

*Rules, Rules, Rules – What does a FAR
need to know!*

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in NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs
for helping in this effort!

We all know the basics of what a student-athlete needs to do to compete at our schools. But what are these “basics” based *on*?

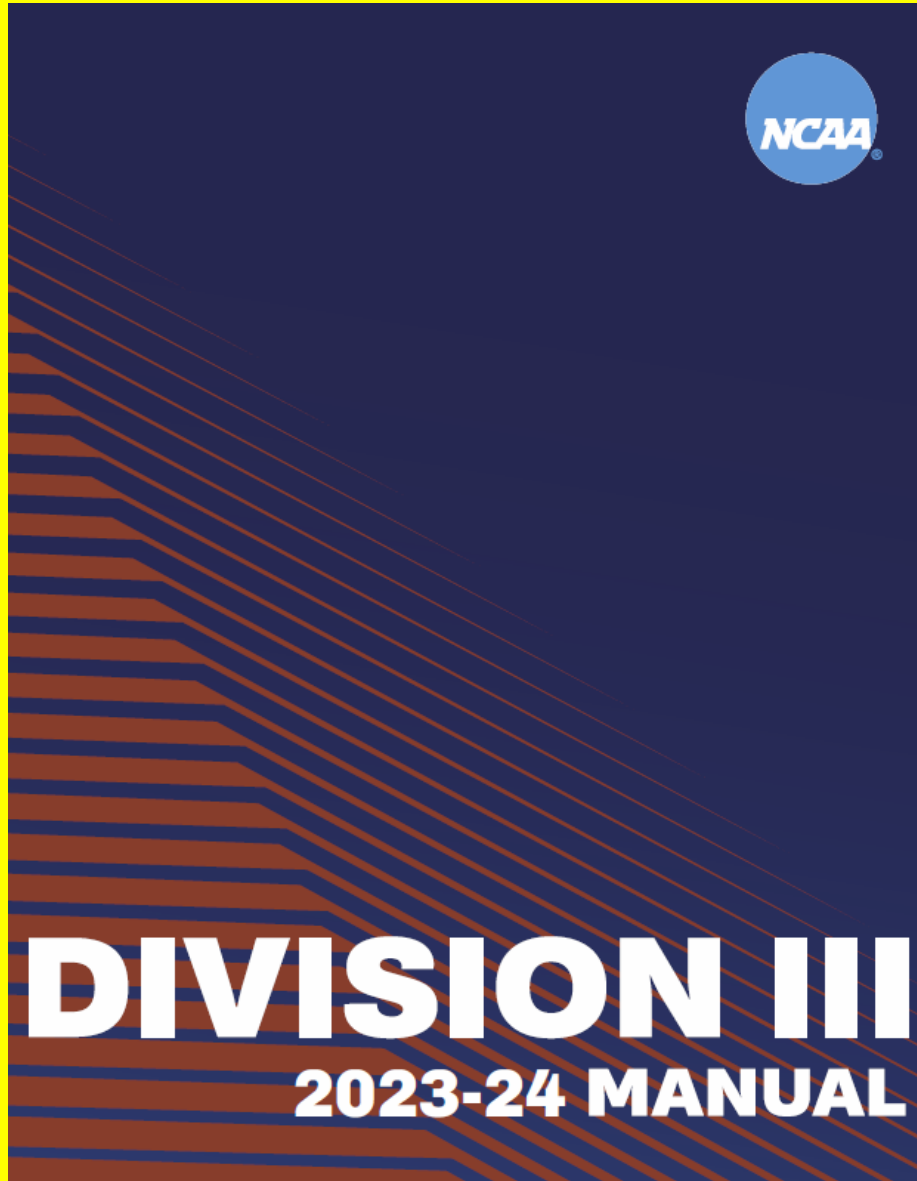
Some examples:

How do student-athletes get to, and stay at, your school?

When are student-athletes eligible to practice or compete?

How about rules relating to graduate students and transfers?

The bible



Article 13 Recruiting.

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Article 14 Eligibility: Academic and General Requirements.

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How do student-athletes get to, and stay at, your institution?

14.1.6.1 Admission. A student-athlete shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition unless the student has been admitted as a regularly enrolled student to a program of studies leading to a baccalaureate or equivalent degree in accordance with the regular, published entrance or admissions policies of that institution. *(Revised: 5/2/06, 4/19/16)*

14.01.2.1 Good Academic Standing. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in good academic standing as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning of such phrases for all students of the institution, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a member. *(Revised: 8/18/06)*

14.4.1 Satisfactory-Progress Requirements. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall maintain satisfactory progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree at that institution as determined by the regulations of that institution. As a general requirement, "satisfactory progress" is to be interpreted at each member institution by the academic authorities who determine the meaning of such phrases for all students, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a member. (See Bylaw 20.8.4.11 regarding the obligations of members to publish their satisfactory-progress requirements for student-athletes and Bylaw 14.01.2 for the requirements for student-athletes enrolled in two-year degree programs.) *(Revised: 1/10/05, 8/18/06)*

When are student-athletes eligible to practice or compete?

14.1.7.1 Requirement for Practice or Competition. To be eligible for practice or competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies leading to a baccalaureate or equivalent degree as defined by the institution. For purposes of this bylaw and its subsections, to be eligible for competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in not less than 12-semester or quarter hours, regardless of the institution's definition of minimum full-time program of studies. For practice only, a violation of this bylaw shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 20.15.2; however, it shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. **[D]** *(Revised: 1/10/92, 1/11/00, 1/10/05, 10/20/09, 12/5/14, 7/22/20 effective 8/1/20)*

What about graduate students and post-baccalaureate participation?

14.1.8 Graduate Student/Postbaccalaureate Participation. A student who has graduated from an NCAA Division III institution may participate as a graduate or postbaccalaureate student at the Division III institution they most recently attended as an undergraduate or another Division III institution, provided: *(Revised: 1/10/90, 1/16/93 effective 8/1/93, 7/22/08, 10/20/09, 1/20/18, 4/20/21)*

- (a) The student is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or graduate degree;
- (b) The student has eligibility remaining; and
- (c) The student's participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set forth in Bylaw 14.2.

Note, there is a waiver process that allows non-DIII graduate students and post-baccs to play at DIII institutions if they meet the criteria.

How about transfer students?


14.5 Transfer Regulations.

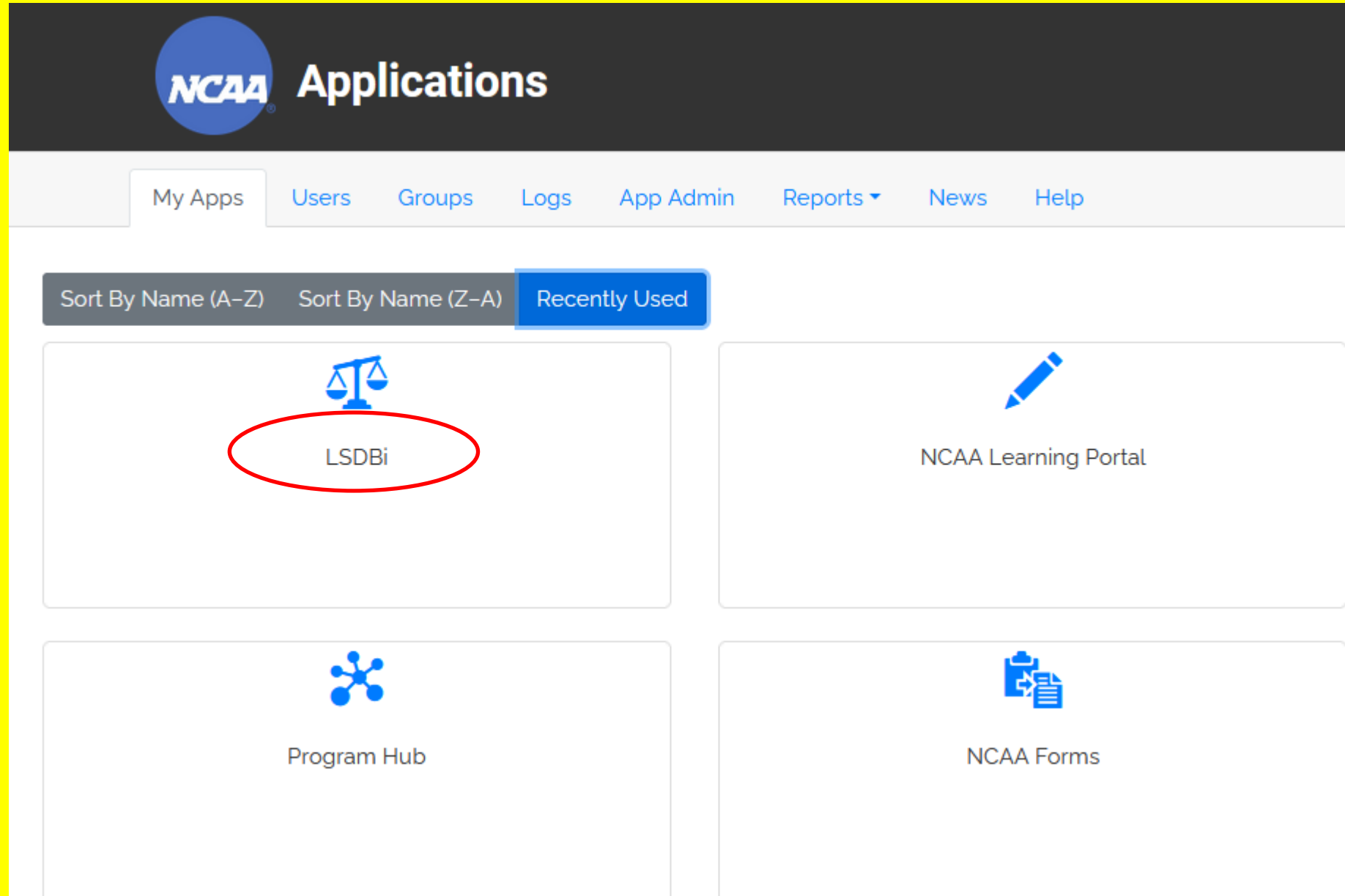
14.5.1 Residence Requirement -- General Principle. A student who transfers (see Bylaw 14.5.2) to a member institution from any collegiate institution is required to complete an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.10) at the certifying institution before being eligible to compete for or to receive travel expenses from the member institution (see Bylaw 16.8.1.2), unless the student satisfies the applicable transfer requirements or receives an exception or waiver as set forth in this section. *(Revised: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/91, 5/7/10)*

Several important exceptions!

How do you learn about these exceptions and, in general, dig deeper into the rules?

Learning more about the rules: ncaa.org


DIVISION II
DIVISION III
MEDIA CENTER
MEMBERSHIP
Association-Wide
Division I
Division II
Division III
My Apps



The screenshot shows the 'NCAA Applications' dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: My Apps, Users, Groups, Logs, App Admin, Reports, News, and Help. Below this is a sorting section with three options: 'Sort By Name (A-Z)', 'Sort By Name (Z-A)', and 'Recently Used'. The main content area displays four application tiles:

- LSDBi**: Represented by a scales of justice icon. This tile is circled in red.
- NCAA Learning Portal**: Represented by a pencil icon.
- Program Hub**: Represented by a network icon.
- NCAA Forms**: Represented by a clipboard icon.

Search all of LSDBi Search Help

Search: transfer exceptions Legislation

- Legislation
- Proposals
- Interpretations
- Educational Columns
- Major Infractions

Announcements DI DII DIII

I could have left unchecked for all categories – a good first approach

Note I've clicked DIII

Results for "transfer exceptions" in Legislation

242 item(s) found

Article Number

- 10 Ethical Conduct. (2)
- 11 Conduct and Emplo... (2)
- 12 Amateurism. (15)
- 13 Recruiting. (36)
- 14 Eligibility: Academi... (51)
- 15 Financial Aid. (2)
- 16 Awards, Benefits an... (13)
- 17 Playing and Practic... (64)
- More...

Vote Requirement

- Federated (240)

Category: Legislation ▾

Sort by: Relevancy ▾

★ Save

DI DII DIII

Bylaw 14.5.4

Two-Year College Transfers.

the student qualifies for a *transfer exception* as set forth in Bylaw 14.5.4.1.

A student who *transfers* to a member institution from a two-year college or from a branch school

Bylaw 14.5.5.1

General Rule.

) at the certifying institution unless the student qualifies for one of the *transfer exceptions* set forth in Bylaws 14.5.5.1.1

A *transfer* student from a four-year institution shall

14.5.5.1 General Rule. A transfer student from a four-year institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition until the student has fulfilled an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.10) at the certifying institution unless the student qualifies for one of the transfer exceptions set forth in Bylaws 14.5.5.1.1, 14.5.5.1.2 or 14.5.5.1.3. A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.5.1.2) may qualify for an exception to the academic year of residence requirement provided they do not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring. (See Bylaw 14.1.11, for student-athletes participating in a recognized foreign exchange/study abroad program). *(Revised: 1/10/91 effective 8/1/91, 5/7/10, 1/19/13, 4/20/21)*

14.5.5.1.1 Exception. A student who transfers to the certifying institution shall be immediately eligible if: *(Revised: 1/14/97 effective 8/1/97, 1/10/05 effective 8/1/05)*

- (a) The student has never practiced nor competed in intercollegiate athletics; *(Revised: 1/9/06, 1/19/13 effective 8/1/13)*
- (b) The student transfers from a four-year collegiate institution and would have been academically and athletically eligible, at the time of transfer to the certifying institution (see Bylaw 14.5.2), had they remained at the previous institution; or *(Revised: 1/12/11 effective 8/1/11, 4/20/21)*
- (c) The student transfers from a four-year collegiate institution that did not sponsor the student-athlete's sport and, while at that institution, the student-athlete: *(Adopted: 1/12/11 effective 8/1/11)*
 - (1) Successfully completed at least 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of transferable-degree credit; and
 - (2) Completed at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters.

References

Major Infractions Cases	0
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[Go to detailed reference list](#)

- o April 12, 2011
- o February 25, 2005
- o February 02, 1998
- o July 21, 1997

RSRO Cases	47
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* Archived

How did I pick this Ed Column? I tried several first and found this one was useful!

Educational Column

Division III Transfers - Defining Good Academic Standing at Previous Institution and Competition in Year of Transfer

Division: III

Date Published: February 25, 2005

Item Ref: 1

Educational Column:


Transfers & Application of the Residence Exception.

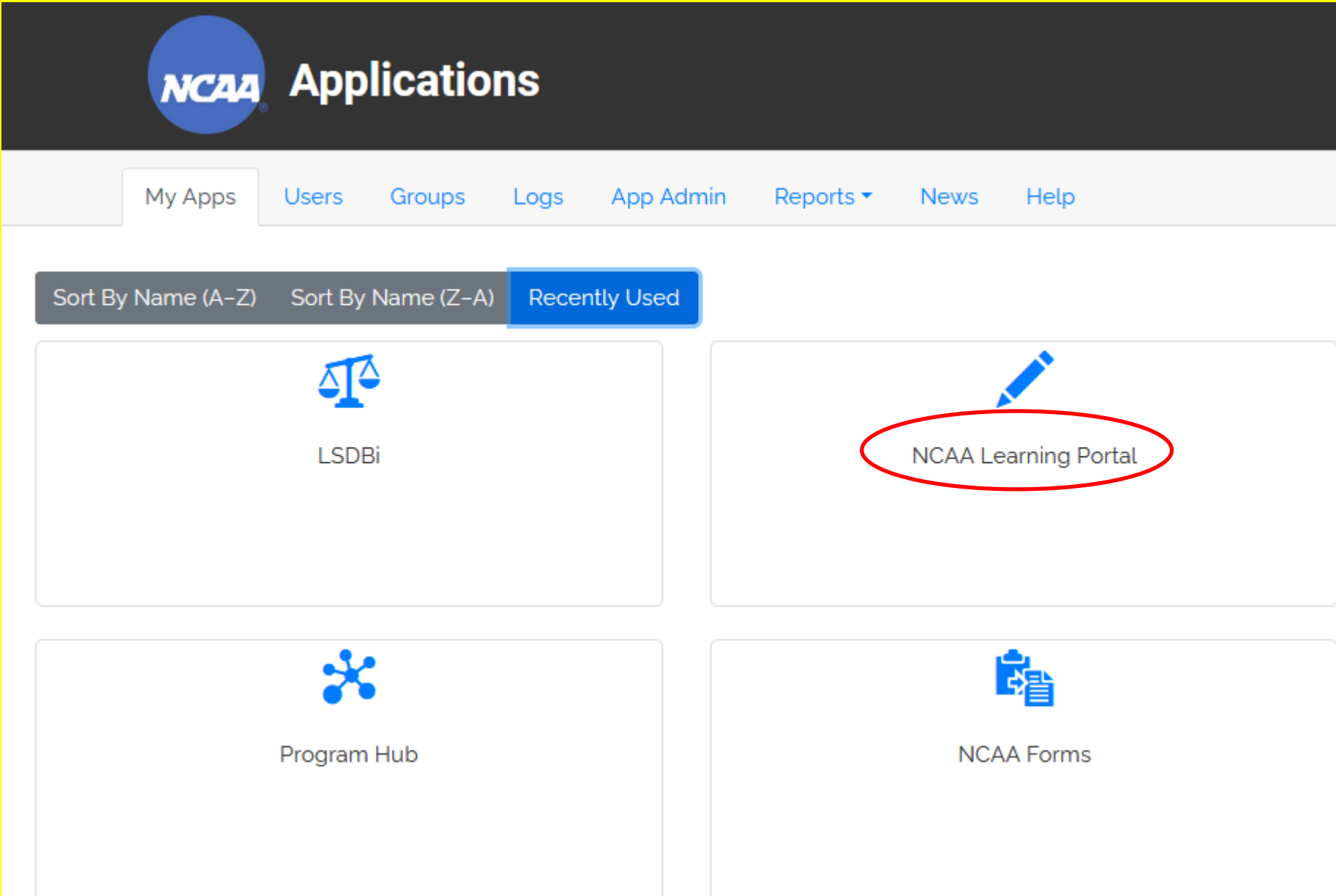
In order for a student-athlete who previously participated in intercollegiate athletics to be immediately eligible for competition on transfer to a Division III institution, the student-athlete must have been academically and athletically eligible at the previous two-year or four-year institution. Per NCAA Division III Bylaws 14.5.1.1 (exception), 14.5.4.1 (to Division III institutions); and 14.5.5.1.1 (exception), when a transfer student-athlete is being certified by his or her new institution, the student-athlete's previous two-year or four-year institution will need to confirm that the student-athlete would have been academically and athletically eligible had he or she remained at their previous institution.

For purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is academically eligible, the phrases "good academic standing" and "satisfactory progress" are to be interpreted at each member institution by the academic officials who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students.

Note, the column continues a while with examples

Learning more about the rules: ncaa.org

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- DIVISION II
- DIVISION III
- MEDIA CENTER
- MEMBERSHIP**
- Association-Wide
- Division I
- Division II
- Division III
- My Apps**



NCAA Applications

My Apps Users Groups Logs App Admin Reports News Help

Sort By Name (A-Z) Sort By Name (Z-A) Recently Used

LSDBi

NCAA Learning Portal

Program Hub

NCAA Forms

The Learning Portal contains DIII University along with Regional Rules content

I've been talking about transfer rules and exceptions. I wanted to learn more.

The screenshot displays the NCAA Learning Portal interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search content in the platform" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar, the page is titled "My Homepage" and features a navigation menu with "E-Learning" selected. The main content area is titled "Regional Rules Sessions and Content" and shows a carousel of six session cards. Each card includes a "New" badge, a monitor icon, a title, a rating of 5.0 stars, and an "E-Learning" icon. The session "Regional Rules 2023: Division III Coming and Going Transfers" is circled in red. The carousel also includes a "2/4" indicator and navigation arrows.

Session Title	Rating
Regional Rules 2023: Division III Name, Image and Likeness	5.0
Regional Rules 2023: Division III It's a Brand New Day(s) Model	5.0
Regional Rules 2023: Division III Graduate and Postbaccalaureate...	5.0
Regional Rules 2023: Division III Governance Hot Topics	5.0
Regional Rules 2023: Division III Get Pumped Strength and Conditioning	5.0
Regional Rules 2023: Division III Coming and Going Transfers	5.0

The following slides are “borrowed” directly from the slides in this module prepared by Becca Trovato, NCAA.

Transfer Scenario Example

- Pam Beesly starts at a Division III institution and is eligible. She competes in volleyball for one semester.
- Pam now wants to transfer to your institution. After receiving a self-release from Pam, the previous institution confirms she's academically and athletically eligible.
 - Can Pam transfer and be immediately eligible?

So, Pam started at a four-year institution and then transferred to your four-year institution.

Pam's Transfer Assessment

Transfer Type	Bylaw 14.5.5.1.1 (Four-Year College Exceptions)			Bylaw 14.5.4.2 or 14.5.5.1.3 (Two-Year Nonparticipation)
	(a) Never practiced or competed	(b) Athletically and academically eligible had they remained	(c) Institution did not sponsor sport AND Completed 24 or 36 transferable degree credits, AND 2 or 3 terms	

Can Pam transfer and be immediately eligible?

Yes

- At the time of transfer, the student-athlete was athletically and academically eligible.

Bylaw 14.5.5.1.1-(b)

So, if you have an NCAA interpretative question:

- Check the Manual
- Check LSDBI
- Check the Learning Portal

These are only a few of a variety of resources available. Search around!

As the FAR, you should always feel free to ask your compliance people. And, if you want to go further, ask the NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs staff. They are really nice!