

# *Athletic Training*

## **COACHING ACTIVITIES**

### **Countable Coach (11.7.1.1.1)**

An athletics department staff member must count against coaching limits as soon as the individual participates (in any manner) in the coaching of the intercollegiate team in practice, games or organized activities directly related to that sport, including any organized staff activity directly related to the sport.

#### **Interpretations:**

*Sports Psychologist/Use of Outside Consultants: In Division I, it is permissible for an institution's athletics department to employ a sports psychologist without including such an individual in the institution's coaching limitations in a particular sport, provided the individual does not engage in any on- or off-field coaching activities. (12/15/95 Staff).*

*Supervision of Voluntary Workouts: Voluntary participation by student-athletes in weight-training or conditioning programs utilizing the institution's facilities outside the institution's established playing season may be supervised both by members of the institution's strength and conditioning staff and athletics trainers. (1/31/90 LA Column)*

## **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

### **Medical Examination by Professional Team (12.2.1.2.1)**

A single scouting bureau recognized by a professional league is permitted to conduct one medical examination per student-athlete during the academic year without jeopardizing the student-athlete's eligibility in that sport, provided the examination does not occur off campus.

### **During Campus Visit (13.12.2.6.1)**

During a prospect's official or unofficial visit to campus, a member institution, through its regular team or other designated physician, may conduct a medical examination to determine the prospect's medical qualifications to participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided no athletics department staff member other than the trainer is present and the examination does not include any test or procedure designed to measure the athletics agility or skill of the prospect.

## ***Interpretations***

*Off-campus Medical Examinations* — *Athletics Trainers: It is permissible for an institution's athletics trainer to visit a high school for the purpose of providing information regarding athletics injuries to high-school trainers or for the purpose of examining prospective student-athletes for possible athletically related injuries, provided the trainer is not directed by the member institution's athletics department to visit the high school, the examination does not include any test or procedure designed to measure the athletics ability or skill of the prospect and no recruiting activities occur. (3/15/95 Staff Interpretation).*

*Sports medicine clinic for prospects*: *Prospects may attend a sports medicine clinic or seminar sponsored by a member institution's athletics trainer that offers information on injury prevention and rehabilitation, and allows participation in clinical activities (i.e., use of rehabilitation equipment), provided the clinic is open to any and all entrants (as opposed to only prospective student-athletes), and is conducted solely for educational purposes and not designed to measure the athletics ability or skill of prospects. (5/28/93 Staff).*

### **Medical Exam After Signing or Acceptance for Enrollment (13.12.2.6.2)**

It shall be permissible to administer medical examinations at any time to prospects who either have signed the National Letter of Intent with the involved institution or have been accepted for enrollment in a regular full-time program of studies at that institution, provided the examinations occur during an official paid visit or the prospects visit the institution at their own expense for this purpose. Such an examination may take place before or after, but not during, a prospect's visit to the campus to attend a general orientation session pursuant to 13.16.2.4.

## **MEDICAL EXPENSES**

### **Permissible Medical Expenses (16.4.1)**

Identified medical expense benefits incidental to a student's participation in intercollegiate athletics that may be financed by the institution are:

- (a) Athletics medical insurance;

- (b) Death and dismemberment insurance for travel connected with intercollegiate athletics competition and practice;
- (c) Drug-rehabilitation expenses;
- (d) Counseling expenses related to the treatment of eating disorders;
- (e) Special individual expenses resulting from a permanent disability that precludes further athletics participation.

The illness or injury producing the disability must involve a former student-athlete or have occurred while the student-athlete was enrolled at the institution, or while the prospective student-athlete was on an official paid visit to the institution's campus. An institution or outside agency, or both, may raise money through donations, benefits or like activities to assist the student-athlete or a prospective student-athlete. All funds secured shall be controlled by the institution, and the money shall be used exclusively to meet these expenses;

- (a) Glasses, contact lenses or protective eye wear (e.g., goggles) for student-athletes who require visual correction in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics;
- (b) Medical examinations at any time for enrolled student-athletes;
- (c) Expenses for medical treatment (including transportation and other related costs) incurred by a student-athlete as a result of an athletically related injury. Such expenses may include the cost of traveling to the location of medical treatment or the provision of actual and necessary living expenses for the student-athlete to be treated at a site on or off the campus during the summer months while the student-athlete is not actually attending classes. Medical documentation shall be available to support the necessity of the treatment at the location in question;
- (d) Surgical expenses to a student-athlete (including a partial qualifier or a nonqualifier) who is injured during the academic year while participating in voluntary physical activities that will prepare the student-athlete for competition;
- (e) Medication and physical therapy utilized by a student-athlete during the academic year to enable the individual to participate in intercollegiate athletics, regardless of whether the injury or illness is the result of intercollegiate competition or practice;

- (f) Medication and physical therapy utilized by a student-athlete (even if the student-athlete is not a full-time student) during the academic year to enable the individual to participate in intercollegiate athletics, only if the student-athlete resides on campus (or in the local community of the institution) and appropriate medical documentation is available to establish that the student-athlete is unable to attend the institution as a full-time student as a result of the student-athlete's injury or illness; and
- (g) Preseason dental examinations conducted in conjunction with a regular preseason physical examination.

***Interpretations:***

*Immunizations. Medical expense benefits incidental to a student's participation in intercollegiate athletics that may be financed by the institution include medication during the academic year to enable the individual to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Accordingly, member institutions are permitted to pay for any necessary immunizations (including preventative flu shots) for student-athletes. (10/7/96 Leg. Asst. Column)*

*Surgical expenses to student-athletes injured in "pick-up" games. It is within the institution's discretion to determine whether a student-athlete is participating in voluntary physical activities that will prepare the student-athlete for competition, if the institution wishes to provide surgical expenses to student-athletes who are injured during the academic year while participating in such activities. (3/11/92 Official).*

*Expenses for Athletically Related Injury Sustained in the Summer During Voluntary Workout with Coach: The legislative services staff confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to pay medical expenses during the summer (e.g., surgery, rehabilitation) for a student-athlete in an individual sport who sustains an athletically related injury during a permissible summer workout with the institution's coach. (6/10/94 Staff)*

## **Non-permissible Medical Expenses (16.4.2)**

Student-athlete medical expense benefits that may not be financed by the institution are:

- (a) Student health insurance, if the insurance is provided or offered to the general student body only on an optional basis, except that if such insurance is required for a particular group of students (e.g., foreign students), such expenses may be paid for student-athletes who are members of such a group. Only such required fees may be paid as a part of an institutional grant-in-aid for student-athletes;
- (b) Surgical expenses to treat a student-athlete's illness or injury that was not a result of practice for or participation in intercollegiate athletics at the institution and did not occur during voluntary physical activities that will prepare the student-athlete for competition;
- (c) Medical or hospital expenses incurred as the result of an injury while going to or from class, or while participating in classroom requirements (e.g., physical education), unless similar services are provided by the institution to all students or by the terms and conditions of the institution's overall insurance program; and
- (d) Teeth cleaning, provisional filling of teeth or other dental work, unless the dental work is directly related to injury to the teeth that occurred during practice or competition.

### *Interpretations:*

*Weight-Gain Supplements. An institution is not permitted to distribute weight gain supplements during the summer. This does not preclude institutions from providing fluid/electrolytes replacements (e.g., Gatorade, Powerade) to student-athletes involved in voluntary workouts. (6/12/97 Official).*

*Surgical Expenses: It is not permissible for an institution to finance surgical expenses to treat a student-athlete's illness or injury that is not a result of practice for or participation in intercollegiate athletics at the institution, or that does not occur during the academic year while the student-athlete is participating in voluntary physical activities to prepare the student-athlete for competition. (6/8/94 Leg. Asst. Column).*

## **COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSIONS**

### **Institutional Contests in the Student-Athlete's Sport (16.2.1.1)**

An institution may provide four complimentary admissions per home or away contest to a student-athlete in the sport in which the individual participates (either practices or competes), regardless of whether the student-athlete competes in the contest.

### **Sale of Complimentary Admissions (16.2.2.1)**

A student-athlete may not receive payment from any source for his or her complimentary admissions and may not exchange or assign them for any item of value.

## **OTHER GUIDELINES**

### **Camp/Clinic Providing Recruiting or Scouting Service (13.13.2.3.1)**

No athletics department staff member may be employed (either on a salaried or a volunteer basis) in any capacity by a camp or clinic established, sponsored or conducted by an individual or organization that provides recruiting or scouting services concerning prospects. This provision does not prohibit an athletics department staff member from participating in an officiating camp where participants officiate, but are not otherwise involved in, a scouting services camp.