

Academic & Athletic Eligibility

Congratulations on your decision to attend the University of Colorado. While you've reached the highest level of collegiate athletics, your academic performance is your top priority. In fact, as an NCAA Division I student-athlete, you must exceed the academic requirements of the University's general student body.

Please read the following information as it pertains to your academic and athletic eligibility. If you have questions or concerns about these requirements, speak with your Academic Coordinator in the Herbst Academic Center.

The following requirements apply to **all** CU student-athletes:

12-Hour Rule

To be eligible for practice and competition, you must be enrolled in at least 12 hours during the fall and spring semesters. If you need less than 12 hours to graduate, you can take only those required for your graduation during your final semester and still be eligible provided you have a graduation letter on file with the Herbst Academic Center.

NCAA Five-Year Rule

The NCAA stipulates that you have five academic years to complete four seasons of eligibility in a sport. These five years begin as soon as you enroll as a full-time student in any collegiate institution, regardless of whether you compete in athletics. If you withdraw from school at any time during these years, you do not regain that time.

NCAA Six-Hour Rule

To be eligible for competition, you must complete and pass a minimum of six-semester hours of degree-applicable academic credit in the previous full-time regular (fall and spring semesters) academic term.

NCAA Nine-Hour Rule

Additional Requirements -- Football. In football, a student-athlete who is a member of the institution's football team and who does not successfully complete at least nine-semester hours or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during the fall term and earn the Academic Progress Rate eligibility point for the fall term shall not be eligible to compete in the first four contests against outside competition in the following playing season.

Regaining Eligibility for Two Contests. A student-athlete who is ineligible, pursuant to Bylaw 14.4.3.1.6, to compete in the first four contests of a playing season against outside competition may regain eligibility to compete in the third and fourth contests of that season, provided he or she successfully completes at least 27-semester hours or 40-quarter hours of academic credit before the beginning of the next fall term. A student-athlete in his or her initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution may use credit hours earned at the certifying institution during the summer prior to initial full-time enrollment and credit hours earned during the summer following the regular academic year to satisfy the 27-semester/40-quarter credit-hour requirement.

Regaining Full Eligibility -- One-Time Exception. One time during a student-athlete's five-year period of eligibility, a student-athlete who does not successfully complete at least nine-semester hours or eight quarter hours of academic credit during the fall term and earn the Academic Progress Rate eligibility point for the fall term may regain eligibility to compete in the first four contests against outside competition in the following playing season, provided he or she successfully completes at least 27-semester hours or 40-quarter hours of academic credit before the beginning of the next fall term. A student-athlete in his or her initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at the certifying institution may use credit hours earned at the certifying institution during the summer prior to initial full-time enrollment and credit hours earned during the summer following the regular academic year to satisfy the 27-semester/40-quarter credit hour requirement.

Schedule Changes

The Herbst Academic Center is responsible for helping you understand and abide by the numerous University, Pac-12 Conference and NCAA eligibility requirements. Therefore, you must gain approval from your Academic Coordinator in the Herbst Academic Center prior to making any changes (adding/dropping courses, changing grade status) in your schedule. Meeting with this individual will prevent you from making changes that jeopardize your eligibility status.

University of Colorado Boulder GPA Requirements

You must maintain a GPA that keeps you in good academic standing with the University. If you fall below a 2.0 cumulative GPA, the University will put you on probation for a semester. If you fail to raise your cumulative GPA to a 2.0 during the following semester, you may be dismissed from CU.

Progress Toward Degree

The NCAA requires that you make progress toward your degree. Therefore, you must earn at least 6 degree-applicable semester hours each term and at least 18 degree-applicable credits each academic year (fall and spring).

The NCAA requires that you complete a designated percentage of your degree prior to your third, fourth and fifth years of enrollment. It also mandates that you meet a designated percentage of the GPA required for graduation prior to those same years. These requirements are outlined below.

Degree and GPA Requirements

Enrollment Year	% of Degree Completed	GPA % for Graduation
2 nd	NA	90%
3 rd	40%	95%
4 th	60%	100%
5 th	80%	100%

The minimum grade point average (90/95/100) must be certified on a term-by-term basis, based on the academic record in existence by the first date of competition of the academic term.