

NCAA Student-Athlete Academic Requirements

Educational Tool for Academic Advisors and Student-Athletes

Year 1 (Freshman Year)

- A student-athlete must always be enrolled in a **minimum of 12-semester hours at ALL TIMES.**
- To be eligible for competition during the second semester, a student-athlete must pass a minimum of six-semester degree applicable hours in the previous term (fall semester).
- To be eligible for competition in Year 2, a student-athlete must pass 18-semester hours of degree applicable academic credit during the fall and spring semesters.
- To be eligible for competition in Year 2, a student-athlete must pass 24-semester hours (which includes summer school hours) of degree applicable credit during Year 1.
 - 0-level classes or remedial hours (e.g., ENGL 099, EDEL 097) only count toward the 24-semester hours during a student-athlete's first year of enrollment. In addition, a student-athlete may only use 6 hours of 0-level classes toward the 24-semester hour requirement.
 - Credit by Examination (CRE) hours may be used to fulfill the 6-hour, 18-hour and 24-hour requirements.
- To be eligible for competition in Year 2, a student-athlete must have a GPA that is 90% of the GPA required for their degree program. Usually a (1.8 G.P.A.)
- A student-athlete should be enrolled in MSU 101 (student-athlete orientation) as long as it will count toward his/her current designated degree program.

Year 2 (Sophomore Year)

- A student-athlete must always be enrolled in a **minimum of 12-semester hours at ALL TIMES.**
- To be eligible for competition during the Spring semester, a student-athlete must pass a minimum of six-semester degree applicable hours in the previous term (fall semester)
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 3, a student-athlete must pass 18-semester hours of degree applicable academic credit during the fall and spring semesters.
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 3, a student-athlete must have completed 40% (52 hours of 128-hour degree program) of the requirement for their degree program).
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 3, a student-athlete must have a GPA that is 95% of the GPA required for their degree program, usually 1.9 G.P.A.
- A student-athlete must declare a degree program at the end of his/her second year (fourth semester of enrollment).

Year 3 (Junior Year)

- A student-athlete must always be enrolled in a **minimum of 12-semester hours at ALL TIMES.**
- To be eligible for competition during the second semester, a student-athlete must pass a minimum of six-semester degree applicable hours in the previous term (fall semester).
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 4, a student-athlete must pass 18-semester hours of degree applicable academic credit during the fall and spring semesters.
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 4, a student-athlete must have completed 60% (77 hours for a 128-hour degree program) of the requirements for their degree program.
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 4, a student-athlete must have a GPA that is 100% of the GPA required for their degree program or a 2.0 G.P.A.

Year 4 (Senior Year)

- A student-athlete must always be enrolled in a minimum of 12-semester hours*.
- To be eligible for competition during the second semester, a student-athlete must pass a minimum of six-semester degree applicable hours in the previous term (fall semester).
 - To be eligible for competition in Year 5, a student-athlete must pass 18-semester hours of degree applicable academic credit during the fall and spring semesters.

- To be eligible for competition in Year 5, a student-athlete must have completed 80% (103 hours for a 128-hour degree program) of the requirements for their degree program)
- To be eligible for competition in Year 4, a student-athlete must have a GPA that is 100% of the GPA required for their degree program.

Year 5 (Fifth Year)

- A student-athlete must always be enrolled in a minimum of 12-semester hours*.
- To be eligible for competition during the second semester, a student-athlete must pass a minimum of six-semester degree applicable hours in the previous term (fall semester).
- A student-athlete should graduate by the end of the fifth year (tenth semester).

Year 1, Year 2, etc. refers to the number of years the student-athlete has been enrolled as a full-time student. Most student-athletes attend **MSU** after graduating from high school or transferring from a four-year college or junior college. The number of years a transfer has been attending college will determine which category (Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, etc.) he/she falls into once they transfer to **MSU**.

*If a student-athlete needs fewer than 12 hours to graduate with his/her undergraduate degree, he/she **CAN** be enrolled in less than 12 hours. If this is the case, the student-athlete must have a written statement from the academic advisor stating the required hours needed to complete his/her degree program.

If a student-athlete is enrolled in graduate school, he/she needs to be enrolled in a minimum of 9 hours.

A GPA is determined using MSU grade point average only and taking classes away from MSU will count toward credit hours but not GPA. So if a SA is taking classes to improve GPA, it can only be completed at MSU.

If you have any question regarding the material above, don't hesitate to contact Richard Fletcher, Associate Athletic Director/Compliance at 783-5136 or email at r.fletcher@moreheadstate.edu

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