Learning Objectives

- Overview of the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program (APP).
- Explain basic APP policies and procedures.
- Apply directives to basic fact scenarios.
- Analyze APP data.
**Academic Reform**

- Student-athlete accountability through increased academic-eligibility standards (2003).
- Enhanced academic rates of measure, real-time rate and better graduation rate (2004).
- Accountability through APP benchmark for postseason competition and penalties (2006; revised 2011).

**APP**

- Ensure the Division I membership is dedicated to providing student-athletes:
  - Exemplary educational and intercollegiate athletics experiences in an environment that recognizes and supports the academic mission of member institutions while enhancing ability to earn a four-year degree.
  - Serve as an academic point of access to postseason competition.

*Bylaws 14.01.4 and 14.8*

**Committee on Academics**

Duties:

- Administrative body and oversight of academics including APP.
  - Oversee data collection process.
  - Identify APP "cut" lines.
  - Provide interpretations of APP legislation and policies.

*Bylaw 14.8*
Committee on Academics

Duties (continued):

- Communicate annual APP rates (Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR)).
- Identify teams that demonstrate academic excellence.
- Serve as the appellate body for APP policies and penalties.

Bylaw 14.8

APP Data Collection

- GSR.
- Academic Performance Census (APC).
- NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR).

GSR

- More specific than Federal Graduation Rate.
  - Includes transfers into an institution and midyear enrollees.
  - Removes student-athletes who withdraw and would have been academically eligible to compete the next term had they returned.
- Calculated for every sport.

Number of Real Graduates Since 1995 vs. Number who Would Have Graduated with No Increase in GSR

Annual GSRs of All Student-Athletes at Division I Institutions Overall and by Gender

APC

- Annual compilation of academic performance variables (e.g., credit hours, grade-point average).
- Academic data used for NCAA research purposes.
- Data informs academic policies.
- Submitted online using the APP Data Collection Program.
- Collected in fall term with APR data.
APR

- Real-time rate, calculated term-by-term.
- Includes all student-athletes on a team in a given year (as opposed to entering class).
  - Includes student-athletes receiving athletically related financial aid; or
  - For nonscholarship programs/teams, a subset of recruited student-athletes.

APR

- Points awarded for eligibility/graduation and retention.
- Toted over most recent four years (cohort).
- Used in analysis for eligibility for postseason competition, APP penalties and public recognition of top academically performing teams.

Due Dates

- GSR:
  - June 1.
- APR and APC:
  - Six weeks (42 calendar days) following the member institution’s first day of classes for the fall term.
  - Failure to submit results in an institution being declared ineligible for postseason competition, including NCAA championships and bowl games.
### APR Timeline

- **Data Submission Phase**: (APP data due six weeks after first day of class).
- **Verification Phase**: (NCAA staff verifies data entered properly).
- **Data Correction/APR Adjustment Phase**: (14 calendar days to request corrections or adjustments).
- **Penalty Waiver Phase**: (14 calendar days to request a waiver).
- **Final Submit**: (All opportunities to change data or request a waiver have expired; email is sent to chancellor or president).

### APR Calculation

- Two available points each academic term.
  - Eligibility "E" point = student-athlete meets academic eligibility standards **as of the end of the academic term**.
  - Retention "R" point = student-athlete is enrolled full-time **as of the census date or the fifth week of classes of the next term**.

\[
\text{Number of points earned} \times 1,000 = \text{APR}
\]

### Delayed-Graduation Points

- Point awarded in the term the former student-athlete graduates (1/0).
- Restores lost APR "E" or "R" point from last term student-athlete was in the cohort.
- Delayed-graduation points awarded for any academic year cohort that comprise the multiyear APR cohort.

**cont...**
Delayed-Graduation Points

Criteria/Directive:
• Student-athlete graduates from your institution in any year making up the four-year APR cohort.
• Student-athlete was not included in the team's APR cohort in the term in which he or she graduated from your institution.
• Student-athlete lost the “E” or “R” point in his or her last term in the APR cohort; or would have lost a point if the student-athlete departed prior to the implementation of the APR in 2003-04.

Example APR

Multiyear Rate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
<th>2013-14</th>
<th>Multi-Year APR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team's single-year APR</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>861</td>
<td>943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of delayed graduation points</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility rate</td>
<td>20/22 (909)</td>
<td>23/24 (958)</td>
<td>24/24 (1000)</td>
<td>15/18 (833)</td>
<td>82/88 (932)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retention rate</td>
<td>20/22 (909)</td>
<td>23/24 (958)</td>
<td>24/24 (1000)</td>
<td>16/18 (889)</td>
<td>83/88 (943)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APR Adjustments

• Discount lost APR point(s) for a term or terms from the denominator.
• May request adjustment to lost “E” point, lost “R” point or both.
• Requests are based on mitigation affecting individual student-athletes.
APR Automatic Adjustments

- Transfer to another four-year institution.
  - 2.600 grade-point average.
- Professional athletics departure.
  - Earned eligibility point during last term.
- Medical-absence waiver.
- Missed-term exception.

Documentation is maintained on campus.

Adjustment Review Process

Guiding Principles/Directive:

- Circumstances surrounding individual student-athlete.
- Circumstances beyond the control of the student-athlete and/or team/institution.
- Contemporaneous documentation to support mitigation?

Decisions/Appeals:

- Initial decision by staff.
- Appeals to the NCAA Division I Committee on Academic Subcommittees on Data Collection and Reporting.

Example Adjustment Calculation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Members</th>
<th>Fall 2014 Eamed E/ R-Yes</th>
<th>Spring 2015 Eamed E/ R-Yes</th>
<th>Point Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Jack N.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Tiger W.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Walter H.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- No</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Ben H.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- No / R- No</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Gary P.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Tom W.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Bobby J.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- No / R- Yes</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Arnold P.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Gene S.</td>
<td>E- Yes / R- Yes</td>
<td>E- No / R- Yes</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>18/18</td>
<td>13/18</td>
<td>31/36 (86%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example Adjustment Calculation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walter H.</td>
<td>E-Yes/R-Yes</td>
<td>E-Yes/R-No</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adjustment request for lost R point:
- Was the mitigation outside the control of the student-athlete and/or team/institution?
- Is there contemporaneous documentation to support the mitigation?

Example Adjustment Calculation

Adjusted APR calculation:

\[
\text{Single Year APR} \quad \frac{31}{35} = 0.886 \times 1000 = 886
\]

Access to Postseason Competition and APP Penalties
What's New

- Transition Period has ended: 930 APR penalty benchmark.
- Limited Resource filters no longer available for APP penalties or loss of postseason.
- Track Cohort: combined as one team rather than separate indoor and outdoor teams.

Access to Postseason

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors established a 930 multiyear APR benchmark for access to 2015-16 postseason competition:

- Postseason includes all events conducted after last regular season contest or end of conference tournament (e.g., bowl games, NIT, WNIT, etc.).
- Conferences determine ability to compete in conference tournaments.
- Applies to individual competitors on teams not meeting standards.
- Waiver process available.

Postseason Benchmarks

- To access postseason competition in 2015-16 and beyond:
  - Need a multiyear APR of at least 930 OR, after subject to first postseason restriction, have a two-year average APR of 950 or higher in the two most recent years.
  - Mission filter available based on resources (e.g., bottom 15 percent as defined by Committee on Academics) one time only.
APP Penalties

- Institutions must have a multiyear APR of 930 to avoid penalties.
- APP penalties are separate from eligibility for postseason competition.

APP Penalties Benchmarks

- Four-year APR of 930 or higher to avoid APP penalties.
- Team subject to level two- or three- penalty can use improvement filter. Improvement defined as two-year average APR of 950 in the two most recent years.
Level One Penalties

- Reduce four hours and one day of countable athletically related activity (CARA) per week in-season.
  - Results in 16 hours per week rather than 20 hours; and
  - Five days per week rather than six days.
- Time replaced by academic activities.

Level Two Penalties

Level Two Penalties Include:

- Level-One penalties (in-season); and
- Reduce four hours of CARA per week out-of-season.
  - Results in four hours per week rather than eight hours; and
  - Time replaced by academic activities.
- Cancel non-championship season/spring football.
- For sports without non-championship season, 10 percent reduction in contests and length of season.

Level Three Penalties

Level Three Penalties Include:

- Level-One and Level-Two penalties; and

Menu Options May Include:

- Financial aid penalties (any amount, any type).
- Practice penalties (reduction of four hours/week and up).
- Contest reductions (10 percent up to full season).
- Restricted and corresponding membership.
- Coach-specific penalties, including game restrictions, recruiting restrictions.
- Restricted access to practice for incoming student-athletes that fall below predetermined academic standards.
- Multiyear postseason competition ban.
APP Penalty and Postseason Waivers

APP Waiver Directive

• First occasion postseason ineligibility requires extraordinary mitigation. The Committee on Academics says this does NOT include:
  o Head coaching change;
  o Significant leadership change at the institution; or
  o Institutional reclassification.

  cont...

APP Waiver Directive

• Second occasion postseason ineligibility and ANY APP Penalty waiver considerations:
  o The team’s academic performance (improvement).
  o Mitigation tied to team’s point loss.
  o NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate (APR) Improvement Plan.
  o An expectation the team can improve to 930 within a reasonable period of time.
**APP Waivers/Appeals Process**

**Level-One APP Penalty and Postseason Competition:**
- Staff makes decision.
- Institution may appeal to the Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals.
  - If APP penalties, subcommittee reviews using documentation.
  - If postseason, institution presents appeal.

**Level-Two APP Penalty and Postseason Competition:**
- Staff makes decision.
- Institution may appeal to Subcommittee on Penalties and Appeals.
  - Institution presents appeal.

**Level-Three APP Penalty and Postseason Competition:**
- All institutions must submit a waiver setting forth recommended penalties or request for relief.
- Staff makes initial recommendation (approval or partial approval, with or without conditions).
- If staff recommendation unacceptable, waiver forwarded to Committee on Academics for in-person hearing.
APR Improvement Plans

APR Improvement Plans are meant to stimulate immediate improvements in team academic performance:

• Monitor and analyze each team's academic, retention and graduation performance;
• Identify critical issues impacting team's academic performance;
• Develop initiatives to address the team's critical issues.

APR Improvement Plan Requirements

• Required for all teams under 930 multiyear APR.
• Must include element that assesses and evaluates team's academic admissions profiles and academic outcomes.
• Data analysis of team’s APR performance.
• Broad-based campus participation.
• Reviewed and approved by institution’s chancellor or president.
• Submitted via online database.
APP Resources

- Data – Anne Rohlman
  arohlman@ncaa.org
- Level One and Two penalties and loss of access to postseason competition and APR Improvement Plans - Katy Yurk
  kyurk@ncaa.org
- Level Three penalties and loss of access to postseason competition – Andy Louthain
  alouthain@ncaa.org

APP Table Hours
Data/Waivers/Plans

Indianapolis Site:

**Tuesday:**
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Rooms 302 and 303 (3rd floor)
4:45 to 5:45 p.m. in Rooms 302 and 303 (3rd floor)

**Wednesday:**
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Rooms 305 and 306 (3rd floor)
4:45 to 6:45 p.m. in Rooms 305 and 306 (3rd floor)

Denver Site:

**Tuesday:**
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Capitol 3 Room
4:45 to 5:45 p.m. in Capitol 3 Room

**Wednesday:**
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Capitol 3 Room
4:45 to 6:45 p.m. in Capitol 3 Room
Thank you for attending