



BOOSTERS' GUIDE TO NCAA RULES

RU a Booster?

Whether you are an alumnus or a super fan, we are thrilled to have you in the RU family! Please note, not all alumni are boosters, and not all boosters are alumni. A booster is an individual, agency, entity or organization who is known by Rutgers to:

- *Have made any type of financial or in-kind contribution to the athletics department or booster organization for the department;
- *Have been a season ticket holder for any sport;
- *Have been a member of any organization promoting Rutgers athletics (e.g., SKWC, Touchdown Club, Letterwinners Club);
- *Have arranged for or provided benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families or to prospective student-athletes or their families; or
- *Have otherwise promoted Rutgers athletics program in any manner.

Once a Booster, always a Booster!

Once you have been identified as a Rutgers booster, you retain that status FOREVER! As a Rutgers booster, you are bound by NCAA, Big Ten and University rules; and therefore, Rutgers is held responsible for your actions.

Yes, YOU CAN... but ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!

- ✔ Send information (e.g., internet postings, news articles, etc.) about a prospective student-athlete to Rutgers coaching staff members.
- ✔ Provide an occasional meal at your home or on campus.
-Any requests must receive prior approval from the Office of Athletic Compliance.
- ✔ Employ a student-athlete during the academic year or summer, as long as they are paid at the going rate and only for work actually performed.
-Any employment of student-athletes must receive prior approval from the Office of Athletic Compliance.
- ✔ Endow an athletic scholarship or athletics award through the university's regular procedures.
- ✔ Sponsor (via a bona fide Rutgers alumni organization) a local event for prospective student-athletes, as long as it is open to all Rutgers prospective students.
-Please check with the Office of Athletic Compliance to determine whether your organization meets the NCAA definition of "bona fide."
- ✔ Continue established relationships with friends and neighbors, including the children of these families, provided the relationship is not established for recruiting purposes or at the direction or encouragement of Rutgers staff; and so long as you provide benefits only which are similar in nature to benefits provided prior to the family's child becoming a prospect/student-athlete.

PLEASE DO NOT...

- ❌ Engage in any in-person contact with prospective student-athletes, unless you receive previous approval from an athletic department staff member or the Office of Athletic Compliance.
- ❌ Provide current or prospective student-athletes with any benefit or special arrangement without prior approval of the Office of Athletic Compliance.
- ❌ Provide or arrange a loan for a current or prospective student-athlete, their family or friends no matter the amount.
- ❌ Pay for, arrange for payment of, or provide cost-free room, board, or transportation for a student-athlete or their family and friends. An NCAA institution had a major violation this past year because a booster provided housing and use of a vehicle at a reduced rate to student-athletes.
- ❌ Provide or arrange for the provision of gifts or free or reduced-cost services of any kind (e.g., reduced rent, summer storage space, use of a car, etc.).
- ❌ Provide awards to student-athletes that are not approved by Rutgers Athletics or provided through the University. All awards provided to student-athletes must meet NCAA specifications.
- ❌ Provide any academically related, special treatment to a prospective or current student-athlete that would not otherwise be available to general students. Note: student-athletes may now be subject to penalties for impermissible academic assistance and/or academic misconduct due to pre-enrollment actions by boosters.
- ❌ Attempt to engage current or prospective student-athletes in any sports wagering activities (e.g., requesting inside information, point-shaving, etc.).



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There are many avenues to support your favorite RU teams or student-athlete while following the rules!

Our student-athletes are able to receive more benefits than ever before. However, it is important to note that these benefits must be provided through the University. These benefits come not only from your contributions, but also through additional funding provided by the NCAA to assist student-athletes in many aspects of their academic & personal lives.

R FUND is Rutgers Athletics' annual giving program. The financial contributions of our donors help R Fund advance the mission of Rutgers Athletics and give our student-athletes the resources they need to realize their full potential as students, as athletes, and as individuals. Interested individuals can learn more about the most effective methods and means of support by contacting the Rutgers Athletic Development Office at 848-932-7629 or by visiting <http://www.scarletknights.com/development>.

A CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETE is any Rutgers student who is a member of any Rutgers intercollegiate athletics team. NCAA rules apply to all student-athletes, not only those who were recruited or who receive an athletic scholarship. NCAA rules apply year-round to current student-athletes from the time they first enroll as a full-time student until they graduate from Rutgers.

A PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE (Prospect)

Any individual who:

- (1) has started classes for the ninth grade;
- (2) has not yet started classes for the ninth grade but who receives any benefits from anyone affiliated with Rutgers if that same benefit is not available to prospective students generally; or
- (3) a potential transfer student for whom Rutgers has received "permission to contact."

All references to "prospect" extend to include that individual's parents, guardians, relatives and friends.

An individual remains a prospect until he or she reports for official team practice, attends classes as a full-time student at Rutgers, or attends summer classes at Rutgers immediately prior to full-time enrollment.

Let's leave recruiting to the coaches. But, if you would like to pass along information about a prospective student-athlete to one of our coaches, you are welcome to do so.

Thank You!

Thank you for taking time to review this important information and of course, for your support of Rutgers Athletics! Compliance with NCAA rules is vital to maintaining the integrity of the University and continuing to build a program of which we all can be proud! Violations of NCAA rules can jeopardize the eligibility of a current or prospective student-athlete. As a member of the Rutgers community, we need your commitment to follow NCAA rules, to ask questions when you are not sure if something is permissible, and to report issues or violations of which you are aware.

RU craving more information?

A more comprehensive overview of the NCAA rules & regulations can be found on <http://www.scarletknights.com/compliance> & on www.ncaa.org. Also, our athletic compliance staff is always available address any athletic compliance questions. Be a member of the RU athletics compliance team! Help us prevent situations before they occur by calling the Office of Athletic Compliance at 732.445.7845 with questions or concerns.

BIG

