
**6** - DII personnel\*

Some legislation is proposed by the members themselves. In order to submit a proposal, 15 active Division II schools or two conferences must be sponsors. Those proposals go directly to the NCAA Convention for a vote, but Division II committees also discuss and take a position on those proposals.



Committees debate the ideas and decide whether to sponsor them as pieces of legislation. Next stop: Management Council, which considers the committees' recommendations.

### Administrative Committee

Takes action on issues that arise between meetings of the Management Council and Executive Board.

**5 Members:**  
**2** - from Executive Board  
**2** - from Management Council  
**1** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

The Management Council regularly reports to the Executive Board on its actions.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

The top leadership group in Division II is composed of college presidents and chancellors, independent members and student-athletes and establishes and directs general policy.

- » Implements policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors.
- » Establishes a strategic plan/strategic priorities for Division II.
- » If necessary, sponsors legislative proposals from the governance structure to be considered by members at the NCAA Convention.
- » Adopts emergency legislation.
- » Approves the Division II budget.
- » Provides comments and input to the Board of Governors on matters that impact Division II and the Association.

**13 Members:**  
**8** - Presidents or chancellors, each representing a DII championships region  
**1** - At-large president or chancellor  
**2** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee  
**2** - Independent members not salaried by an NCAA member institution, conference or affiliated member

The proposed rule, if forwarded by the Management Council to the Executive Board, can be sponsored for the Convention or adopted by the Executive Board.

## CONVENTION



Proposal



Membership votes



APPROVAL

## MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

By design, the Management Council is composed of individuals who have day-to-day knowledge of athletics operations.

- » Reviews and acts on recommendations from Division II and Association-wide committees.
- » Serves as the advisory group to the Division II Executive Board, handling the day-to-day affairs of the division.
- » Implements policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors and the Division II Executive Board.
- » Adopts noncontroversial legislation.
- » Sponsors legislative proposals from the governance structure to be considered by members at the NCAA Convention.

**29 Members:**  
**23** - 1 from each DII conference  
**4** - Membership at large  
**2** - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

### Student-Athlete Advisory Committee



Composed of college athletes who monitor and act on issues.

**28 Members:**  
**23** - 1 from each DII conference  
**3** - Membership at large  
**2** - from Management Council

\* DII personnel is a member school or conference administrator, faculty athletics representative or other person who works daily in college sports.

\*\* Each Division II championship sport has a committee made up of coaches and athletics administrators with knowledge of that sport. These committees rank and select teams and individuals for championships competition, plus recommend championship sites and dates.