

National Letter of Intent and Continuing Eligibility

October 2012



What Is It?



NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

- A binding agreement
- A PSA agrees to attend the institution full-time for one academic year
- Institution provides athletics financial aid for one academic year
- Basic penalty for not fulfilling the NLI agreement: A student-athlete has to serve one year in residence (full-time, two semesters or three quarters) at the next NLI member institution and lose one season of competition in all sports.

Who Can Sign An NLI?

- Prospective Student-Athletes who will be entering four year institutions for the first time as full-time students.
 - Those that aren't entering a four year institution for the first time can sign an Athletic Scholarship (GIA).
- 4-2-4 Transfers who are graduating from a two-year college



Requirements Before Signing

Before providing a written offer of athletics aid, a PSA must:

- ✓ Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center
- ✓ Be on our NCAA EC Institutional Request List (IRL)
- ✓ Complete the Amateurism Questions with Eligibility Center
- ✓ ISU Compliance Policy: Current HST for evaluation



Comments Before/After Signing

- No coach or staff member may comment on a prospect until after the signed NLI has been sent to the MVC
- Coaches & SIDs will be notified via email once this occurs
- Restrictions on the forms and frequency of communication between institutional administrators or coaching staff members and a PSA (or PSA's relatives or legal guardians) shall no longer apply beginning the calendar day after:
 - (1) the PSA signs a National Letter of Intent (NLI) or the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid; or
 - (2) the institution receives a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.



NLI Status

PSA WILL ONLY HAVE ONE VALID NLI

- If NLI is rendered invalid (e.g., NLI not filed within 21 days), may sign a second NLI in the same signing year.
- If NLI is rendered null and void (e.g., denied admissions, nonqualifer), permitted to sign another NLI the following signing year.
- If granted a complete release, may not sign another NLI during that same signing year.



When Can an NLI be Signed?



SIGNING DATES

Sport	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Basketball (Early Period)	Nov 14, 2012	Nov 21, 2012
All Other Sports Not Listed (Early Period)	Nov 14, 2012	Nov 21, 2012
Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	Dec 19, 2012	Jan 15, 2013
Football (Regular Period)	Feb 6, 2012	April 1, 2013
Soccer, Track & Field, Cross Country	Feb 6, 2013	Aug 1, 2013
Basketball (Regular Period)	April 17, 2013	May 15, 2013
All Other Sports Not Listed (Regular Period)	April 17, 2013	Aug 1, 2013

Reminders



- Parents/Legal Guardians must sign and date the NLI if student is under the age of 21
- Athletic Grant-In-Aids (GIAs) must be signed by parents if the student is under the age of 18
- It must be signed within 14 days of issuance, if not, we will issue another if need be
- Recommended to Fax or Email and always save a copy
 - **NLIs CANNOT be hand-delivered off campus by ANYONE**
- NLIs can be signed ON CAMPUS during official or unofficial visit, however, media may not be present for on-campus signing.
- No “mock” NLIs may be issued; an Institutional Letter of Intent may be issued to a walk-on and signed during signing period



QUESTIONS



Continuing Eligibility

- Progress Towards Degree (PTD)
- 6/18/24 Hour Rules
- 40%/60%/80% of Degree
- 90/95/100% GPA Rules

Progress Toward Degree (PTD)

- **Academic year requirements.**
 - Six hour requirement each term.
 - 18 hour requirement each academic year.
- **Progress-toward-graduation benchmarks.**
 - 24 hour requirement.
 - Percentage-of-degree requirements. (40/60/80)
 - Grade-point average (GPA) requirements. (90/95/100)
- **Designation of degree.**

Six Hour Requirement

- Must complete a minimum of six semester of academic credit in the previous full-time regular academic term.
- During first two years of enrollment, credits can be applicable to any degree at institution.
- Beginning with the third year of enrollment, hours must be applicable to student-athlete's designated degree.
- Bylaws 14.4.3.1–(d) and 14.4.3.1.6.

18 Hour Requirement

- Must earn 18 semester hours of academic credit during each regular academic year.
- Certified prior to start of the institution's third semester following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment.
- Credits earned during summer term cannot be used to meet this requirement.
- During first two years of enrollment, credits can be applicable to any degree at institution.
- Beginning with the third year of enrollment, hours must be applicable to student-athlete's designated degree.
- Bylaws 14.4.3.1-(b) and 14.4.3.1.6.

New 9 Hour Rule for Football Only

- Must earn 9 semester hours of academic credit during fall semester **AND** earn the APR eligibility point (GPA/6 hour rule) to be eligible for the 1st four games of the following fall season.
- Credits earned during interim sessions or the spring do not count.
- Consequences for Failure:
 - Suspended first 4 games of next fall season
 - Can get the final 2 games of the first 4, if SA completes 27 hours of credit by end of summer
 - Can avoid 4 game penalty one time during collegiate career if 27 hours earned by following fall semester. (Carries over with transfers).
- Bylaws 14.4.3.1.6., 14.4.3.1.6.1 and 14.4.3.1.6.2

Progress-Toward-Graduation Benchmarks

□ 24 Hour Requirement.

- Must complete a 24 semester hours of academic credit prior to the start of the student-athlete's second year of collegiate enrollment.
- Credits can be applicable to any degree.
- 18 hours must be earned during freshman year
- No more than 6 hours earned in the Summer term between Freshman and Sophomore year.

- Bylaw 14.4.3.1-(a).

Progress-Toward-Graduation Benchmarks

- Percentage-of-degree requirements.
 - Must complete the following percentage of the designated degree prior to the start of the noted year of enrollment:
 - Prior to start of third year -- 40%.
 - Prior to start of fourth year -- 60%.
 - Prior to start of fifth year -- 80%.
 - Based on full-time terms.
 - Bylaw 14.4.3.2.

Percentage-of-Degree Calculation

$$\frac{\text{Degree-applicable hours earned}}{\text{Degree hours required for graduation}} = \% \text{ of degree}$$

Percentage-of-Degree Calculation

- Degree program -- 124 credit hours required for graduation.
- 40% degree = 50 degree-applicable hours.
 - Student-athlete should have 60% of degree remaining.
(74 hours)
- 60% degree = 75 degree-applicable hours.
 - Student-athlete should have 40% of degree remaining.
(50 hours)
- 80% degree = 100 degree-applicable hours.
 - Student-athlete should have 20% of degree remaining.
(24 hours)

Progress-Toward-Graduation Benchmarks

□ GPA requirements.

- Must present the following cumulative GPA prior to the start of the noted point of enrollment and any subsequent terms:
 - After 1st year -- 90% of GPA required for graduation. (1.80)
 - After 2nd year -- 95% of GPA required for graduation. (1.90)
 - After 3rd year and beyond -- 100% of GPA required for graduation. (2.0)
- Bylaw 14.4.3.3.1.
- Applies to end of 1st semester after transfer to ISU



Questions?



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