



NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

CHAPTER 1200 - ATHLETICS

UNIVERSITY POLICY 1202, STUDENT-ATHLETE CLASS ATTENDANCE

SECTION 1201.1 POLICY STATEMENT

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (“NC A&T” or “University”) fosters the educational goals and intellectual development of all students. Participants in University intercollegiate athletic programs are bound to the same standard of academic excellence expected of all undergraduate and graduate students. Regular class attendance and participation is critical to learning and engagement. Since the pursuit of both academic and athletic excellence is a time-intensive activity, it is inevitable that student-athletes will face conflicts between their class and athletic schedules.

SECTION 1202.2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth principles and procedures aimed at reducing conflicts between the academic and athletic commitments of student-athletes, negotiating those that remain unavoidable, and ensuring both the integrity of the academic process as well as the fair treatment of student-athletes.

SECTION 1202.3 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all student-athletes enrolled at the University, and to faculty, staff, and administrators.

SECTION 1202.4 CLASS ATTENDANCE STANDARDS

Section 1202.4.1 Regular Class Attendance

- (a) Student-athletes are required to attend regularly scheduled course lectures and laboratory sessions for each course in which they are enrolled.
- (b) Unexcused absences from course lectures and laboratory sessions will subject student-athletes to disciplinary sanctions including, but not limited to, notification of the unexcused absences to the head coach or Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, suspension from athletics competition, or non-renewal of athletics aid.
- (c) Absences from class for any reason class does not relieve student-athletes from their obligation and expectation to complete the course or program requirements.

Section 1202.4.2 Athletics Practice and Competition

- (a) Student-athletes shall not miss regularly scheduled classes for any practice or conditioning activity.
 - (1) 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.
 - (2) For away competition with same-day or overnight travel, student-athletes shall not miss any classes prior to ninety (90) minutes before the scheduled time of departure or ninety (90) minutes after return to campus.
 - (3) For away competition with overnight travel, no team shall depart more than 48 hours prior to the day of competition, and all teams will return to campus within 36 hours of the end of competition.
 - (4) Competitions shall not be scheduled on any day on which final examinations are scheduled.
 - (5) No athletics team competition schedule will require a student-athlete to miss more than thirteen (13) days of class, or any specific class more than seven (7) times, in any semester. Requests for exception to this provision shall not be submitted for student-athletes who are not meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards during the term for which the exception is sought.
- (b) The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) and the Chair of the Chancellor's Council on Intercollegiate Athletics (CIA Chair) shall prospectively review all squad practice and competition schedules for potential conflicts with this Policy and advise the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics regarding any such potential conflicts.
- (c) Requests for exceptions to the policies related to home and away games in this Section must be submitted by the head coach with approval from the Director of the Student-Athlete Academic Enhancement Program, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Faculty Athletics Representative, and the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs prior to the travel or within the first thirty (30) days of the term for which the exception is sought, whichever occurs first.

Section 1202.4.3 Excused Absences

- (a) Student-athletes who miss class due to participation in home or away competition must be provided an opportunity to complete the coursework missed as a result of the competition.
- (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 shall not penalize student-athletes for missing classes due to conflicts with contractually scheduled athletic contests and related travel.
 - (1) Student-athletes who believe they have been penalized for participation in athletic competition by a faculty member must attempt to first resolve the matter with the faculty member.
 - (2) If the student and faculty member do not resolve the matter, the student-athlete may then seek assistance from the Faculty Athletics Representative.

- (d) Coaches shall not penalize student-athletes for missing practices due to conflicts with regularly scheduled classes.
 - (1) Student-athletes who believe that they have been penalized by a coach under this policy should first attempt to resolve the matter by contacting the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics.
 - (2) If the Athletics Director is unable to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the student-athlete, the student should seek assistance from the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Chair of the Chancellor's Council on Intercollegiate Athletics.
- (e) Documentation for excused absences will follow all policies and procedures which apply to students generally.

Section 1202.4.4 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.
- (b) In order to participate in competition when not representing the institution in National Governing Body (NGB) sanctioned events during or between terms of the regular academic year, student-athletes must obtain prior approval from the Office of Compliance Services (OCS). Approval may be obtained by initiating the Unattached/Outside Competition approval process prior to participation in any event. The permissible amount of missed class time shall be determined and approved by the Director of the Student-Athlete Academic Enhancement Program (SAAEP) as part of the approval process.

SECTION 1202.5 COMPLIANCE

Section 1202.5.1 Compliance Review and Reporting

- (a) Prior to the beginning of each semester, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will provide the Faculty Athletics Representative and the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs with a schedule of competition in each sport that will necessitate student-athletes being absent from class.
 - (1) The schedule will include the time and date of competition, destination, approximate departure time, approximate travel time, and approximate return time.
 - (2) The Faculty Athletics Representative, Provost, or Provost's designee may request that reasonable modifications be made to the proposed travel plans.
 - (3) The SAAEP will provide affected faculty with a list containing the time and date of competition, destination, approximate departure time, approximate travel time, and approximate return time.
- (b) The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics/SAAEP shall provide annually to the Chancellor's Council on Intercollegiate Athletics (CCIA) a report that summarizes compliance with this policy for the preceding academic year.

- (c) The CCIA shall annually submit a report which evaluates the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics' compliance with this policy for the preceding academic year to the Chancellor.
- (d) The Compliance Director for the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics shall annually review this policy and implementation procedures for continuing compliance with institutional and associational standards, and recommend any changes or revisions as applicable.

Section 1202.5.2 Policy Compliance

Students, faculty, or faculty members who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the applicable disciplinary policy.

POLICY HISTORY:

Eff. August 15, 2011

Revised Eff. November 14, 2018; August 1, 2023, August 21, 2023

AUTHORITY: Chancellor

POLICY OWNER: Director of Intercollegiate Athletics

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: Office of Athletics Compliance Services

RESOURCES:

NCAA Bylaw 17.1.7.6.2