



NCVF Compliance/Eligibility Checklist

This checklist is intended as a simple guide for teams to review major eligibility requirements. Teams are still expected to meet all [NCVF Governance Rules](#) requirements regardless of whether those rules are listed on this checklist. Answers to most questions can be found in the Compliance/Eligibility FAQs (see below), and any further questions can be directed to the [Compliance Committee Chair](#).

- All players are enrolled at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full time (undergraduate) or in at least 6 graduate-level credits at the school for which they will be competing.
 - Students at semester schools must meet requirements for Spring Semester.
 - Students at quarter schools must meet requirements for Winter AND Spring Quarters.
 - Graduating Senior and Co-op/Internship exceptions are available (see FAQs).
- League Teams – Team is in good standing with an NCVF Recognized League.
- Independent Teams – Team has established Active Participation by competing in at least two NCVF Recognized Events (Regulation or Fellowship) that hosted at least 4 teams and during which the team competed against at least two different schools (not including B teams).
- Team roster does not contain more than 2 Former Varsity Players (2023 Test Rule – Former Varsity classification only applies to NCAA and NAIA players, no restrictions on number of former community college or junior college players).
- Team roster does not contain ANY Current Varsity Athletes (players may not participate as members of a varsity program and a club program during the same academic year).
- Team roster does not contain ANY current or former Professional Players (see FAQs).
- Team roster does not contain players of the opposite gender.
- All players are within their 6 consecutive years of eligibility (2020 and 2021 COVID cancellation years do not count, see eligibility calendar in FAQs for more information).

Again, please consult the [NCVF Governance Rules](#) or Compliance/Eligibility FAQs below for additional information and then contact the [NCVF Compliance Chair](#) as needed.



NCVF Compliance/Eligibility FAQs

Where can I find the full NCVF Governance Rules, Appeal Information, and forms?

- [NCVF Governance Rules/Eligibility](#)

What are minimum enrollment requirements?

- A player must be enrolled at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full time (typically 9 credits for schools at which 12 credits is full time) in undergraduate level classes, or enrolled in at least 6 graduate level credits **AT THE SCHOOL FOR WHICH THEY HOPE TO COMPETE.**

If a student is taking credits at multiple schools, do those all count toward eligibility?

- No, a student must meet the minimum enrollment requirements at the school for which they hope to compete.

What if our school has a dual enrollment program?

- Guaranteed transfer credits do not count toward eligibility, the only credits that would count toward eligibility are those certified by the school's registrar as being credits at the school for which they hope to compete.
- Examples (12 credits is full time for all examples):
 - Player is taking 4 credits at University A and 8 credits at University B. There is no relationship between Universities A and B. Player is ineligible to participate at University A or University B because they are not enrolled $\frac{3}{4}$ full time at either university.
 - Player is taking 4 credits at University A and 8 credits at University B. Universities A and B have a guaranteed credit transfer program. Player is ineligible to participate at University A or University B because guaranteed transfer credits are not true dual enrollment programs and player is not enrolled $\frac{3}{4}$ full time at either university.
 - Player is taking 4 credits at University A and 6 credits a community college as part of a program that guarantees admission to University A down the road as part of the program. Player is ineligible to participate at University A because future enrollment does not establish current eligibility and player is not enrolled $\frac{3}{4}$ full time.
 - Player is taking 4 credits at University A and 8 credits at University B; however, all credits are part of one program at University A and the University A Registrar certifies all 12 credits as taking place at University A. Player is eligible to participate at University A as part of a true dual enrollment program.

If a player graduates in December, are they eligible for the following NCVF regular season/championship?

- No, a player must be enrolled during the NCVF Regular Season to establish eligibility for that season and NCVF Championship.

If a player graduates and then continues taking credits, are they eligible?

- Player would need to meet minimum enrollment requirements (3/4 full time undergrad or 6 graduate level classes) to participate. Players are not eligible for Graduating Senior Exception post-graduation except in the circumstances outlined in the following question/answer.

Who is eligible for a Graduating Senior Exception?

- Anyone who is enrolled in at least 1 credit during spring **semester** and graduating at the conclusion of spring **semester** in April, May, or June.
- Anyone who is enrolled in at least 1 credit during winter **quarter** and graduating at the conclusion of winter **quarter** in March or April.
- Anyone who is enrolled at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full time during winter **quarter**, is enrolled in at least 1 credit during spring **quarter**, and graduating at the conclusion of spring **quarter**.
- **Note:** Each player is only entitled to receive one Graduating Senior Exception per degree level (ex: one exception when finishing undergraduate degree, one exception when finishing graduate degree)
- [Form and instructions available here.](#)

Who is eligible for an Internship/Co-op Exception?

- Anyone taking a school recommended or required internship. [Form and instructions available here.](#)

How many years of eligibility does a player get?

- Each player is entitled to 6 consecutive years of eligibility. The 6 years begins the first year a player is listed on a collegiate club or collegiate varsity roster.
- See Calendar of Eligibility below.

What if a player is in their 7th year, but has only played 2 of those years?

- The player's eligibility has expired. Eligibility is based on consecutive calendar years, not number of years played.

What if a player missed years due to COVID-19 cancellations?

- The NCVF has excluded the cancelled 2020 and 2021 seasons from the 6 consecutive year calculations. See Calendar of Eligibility below.

Calendar of Eligibility

- 2023 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2015-2016 academic year/2016 NCVF season or later

- 2024 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2016-2017 academic year/2017 NCVF season or later
- 2025 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2017-2018 academic year/2018 NCVF season or later
- 2026 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2018-2019 academic year/2019 NCVF season or later
- 2027 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2019-2020 academic year or later
- 2028 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2022-2023 academic year/2023 NCVF season or later
- 2029 Championships – Eligible if first year of competition was 2023-2024 academic year/2024 NCVF season or later

Can Current Year Varsity Players participate with the club?

- No, Current Year Varsity Players are not eligible to participate with the club during the same academic year.
- Note: A player that leaves the varsity team within 7 days of the varsity Start of Competition (the first date the team may start playing matches) is not considered a Current Year Varsity Player.

Can Former Varsity Players participate with the club?

- Yes, each team may have up to 2 Former Varsity Players.
- 2023 Test Rule (Governance Rule 4.5): Limitation of 2 Former Varsity Players only applies to NCAA and NAIA varsity programs, there is no limitation on Former Varsity Players from junior or community colleges.

Can a player be rostered as a manager/practice player for the opposite gender's varsity program?

- Yes, being rostered as a manager/practice player for the opposite gender's varsity team has no effect on a player's NCVF eligibility.

Can a player be rostered for another sport's varsity program?

- Yes, being rostered for another (non-volleyball) sport's varsity program has no effect on a player's eligibility.

Can a player be rostered for a sand/beach varsity program?

- No, all volleyball varsity programs fall under NCVF Governance Rules. Players on sand/beach volleyball varsity teams would be subject to Current Year and Former Varsity limitations.

How many players can a team have on their roster?

- Teams will be limited to 15 players and 5 non-player personnel (coaches, managers, athletic trainers, etc.) at the NCVF Championships.

If the school allows a player to participate with the club, is that enough for NCVF eligibility?

- No, a player must meet all NCVF eligibility requirements in addition to all school requirements.

If the league allows a player/team to participate, is that enough for NCVF eligibility?

- No, all players and teams must meet all NCVF eligibility requirements in addition to all league requirements.

What constitutes a professional volleyball player?

- Current or former indoor professional volleyball players are ineligible to participate on NCVF teams.
- A player is considered professional at the point they are receiving regular payments for play beyond nominal travel/expense reimbursements.
- Most players in US adult leagues (NVA, PVL, etc.), do not meet the standards to be considered professional athletes by the NCVF, but a player for one of these teams/leagues that was receiving regular payments for play and training would be considered professional.

Can players under 18 participate?

- The NCVF Championship is an adult tournament and is limited to athletes 18 years of age or older at the start of the NCVF Regular Season (January 1st). Individual clubs/leagues/hosts may make independent determinations for their events.