

Augusta University

Policy Library

Athletics Booster Policy

Policy Owner: Quality Mgmt

POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations, each member institution shall be responsible for ensuring that its institutional faculty, staff, students, and other individuals or groups representing the institution's athletics interests comply with all applicable association rules. This policy defines a representative of an institution's athletics interests and outlines NCAA regulations and Augusta University procedures that apply to qualifying individuals, groups, and entities.

AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS

Indicate all entities and persons within the Enterprise that are affected by this policy:

- Alumni Faculty Graduate Students Health Professional Students
 Staff Undergraduate Students Vendors/Contractors Visitors
 Other:

DEFINITIONS

Representative of Athletics Interests (or Booster): A "representative of the institution's athletics interests" is an individual who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution's executive or athletics administration to:

- a) Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization, including corporate entities, promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program;
- b) Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
- c) Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
- d) Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or
- e) Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution's athletics program.

NCAA Bylaw 13.02.12

Once an individual is identified as such a representative, the person retains that identity forever. *NCAA Bylaw 13.02.12.1*

Prospective Student-Athlete (or Prospect): A prospective student-athlete is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. In addition, a student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete, if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the

Office of Compliance and Enterprise Risk Management Use Only

Policy No.: 3277

Policy Sponsor: Type the title of the Executive Leader of the department.

Originally Issued: Not Set

Last Revision: 05/08/2017

Last Review: 12/13/2016

institution does not provide to prospective students generally. An individual remains a prospective student-athlete until either (1) the individual officially registers and enrolls in a minimum full-time program of studies and attends classes in any term of a four-year collegiate institution's regular academic year (excluding summer), or (2) the individual participates in a regular-squad practice or competition at a four-year collegiate institution. *NCAA Bylaw 13.02.9*

Recruiting: Any solicitation of a prospective student-athlete or a prospective student-athlete's relatives [or legal guardian(s)] by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics interests for the purpose of securing the prospective student-athlete's enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program. *NCAA Bylaw 13.02.10*

PROCESS & PROCEDURES

Annually, the Augusta University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (Athletics) will send all identified boosters the Guidelines for Jaguar Boosters which outlines pertinent NCAA regulations.

Annually, Athletics will meet with designated booster clubs for education, monitoring, and completion of the Booster Club Agreement.

Boosters are prohibited from providing a benefit to prospective and enrolled student-athletes (or their families) without prior approval from the Athletics compliance office. Acceptance of a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation may compromise a student-athlete's eligibility and subject the university to NCAA penalties. Thus, a booster should submit a written request for the provision of a benefit to the Athletics compliance office for consideration.

Boosters are permitted to host occasional meals for student-athletes at their home, on campus, or at a facility that is regularly used for home competition. Boosters may provide transportation to the meal only if it takes place at the booster's home. The sport's head coach must submit the Occasional Meal Request form to the Athletics compliance office for preapproval of the occasional meal.

Boosters are prohibited from engaging in recruitment of prospective student-athletes. The prohibition includes making contact with prospects or their relatives, coaches, teachers, or school administrators for the purpose of recruitment. Unavoidable, incidental contact or preexisting relationships with prospects and their relatives is permissible provided the booster does not discuss the possibility of participating in athletics at Augusta University. Boosters may notify Athletics of potential prospects.

Boosters are permitted to employ both prospective and currently enrolled student-athletes so long as (1) the student-athlete is only paid for work actually performed, (2) the student-athlete is paid the rate commensurate with the going rate in that locale for similar services, and (3) the student-athlete is not compensated for any value or utility he/she may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame, or personal following the student-athlete has obtained because of athletics ability. Student-athletes should submit the Student-Athlete Employment form to the Athletics compliance office prior to the start of employment. At the

time of employment verification, the Athletics compliance office will provide the employer with the NCAA employment rules. Student-athletes are responsible for updating employment information with the Athletics compliance office at least annually.

Questions regarding compliance with NCAA, conference, or institutional regulations as well as awareness of suspected or known violations should be addressed to the Athletics compliance office at athleticscompliance@augusta.edu.

REFERENCES & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (where are the supporting docs?)

[Guideline for Jaguar Boosters](#)

[Enterprise Compliance Training Module](#)

[Booster Club Agreement](#)

[Occasional Meal Request Form](#)

[Student-Athlete Employment Form](#)

RELATED POLICIES

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APPROVED BY:

President, Augusta University and CEO, AU Health System Date: 12/13/2016