

WHAT IS AN IMPERMISSIBLE “EXTRA BENEFIT”?

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an *institutional employee or a representative of the institution's athletic interests* to provide a student-athlete or the student-athlete's relative or friend a benefit not expressly authorized by the NCAA legislation. If the benefit is available to all UB students, or to a particular segment of UB students (minority students, international students, honors students), then UB may provide that benefit to student-athletes. Always check first, as receipt of an extra benefit can greatly affect a student-athlete's eligibility!

BENEFITS, GIFTS AND SERVICES

Occasional Meals

A student-athlete or the entire team in a sport may receive an occasional family home meal from an institutional staff member or booster under the following conditions:

- ◆ The meal can be provided in an individual's home and may be catered.
- ◆ **For UB faculty/staff ONLY**— meal may be in a local restaurant (within 30 miles of UB North Campus).
- ◆ Meals must be restricted to infrequent and special occasions.
- ◆ Institutional staff members may provide reasonable local transportation to student-athletes to attend such meals. A booster may provide reasonable local transportation to student-athletes only if that meal function is at the home of that representative;
- ◆ UB permits 3 meals per semester per team.
- ◆ **All requests must be handled through the Office of Compliance.**

Discounts and Credits

A student-athlete may not receive a special discount, payment arrangement or credit on a purchase (airline ticket, clothing) or service (laundry, dry cleaning) from a UB employee or booster.

Free or Reduced Costs Services

A UB employee or booster may not provide a student-athlete with professional services (for which a fee normally would be charged) without charge or at a reduced cost except as permitted by NCAA legislation. If a student-athlete receives a discount or a reduced rate for a service, then all UB students must receive the same benefit.

For example, if a local dry cleaner wants to provide a 25% discount to any UB student, then UB student-athletes may take advantage of the discount.

Telephone and Credit Cards

It is not permissible to allow a student-athlete to use a telephone or a credit card for personal reasons without charge or at a reduced rate.

Entertainment Services

A student-athlete may not receive services (e.g., movie tickets, dinners, use of car) from commercial agencies (e.g., movie theaters, restaurants, car dealers) without charge or at reduced rates or free or reduced admission to professional athletics contests from professional sports organizations, unless such services also are available to the student body in general. Even if the tickets were obtained free of charge or as a gift, employees may not provide them to a student-athlete for free.

Other Prohibited Benefits

A UB employee or booster may not provide a student-athlete with extra benefits or services, including, but not limited to:

- ◆ A loan of money or cosigning a loan
- ◆ A guarantee of bond
- ◆ Birthday and/or holiday gifts

TRAVEL

Permissible:

Staff members may provide **reasonable local transportation** (within 30 miles of the UB North Campus) to student-athletes on an occasional basis. Student-athletes should not be relying on the transportation on a regular basis (once a week or once a month), but rather the transportation should be limited to unique and infrequent occasions.

Non-permissible:

- ◆ Automobile—An institution may not provide a student-athlete with use of an automobile under any circumstances.
- ◆ Summer Job—An institution may not pay a student-athlete's transportation to or from his or her summer job, unless such expenses are paid for all employees in that situation.
- ◆ Rides home, out of town, out of state, etc. are not reasonable local transportation and are not permissible, even if the student-athlete reimburses the staff member for the cost of gas and tolls.

www.buffalobulls.com



A Guide to NCAA Rules for University at Buffalo Faculty and Staff



Why knowledge of NCAA rules is important to you...

Because action taken on the part of any UB employee can result in a student-athlete being declared ineligible by the NCAA!

This guide provides the Faculty and Staff of the University at Buffalo with basic information concerning NCAA rules. The NCAA has specific guidelines for what constitutes an “extra benefit” in regards to our student-athletes and to prospective student-athletes.



This pamphlet focuses on the academic and other support services available to student-athletes. By assisting the institution in rules compliance, you are not only adding to the integrity of The University at Buffalo, but you are protecting the athletic eligibility of our student-athletes. Knowledge of the rules is the best prevention of inadvertent violations.

If you have any questions regarding NCAA and Mid-American Conference rules and regulations, please contact:

The Division of Athletics
Office of Compliance
Phone: 716-645-3146
Fax: 716-645-3756

www.buffalobulls.com/teaminfo/compliance

Go Bulls! Let's win the right way!

REPRESENTATIVE OF ATHLETICS INTERESTS (more commonly referred to as “boosters”)

In Division I, a representative of an institution's athletics interests is an individual who is known (or who should have been known) by a members of the institution's executive or athletics administration to:

- ◆ Have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution's intercollegiate athletics program;
- ◆ Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution;
- ◆ Be assisting or to have been requested (by the athletics department staff) to assist in the recruitment of prospects;
- ◆ Be assisting or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families; or
- ◆ Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution's athletics program.

All UB Blue and White Club members are boosters. Boosters retain the booster “title” for life, regardless of the amount of participation in the booster club and/or the Division of Athletics. Boosters who violate NCAA rules risk disassociation by the Division of Athletics.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE (PSA)

A PSA is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade. A student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a PSA if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students generally. Only coaches may call, write and recruit prospective student-athletes.

STUDENT ATHLETE

A student-athlete is an active member of any of UB's varsity teams. NCAA rules apply year round to all student-athletes, regardless of athletic scholarship, year in school, or eligibility.

If you're not sure about a rule...
contact the Office of Compliance
at 645-3146.



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

ACADEMIC AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

NCAA rules allow institutions to provide academic support, advising and tutoring to all of our student-athletes. All academic support staff should fully understand NCAA legislation regarding “academic fraud”.

Tutors and all academic support staff members are

EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED from:

- Collaborating on a student-athlete's paper, assignment or test
- Typing notes, papers, tests, etc.
- Proofreading papers, tests, etc.
- Researching for papers, presentations or tests and/or providing articles or other information for papers, presentations or tests

Academic fraud is a very serious offense that can lead to severe NCAA sanctions against the student-athlete and the athletic department. Student-athletes seeking help on papers should be directed to *The Writing Place* in Talbert Hall.

Permissible-Academic and other support services that may be financed by an institution are:

- Tutoring expenses
- Drug rehabilitation program expenses
- Counseling expenses related to the treatment of eating disorders
- On-campus student development and career counseling (including the provision of related materials of little or no commercial value to student-athletes) utilizing outside resources
- Future professional athletics career counseling from the UB professional sports counseling panel
- Use of computers that are for general student use
- Copy, faxing or printing for academic needs
- Mandatory course supplies in required MAJOR courses for student-athletes on book scholarships
- Cost of a field trip, provided the field trip is required of all students in the course and the fee for such trip is specified in the UB catalog

Non-permissible-Services that may NOT be financed by the institution:

- Typing costs, even if typed reports and other papers are a requirement for the course in which a student-athlete is enrolled
- Non mandatory courses supplies or course supplies for elective courses
- Copying, printing, faxing, postage for personal use