

**VERMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MANUAL OF POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

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311

**ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR PARTICIPATION
IN INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS**

POLICY

Vermont Technical College is represented by several teams in intercollegiate athletic competition. It is expected that the students who represent the College as members of these teams are representative of the standards of the College and the **United States Collegiate** Athletic Association. The College has adopted the eligibility regulations of the USCAA as follows:

PROCEDURE

Section A.

Application of Eligibility Rules

1. **Institutional membership within the USCAA charges each institution with the responsibility of knowing, administering, and enforcing the eligibility standards adopted by the members of the association in respect to the institution's total athletic program.**
2. **The eligibility rules which follow apply to all students who participate in USCAA recognized intercollegiate competitions.**
3. **Any student identified with a two-year or four year institution who then enrolls at a USCA member college shall be subject to the USCAA eligibility regulations.**
4. **Members who held dual membership in NAIA and/or NCAA III will be allowed to use those respective Eligibility guidelines. The respective NAIA and /or NCAAIII eligibility form must be forwarded to the USCAA eligibility chair.**

Section B.

Definitions

1. **Term of Attendance: Refers to any quarter, semester, or trimester (excluding summer or inter-terms) in which the student becomes identified at the institution.**

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- 2. Full-Time Status: A student is considered full-time when he/she enrolls in 12 or more credit hours during a semester.**
- 3. Non-term: Enrollment in fewer than 12 institutional credit hours during a semester, summer session or inter-term.**
- 4. Normal Progress: The accumulation of academic credit at a rate which systematically will lead to a student's graduation.**
- 5. Season of Competition: Participation in one or more intercollegiate contests whether in varsity, junior varsity, or freshman program.**
- 6. Transfer: A student who becomes identified with a USCAA institution after having previously been identified with a two or four-year institution.**

Section C.

Eligibility Requirements

For a student to be eligible for any intercollegiate competition, a member institution must ensure that the student conforms to the following regulations:

- 1. The student must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have earned a graduation equivalent degree (GED).**
- 2. All students must be enrolled in a recognized academic program and be making progress towards a 2/4 year degree at the attending college.**
- 3. All students must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits at time of participation. If a student is enrolled in less than 12 credits, he/she will be considered part-time for eligibility purposes.**
- 4. Second semester students must: a) pass 12 credit hours his/her first term, b) must have achieved a GPA of 1.6.**

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- 5. Thereafter, all students must pass 24 credit hours the preceding terms of attendance.**
- 6. After accumulating 24-48 credit hours, the student must have achieved a 1.75 cumulative GPA.**
- 7. After accumulating more than 48 credit hours, the student must achieve a 2.0 cumulative GPA.**
- 8. Summer and inter-term credit hours can be used to satisfy the 12/24 credit hour rule and GPA requirement. Summer credit hours should be attached to the preceding spring term for eligibility purposes. Winter term credits should be attached to the first semester.**

Section D.

Eligibility, Termination and, Re-Establishments

- 1. Each student is limited to four seasons of college competition within the respective sport.**
- 2. If a student is not enrolled as full-time status for 12 consecutive calendar months, he/she may return to a USCAA member college and be immediately eligible.**
- 3. A student who has not been identified with an institution during the first term does not become eligible to participate for second term until the first day of class.**
- 4. Two eligibility forms must be filed for sports spanning two semesters.**
- 5. A student who has graduated from a two-year institution the preceding semester shall be immediately eligible to participate.**
- 6. Military exemptions will be granted to students whose careers are interrupted by service in the military.**
- 7. A senior in a four-year college may be enrolled in less than 12 credits, if he/she is taking the credits necessary to complete graduation requirements.**

Section E. Transfer Requirements

- 1. Students transferring to USCAA member colleges must have passed 12 credit hours the previous full term of attendance and meet the necessary GPA requirement.**
- 2. Students transferring into USCAA member colleges during mid-season of a sport shall be ineligible for the remainder of the season with the following exceptions:**
 - a. The student did not participate in the sport the preceding semester**
 - b. The sport cancelled at the previous college.**

Section F. Submission of Eligibility Forms

- 1. USCAA eligibility forms must be signed by the registrar and be stamped with the college seal.**
- 2. Forms must be submitted to the eligibility chair prior to the first contest. For sports spanning two semesters, the form must be submitted prior to February 1.**
- 3. For adding players to rosters, the form needs to be resubmitted with the appropriate information. The deadline for adding players for sports spanning two semesters is February 1.**

Section G. Institutional Appeal

- 1. A member college may appeal an eligibility decision. A letter from the athletic director and student must accompany the appeal.**

Section H. Institutional Violation

- 1. Violations of USCAA eligibility guidelines will result in sanctions as determined by the Executive Board.**

Section I.

Hardship Cases

- 1. Hardship cases deal only with seasons of competition.**
- 2. The appeal must involve an injury, illness, or personal circumstance beyond the control of the student.**
- 3. The athlete involved shall not have participated in more than 20% of the regular scheduled games during the particular season.**