



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

SEC. IX – Academics 1.0

STUDENT-ATHLETE MISSED CLASS POLICY

UNIVERSITY POLICY

A. Policy Statement

It is the specific intent of North Carolina A&T State University Department of Athletics to foster the educational goals and intellectual development of our student-athletes. Regular class attendance and participation are critical to learning and engagement.

1. Attendance

- a. Student-athletes are required to attend every regularly scheduled course lecture and laboratory session for each course in which they are enrolled. An unexcused absence will subject the student-athlete to disciplinary sanctions including, but not limited to, notification of the student's head coach or the Director of Athletics, suspension from athletics competition, or non-renewal of athletics aid.
- b. Failure to attend class does not relieve a student-athlete from the obligation and expectation to secure all class notes and complete all course requirements.

2. Attendance and Athletics Practice and Competition

- a. Student-athletes shall not miss any regularly scheduled classes for any practice (see also NCAA Bylaw 17.1.7.6.2) or conditioning activity.
- b. For home competition, student-athletes shall not miss any classes prior to 2:00 p.m. or four hours before the scheduled competition time, whichever is earlier. Any exceptions to this expectation must be approved by the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Provost.
- c. For away competition with same-day or overnight travel, student-athletes shall not miss any classes prior to 60 minutes before the scheduled time of departure or 60 minutes after return to campus.
- d. For away competition with overnight travel, no team shall depart more than 24 hours prior to the day of competition, and all teams will return to campus within 24 hours of

the end of competition. A waiver to this limit can be requested through the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Provost in advance of travel.

3. Competition Scheduling

- a. No competition will be scheduled on any day on which final examinations are scheduled. Exceptions for special tournaments or competitions, including conference tournament or championship play, must be approved by the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Provost.
- b. No athletics team competition schedule will require a student-athlete to miss more than ten (10) days in all classes, or any single class more than six (6) times, in any semester. Any exceptions must have prior approval from the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Provost.
- c. The Faculty Athletics Representative and the Chair of the Chancellor's Council on Intercollegiate Athletics shall prospectively review all squad practice and competition schedules for potential conflicts with this policy, and advise the Director of Athletics of the same.

4. Excused Absences

- a. Student-athletes who miss class due to participation in home or away competition may be provided an opportunity to complete the coursework, which was missed.¹ Arrangements to make up this work shall be at a mutually agreeable time as determined by the instructor and the student-athlete.
- b. Student-athletes are responsible for submitting all assignments on time or for making advance arrangements to complete any coursework or tests that will be missed due to competition.
- c. Faculty members will not penalize student-athletes for missing classes due to conflicts with contractually scheduled athletic contests and related travel, including requiring a student-athlete to wait until the end of the semester to make up a test or other in-class assignments, which were completed while the student-athlete was representing the University in intercollegiate athletics competition.
- d. Coaches or other athletics personnel will not penalize student-athletes for missing practice or conditioning activities due to conflicts with class attendance, course work or assignments for regularly scheduled classes in which student-athletes are enrolled.
- e. Definitions and documentation for excused absences will follow all policies and procedures, which apply to students generally.

¹ The faculty member has the discretion to:

- provide an opportunity to complete for credit the coursework which was missed, either using the same assignment or an alternate assignment,
- assign credit based on normalizing scores from previous academic work, or from a specified subset of other assessments of comparable academic rigor,
- exempt the student from the assignment, or
- require the student to submit a scheduled assignment or complete a scheduled test ahead of time if it is due on a day in which the student will be at or traveling to a competition.

5. National Governing Body Sanctioned Events
 - a. Student-athletes may participate in the Olympic Games, the Pan American games or tryouts, or any national team tryouts or competition at any point during the academic year. In order to participate in competition while not representing the institution in National Governing Body (NGB) sanctioned events during or between terms of the regular academic year, a student-athlete must obtain prior approval from the Office of Compliance Services (OCS) by initiating the Unattached/Outside Competition approval process prior to practicing or competing in the event(s). As a part of the approval process, the permissible amount of missed class time shall be approved by the Director of the Student-Athlete Academic Enhancement Program (SAAEP).

B. Corrective Action

1. A student-athlete who believes they have received a lack of reasonable accommodation from a faculty member should speak with the faculty member first and then go to the Chair of the department. Student-athletes may then appeal to the Faculty Athletics Representative if necessary.
2. Student-athletes who believe they have received a lack of reasonable accommodation under this policy from a coach should speak with the Faculty Athletics Representative first and the Athletics Director if necessary. Student-athletes may then appeal to the Chair of the Chancellor's Council on Intercollegiate Athletics, and the appropriate Department Chair, Dean, or the Provost.

C. Policy Dissemination

1. Student-Athlete Handbook;
2. N.C. A&T Athletics Website.

D. Compliance Review

1. The Department of Athletics will provide to the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Provost a schedule of all competition in each sport that will necessitate student-athletes being absent from class prior to the beginning of each semester.
 2. This listing will include the time and date of competition, destination, approximate departure time, approximate travel time, and approximate return time.
 3. The Faculty Athletics Representative or the Provost may request that reasonable modifications be made to the proposed travel plans.
 4. A summary of the listings described in item E.2 will be forwarded to the affected Faculty.
 5. The Department of Athletics/SAAEP shall provide annually to the CCIA a report that summarizes the Department's compliance with this policy for the preceding academic year.
 6. The Chancellor's Council on Intercollegiate Athletics shall annually submit a report which evaluates the Department's compliance with this policy for the preceding academic year to the Chancellor.
 7. The Department of Athletics through the Compliance Director shall annually review this policy and any attendant implementation procedures for continuing compliance with institutional and associational standards and recommend any changes or revisions thereto.
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Approved by the Board of Trustees

Effective Date: Upon approval

First approved: February 17, 2012

Revised: July 19, 2019