

A. Loss of Amateur Status:

1. An athlete will lose amateur status and shall be deemed permanently ineligible for participation in a NJCAA certified sport if any of the following criteria applies once the athlete reaches their 20th birthday or once they enroll in college as a full-time student (whichever comes first):
 - a. Uses athletic skills (directly or indirectly) for **pay** in any form in that sport, with the following exceptions:
 - i. After reaching their 20th birthday or initial full-time college enrollment, whichever comes first, a student-athlete in an individual sport may receive an award for winning and/or participating in an event while not representing his/her institution, subject to the NJCAA award limitation of \$300 plus **actual and necessary expenses** for an established tournament/event and provided the award is permissible under the rules of the amateur governing body of the event.
 - ii. **Receives remuneration in any form as approved by the NCAA for participation in any sport from any organization deemed a collegiate governing body or entity by the NJCAA.**

Rationale: In response to the approval of the House v NCAA settlement and the corresponding rule changes at the NCAA, the Eligibility Committee felt it necessary to update the NJCAA bylaws now to ensure clarity for the membership. By acting now, the NJCAA makes clear that students that receive payments from NCAA member institutions in compliance with the House settlement do not lose their amateur status. As such, members may recruit these students with confidence knowing that receipt of these payments have not caused students to forfeit their eligibility.

This bylaw change is specific to direct payments from NCAA members as a part of the approved revenue share model. This does not change NJCAA NIL bylaws.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP DUES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. Dues (Current Language)

- E. New Membership: By majority vote of the Board of Regents, membership may be awarded or denied to any institution. The national office will determine region placement for new members.

https://d2o2figo6ddd0g.cloudfront.net/m/3/a30n3mdnvy5mmz/NJCAA_Handbook_-_Bylaws_03-03-25.pdf

Section 1. Dues (Updated Language)

- E. New Membership: By majority vote of the Board of Regents, membership may be awarded or denied to any institution. The national office will determine region placement for new members. New members must meet the following guidelines:
 - a. Accredited by one of six regional accrediting agencies.
 - b. Online colleges are not eligible for membership. The NJCAA defines an online college as an entity that offers less than 20% of their courses in a traditional, in-person, and synchronous setting.
 - c. Member institutions must designate a full-time employee to serve as Director of Athletics. This individual may hold other titles within the institution.
 - d. Additional items to be considered for NJCAA membership include but are not limited to facilities, budgets, personnel, safety and student welfare, and athletic department strategic plan.
 - e. An official NJCAA Membership Application should be accompanied by a check for \$10,000.00 made payable to the NJCAA, which is nonrefundable, to begin the membership process. The membership fee is not applicable to future NJCAA membership dues which are approved by the NJCAA Board of Regents.