



Pac-12 Conference Executive Regulations Intra-Conference Transfer Rule

The purpose of this document is to analyze the Pac-12's intra-Conference transfer and spell out what happens when a student-athlete at one Pac-12 school transfers directly to another Pac-12 school.

Intra-Conference Transfer Rule

If a student-athlete transfers from one Pac-12 school directly to another Pac-12 school, he or she is subject to the following penalties:

- 1. The student-athlete must sit out during the first year of enrollment at the second Pac-12 school.**
 - a. The student-athlete cannot compete during the academic year but is allowed to practice with his or her respective team.
- 2. The student-athlete loses one season of eligibility in all Conference sports.**
 - a. This means that the student-athlete automatically loses one season of competition upon transfer, in addition to the redshirt year.

Who Does This Apply To?

The intra-Conference transfer rule will apply to any student-athlete that participates in a Conference sport, except for:

Exception 1: A student-athlete that was not recruited by and did not receive an athletics scholarship during his or her enrollment at the first Conference school.

Exception 2: A student-athlete that was recruited by the first Conference school but never received a scholarship from the school (athletic, academic, etc.) during his or her enrollment.

Note: The Conference uses NCAA Bylaw 13.12.13.1 in its determination of whether or not a student-athlete was "recruited" by a school.

Case Example

- A women's soccer student-athlete attended Pac-12 School X during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 academic years. The student-athlete competed and received an athletics scholarship during both academic years.
- Prior to the 2014-15 academic year, the women's soccer student-athlete transfers to Pac-12 School Y.
- During the 2014-15 academic year, the women's soccer student-athlete:
 - Cannot compete with the women's soccer team; she can only practice.
 - Will automatically lose 1 season of eligibility, which means that she will only have one season of eligibility remaining entering the 2015-16 academic year.

Intra-Conference Transfer Rule Waiver

Although the intra-Conference transfer rule does impose significant penalties, student-athletes do have the opportunity to seek relief from those penalties. If a student-athlete falls into the following four categories, they have the opportunity to submit an intra-Conference transfer waiver petition to the Conference office in order to request relief from any or all of the penalties imposed.

Category 1: A student-athlete who was recruited by and received non-athletics financial aid from the first Pac-12 school.

Category 2: A student-athlete that did not have their athletics scholarship renewed by the first Pac-12 school for the following academic year.

Category 3: A student-athlete that received an athletics scholarship at the first Pac-12 school, graduated from the first Pac-12 school, and gained admission into and enrolled in a graduate program at the second Pac-12 school without being recruited by said school. This student-athlete will not receive an athletics scholarship at the second Pac-12 school.

Category 4: A student-athlete that receives the support of the first Pac-12 school to waive the application of the year in residence penalty.

All intra-Conference transfer rule waiver petitions are sent to the Conference office and reviewed by the Faculty Athletics Representative Council (FARC) at their tri-annual meetings. The FARC reviews the petitions and votes to approve or deny them. The Council's decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.

How to File a Waiver With the Conference Office

Once a student-athlete is interested in transferring directly from one Pac-12 school to another Pac-12 school, that student-athlete should contact their current school's compliance office. The compliance staff will provide them with information regarding specific NCAA and Pac-12 Conference transfer regulations.

First, NCAA transfer regulations require a student-athlete's current school to provide another school with permission to contact the student-athlete about transferring; this is essentially a release to allow the student-athlete to speak with another school about transferring. If the first school denies the student-athlete's request to contact another school about transferring, the student-athlete has the ability to request a hearing to appeal the decision. The hearing must be conducted by a committee external to the athletics department and within 15 days of the student-athlete's request (see 13.1.1.3.1).

Second, if a student-athlete receives permission to contact another Pac-12 Conference school and transfers to that school, he or she will need to determine if they can seek relief from the Pac-12 intra-Conference transfer penalties (see *Intra-Conference Transfer Rule Waiver* section). If a student-athlete meets the criteria listed in any of the four waiver categories, he or she has the opportunity to submit an intra-Conference transfer waiver petition to the Conference office. In any event, the waiver petition requires the first Conference school to approve the waiver of any or all of the penalties applicable to the student-athlete. In order to obtain this information, the student-athlete will need to work with the compliance staff at the second Conference school that they have transferred to. The compliance staff will work with the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) at their school and obtain the required information from the first Conference school. Should the first Conference school deny a waiver of any or all of the intra-Conference transfer penalties, he or she has the authority to request a hearing to appeal the decision.

Once the second Conference school receives the waiver petition information from the first Conference school, they submit a completed waiver petition to the conference office. The conference office staff prepares these waiver petitions for review at the tri-annual meeting of the Faculty Athletics Representative Council (FARC). The FARC is responsible for reviewing and making a final determination for the approval or denial of the intra-Conference transfer waiver petitions.

To-Do Lists:

- *When considering a transfer from your current school*
 - Per NCAA recruiting rules, a student-athlete is only able to communicate with other schools about a possible transfer if his/her current school has given permission to do so.
 - A student-athlete will need to visit the following: (1) members of their sport's coaching staff to discuss the prospect of transferring as well as being granted permission to contact specific schools, and (2) the current school's athletics compliance office to discuss the relevant NCAA transfer regulations as well as provide a list of school's
 - If a student-athlete is not comfortable approaching a member of the coaching staff or compliance office to discuss a possible transfer, he/she should meet the Faculty Athletics Representative to discuss relevant NCAA regulations and potential options.
 - Permission to Contact:
 - If the school grants another school with permission to contact the student-athlete, he/she can communicate with the school's coaches pursuant to NCAA recruiting guidelines.
 - If the school denies a student-athlete's request to grant permission to contact another school, the student-athlete has the right to request a hearing to review the decision. This hearing must be conducted by an entity outside the athletics department and must allow the student-athlete an opportunity to actively participate. The entity must conduct the hearing and provide the student-athlete with written results of the hearing within 15 days of the student-athlete's request.
 - Transferring to Another School:
 - Once a student-athlete receives permission to contact and elects to transfer to another school, he/she will be required to serve the NCAA residence requirement prior to being eligible to compete.
 - Transfer Residence Requirement Exceptions:
 - There are a few exceptions to the transfer residence requirement that will allow the student-athlete to compete immediately at the subsequent school.
 - The student-athlete will need to speak with the compliance office at the subsequent school to determine if he/she meets a transfer exception.
 - Transferring to Another Pac-12 School
 - Beyond the NCAA transfer regulations any student-athlete desiring to transfer directly to another Pac-12 conference school must adhere to the relevant Pac-12 Intra-Conference transfer rules.
 - The student-athlete will need to meet with the compliance staff and/or Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) at the second Pac-12 school to discuss the possibility of filing an intra-Conference transfer waiver petition with the Pac-12 conference office.
 - If a student-athlete does not seek a waiver, he/she will not be able to compete and will lose a season of eligibility during the first academic year at the second Pac-12 school.
 - The compliance office will assist a student-athlete to determine if (1) a waiver petition can be filed and (2) relief from any or all of the penalties is warranted.
 - If the second Pac-12 school determines that a waiver petition is warranted, the compliance office and FAR will work with the student-athlete to obtain information relevant to the petition (e.g., student-athlete statement, etc.) as well as contact the first school to determine if they support providing relief from any or all of the intra-conference transfer penalties.
 - Remember, if the first school refuses to provide relief from any or all of the intra-conference penalties, the student-athlete can request a hearing with the first school. A group or entity outside of the athletics department must conduct this hearing.
 - The FAR, with the assistance of the compliance office, will develop the waiver petition and submit it to the conference office for review. Intra-conference transfer waivers are reviewed on a tri-annual basis.