

Patriot League Eligibility

1. First Year Student-Athletes: First year students are eligible for varsity competition.
2. Normal Academic Progress: All students participating in intercollegiate athletics must be enrolled full-time, making normal academic progress in an academic program leading to a first baccalaureate degree. (NCAA Bylaw 14.1.8.2.1.3 "Final Semester/Quarter" may be applied to a student-athlete enrolled during their final undergraduate semester {first 8 semesters only}).
Normal Academic Progress Waiver: Students who complete the first baccalaureate in less than eight semesters of full-time study may apply for exception to this rule if they continue full-time enrollment in a second baccalaureate or graduate degree program at the certifying institution. Normal Academic Progress Wavers must be approved in writing by the institution's President/Superintendent and reported to the Policy Committee to monitor compliance with the spirit of the rule.
3. Institutional Requirements: All students participating in intercollegiate athletics must meet the institutional requirements for participation published by each member institution.
4. Years of Eligibility: A student's normal years of eligibility shall be the first eight semesters (or term equivalent) after initial enrollment. "**Athletic redshirting**" (holding a student out of competition as an underclassman for the express purpose of saving a year of NCAA eligibility for a fifth year of enrollment) **is prohibited**. An extension of eligibility may be granted by a member institution at its discretion to a student who misses a season of competition as a result of serious injury, illness, or other causes beyond the student's control. Such exceptions will be reported to the Executive Director, prior to the season in question to assure that all NCAA requirements are met. These exceptions should be reported to the Executive Director over the signature of Institutional Chief Executive, and reviewed by the Policy Committee to monitor compliance with the spirit of the rule. In addition, gaining an added semester (or semesters) of eligibility will require that the student-athlete present a sound academic rationale for continuing in his or her academic program.
5. Transfer Student: Transfer students whose academic programs require a ninth semester/fifth year from the date of their first college matriculation will normally be eligible for athletic competition in the ninth semester/fifth year (assuming the student has met all other NCAA Division I criteria including the one-year waiting period). Such exceptions will be reported to the Executive Director, prior to the season in question to assure that all NCAA requirements are met. These exceptions should be reported to the Executive Director over the signature of Institutional Chief Executive, and reviewed by the Policy Committee to monitor compliance with the spirit of the rule.
6. Intra-League Transfers: **All sports, except basketball.** A recruited student-athlete who transfers from one Patriot League institution to another must complete a year in residence at the institution in which he/she transfers and cannot receive any athletically related aid (within need or above need) during the remaining years of eligibility at that institution. All other Patriot League eligibility policies regarding transfer students will continue to apply.
Basketball. In the sport of basketball, a student-athlete who transfers from one Patriot League institution to another must sit out TWO seasons before being eligible to play. However, if the student-athlete receives an NCAA waiver of the one-year residency requirement, the League basketball transfer rule will be waived.
7. Statistical Data: The member institutions of the Patriot League may share annual statistical data relating to academic eligibility, degree objectives, and graduation of students participating on intercollegiate teams.
8. Interpretations: Interpretation of, or exceptions to, the rules on eligibility will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Policy Committee.