**Employment**

It is permissible for your son or daughter to work during the academic year and vacation periods, with no limit on the amount he or she can earn in such employment. If your son or daughter works, he or she must be paid only for work actually performed and at a rate comparable with the going rate in that city. A student-athlete may not be hired based solely on the publicity or reputation that he or she has obtained because of athletics, and his or her compensation may not reflect such value. A student-athlete may establish his or her own business, provided that his or her name, photograph, appearance or athletics reputation are not used to promote the business. NCAA rules can even have implications for a student-athlete promoting his or her own creative talents, such as musician, author, model or comedian. Your son or daughter should work with the Compliance Office on issues related to this complex area.

**Academic Requirements**

Student-athletes must maintain certain academic standards to be eligible for competition. To be eligible under NCAA rules, your son or daughter must be enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies (i.e., 12 credit hours) and must pass 6 credit hours each semester. As student-athletes progress through each semester, they are required to meet additional NCAA academic requirements. In addition to NCAA rules that require student-athletes to maintain “progress toward a degree,” Notre Dame holds its student-athletes to increased standards. Pursuant to Notre Dame’s Academic Code, your son or daughter must maintain a 1.7 GPA during the first semester of his or her first year, a 1.85 GPA during the second semester of his or her first year and a 2.0 GPA in each semester thereafter. Failure to meet these requirements will land your son or daughter on academic probation rendering him or her ineligible for competition. In addition, academic integrity is critical at Notre Dame. The expectations and consequences related to academic integrity are set forth in the Notre Dame Academic Code of Honor, including the fact that the standard penalty for a second violation of the Code of Honor is dismissal from the University.

**Financial Aid**

An athletics grant-in-aid may include any combination up to full tuition, fees, room, board and required textbooks. In general, Notre Dame does not reduce, cancel or non-renew athletics aid due to injury or athletic performance. All outside sources of financial aid are subject to approval and must be reported to the Office of Financial Aid. Pell Grant: All undergraduate students, including those on full athletics scholarships, may file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). By doing so, some students may qualify for a federal grant (up to $5,550) based on their expected family contribution. The FAFSA must be filed on an annual basis and may be found at www.fafsa.ed.gov (you will need your IRS W-2 and 1040 for submission). Questions regarding the FAFSA may be directed to the Notre Dame Office of Financial Aid at (574) 631-6899. SAOF: The Compliance Office manages an NCAA-provided fund called the Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund (SAOF). This fund is completely separate from scholarship money, and is available to help student-athletes who lack financial resources with various needs, including emergency travel, health insurance, and clothing. Although the Compliance Office automatically contacts student-athletes who are Pell Grant eligible or identified by a coach or staff member about SAOF, you should feel free to contact the office for more information.

**Agents**

Your son or daughter could jeopardize his or her amateur status if inappropriate contact with agents or their representatives occurs. While your son or daughter has remaining eligibility, neither you nor your son or daughter may agree, orally or in writing, to be represented by an agent, currently or in the future; negotiate or enter into any kind of agreement, either orally or written, to compete in professional athletics; or receive preferential treatment or an extra benefit from an agent.

**Gambling**

The NCAA opposes legal and illegal “sports wagering.” This means that student-athletes cannot place any wager - regardless of the nature or value of the item at stake - on any sporting event if the sport is sponsored by the NCAA, including seemingly innocent events as a round of golf or a drill at practice. NCAA gambling rules even apply to March Madness bracket, Super Bowl squares, and similar activities.

**Your To-Do List**

- For incoming freshmen, verify that the NCAA Eligibility Center process is complete at www.eligibilitycenter.org
- Complete the FAFSA annually at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Send copies of health insurance cards and documentation for prescribed medications to Sports Medicine, 113 Joyce Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556
From the Director of Athletics

Notre Dame’s commitment to playing - and succeeding - within the rules has never been more important than in today’s enforcement climate. That is why we offer this educational piece to help you and your son or daughter remain informed about and in compliance with NCAA rules.

Thank you for all that you do to make our programs so special, and thank you for helping your son or daughter and Notre Dame continue to set the standard for ethical conduct in intercollegiate athletics.

GO IRISH!

Jack Swarbrick
Vice President and Director of Athletics

NCAA Rules
Booster

The NCAA regulates the kinds of interactions that you and your son or daughter may have with people who the NCAA defines as “representatives of the University’s athletics interests” or boosters. A booster is an individual who: (i) is a member of an organization that supports Notre Dame athletics; (ii) has made a financial contribution to the athletics department; (iii) has been involved in promoting Notre Dame athletics; (iv) has been a season ticket holder; or (v) has provided benefits to student-athletes or their relatives or friends.

Once an individual has been identified as a booster, he/she retains that status permanently. In general, boosters may not provide any benefits to you or to your son or daughter.

The practical problem is that you often won’t know who is a “booster” when you become friends with someone. Another question that arises frequently concerns accepting benefits from an “established” family friend. Because these issues can be complex, we suggest that you contact the Compliance Office to explore specific situations.

Extra Benefits

Neither a student-athlete nor his or her family or friends may accept an “extra benefit” from an employee of Notre Dame, a booster or any other person or entity. As a general rule, if something is not available to the Notre Dame student body or the general public, it is an extra benefit. The receipt of an extra benefit by a student-athlete or his or her parents/guardians, relatives or friends will immediately jeopardize the student-athlete’s eligibility.

Common examples of impermissible extra benefits offered may include free lodging from a booster in their home, discounted lodging offered by local hotels, free game tickets (other than the allowable complimentary admissions), complimentary meals, money, gifts, tickets for professional sports games, use of a car, a loan of money, free or reduced-cost housing, merchandise or services.

As the parent/guardian of a student-athlete, you may provide occasional meals for your son or daughter’s teammates at any location. You cannot provide off-campus housing free of charge or at a reduced rate to other student-athletes. For example, if you own a home in South Bend and intend to allow your son or daughter’s teammates to live there, you must charge each of them a fair market rate.

Finally, it is impermissible for your son or daughter and their friends and relatives to sell (including an exchange or upgrade) any item received incidental to their participation on a Notre Dame team, including clothes, gear, uniforms, awards, post-season gifts, and Notre Dame or Monogram Club-provided participation awards. In addition, you cannot sell or trade any item bearing your son or daughter’s autograph for personal profit.

Promotional Activities/Commercial Endorsements

Each year, the Athletics Department receives many requests from the community for student-athletes to make public appearances. You and your son or daughter also might hear directly from a high school or charity in your hometown. It is permissible for your son or daughter to participate in promotional activities only if certain criteria are met. Student-athletes:

- May not allow their name, picture or personal appearance to be used to advertise, recommend or promote the sale or use of any commercial products, services or businesses.
- Must receive written approval from the Compliance Office prior to participating in any promotional activity.
- May not miss class.
- May not receive payment for their promotional appearances (except actual and necessary expenses such as transportation or a meal).

To be clear, your son or daughter cannot make any commercial endorsements. While it may seem obvious that your son or daughter cannot star in an adidas commercial, this prohibition also means, for example, that your son or daughter cannot offer a testimonial for a hometown gym or even be listed as a client or member at the gym. If you become aware of any type of commercial endorsement, even those without your son’s or daughter’s consent, please notify the Compliance Office immediately.

As a parent/guardian, you may wish to produce a button, t-shirt, jersey or other product that includes the name or image of your son or daughter. Although producing the item is permissible, please be advised that selling an item for profit would be impermissible under NCAA rules. Please contact the Compliance Office with specific questions.

Complimentary Admissions (Tickets)

Notre Dame may provide a student-athlete with a maximum of four (4) complimentary admissions to each regular-season home and away ticketed competition, regardless of whether he or she competes. Ticket recipients must present identification at the admission gate. Neither the student-athlete nor the individual designated to receive a complimentary admission may exchange the “ticket” for money or any item of value. Student-athletes may not receive additional tickets through student managers or coaches. Additional tickets may be obtained from an eligible teammate with unused complimentary admissions or via the Ticket Office in the same manner as the general public.

Recruiting

NCAA legislation restricts recruitment of prospective student-athletes to institutional staff members. However, the NCAA recently recognized that the relatives of current student-athletes are a valuable resource for prospective student-athletes and their families as they can provide a unique perspective and first-hand knowledge of the collegiate student-athlete experience. Thus, it is now permissible for relatives of a current student-athlete to have on-campus, in-person contact with a prospect and any relatives accompanying the prospect on his or her recruiting visit. During a prospect’s visit to Notre Dame, this type of contact frequently happens at an athletics event or tailgate. It remains impermissible to have prearranged or initiated off-campus, telephone or written contact with a prospect or his or her parents/guardians or to provide a prospect or their parents/guardians with any extra benefit, including, but not limited to, complimentary admissions, meals, lodging, transportation, financial aid, loans or employment.

Drug Testing

The NCAA and Notre Dame test for substances found on the list of NCAA Banned-Drug Classes. Testing is done year round. Your son or daughter is responsible for everything he or she ingests that might contain banned substances, including nutritional supplements and prescription controlled substances (student-athletes must report the use of ADD/ADHD medicine to their athletic trainer).