14.2.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after the one calendar-year period has elapsed) following his or her high school graduation date shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2. (Adopted: 1/8/01 effective 8/1/01, Revised: 2/21/08, 1/16/10)

14.2.4.2.1 Administration of Participation in Organized Competition.

14.2.4.2.1.1 High School Graduation. An individual’s high school graduation date (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) shall be considered to be the graduation date of the final high school class (e.g., junior, senior) of which he or she was a member. (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

14.2.4.2.1.1.1 Early High School Graduation. If an individual graduates early from high school, he or she becomes a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class. (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

14.2.4.2.1.1.2 Late High School Graduation—Required Repeat Year. If an individual is required to repeat an entire year of high school attendance, he or she becomes a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class. (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

14.2.4.2.1.3 Discontinued High School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one calendar year has elapsed) following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

14.2.4.2.2 Organized Competition. Athletics competition shall be considered organized if any one of the following conditions exists: (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

(a) Competition is scheduled in advance;
(b) Official score is kept;
(c) Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained;
(d) Official timer or game officials are used;
(e) Admission is charged;
(f) Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;
(g) Team uniforms are used;
(h) An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
(i) The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

14.2.4.2.3 Academic Year in Residence. An individual who uses a season of competition in a specific sport per Bylaw 14.2.4.2 shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

14.2.4.2.3.1 Exception—Transfer Student. A student who has attended a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution for at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters and who has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit for each full-time academic term of
attendance at the two-year or four-year collegiate institution is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. This exception shall not apply to the use of a season(s) of intercollegiate competition for each 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which an individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2. (See Bylaws 14.4 and 14.5 for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.) (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10, Revised: 5/7/10, 4/15/14)

14.2.4.2.1.3.2 Exception—Graduate Student. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or equivalent degree program is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (See Bylaws 14.1.8 and 14.4 for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.) (Adopted: 4/15/14)

14.2.4.2.2 Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition. An individual shall not be charged with a season of intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 following the one-year time period after the individual's high school graduation and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. (Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10)

14.2.4.2.2.1 U.S. or Canadian Armed Services Exception. Participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted during time spent on active duty in the U.S. or Canadian Armed Services. (Adopted: 1/8/01 effective 8/1/01, for those individuals first entering a collegiate institution on or after 8/1/01, 4/15/14, Revised: 7/22/14)

14.2.4.2.2 National/International Competition Exception. For a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted if the competition is national or international competition that includes participation in: (Adopted: 1/8/01 effective 8/1/01, for those individuals first entering a collegiate institution on or after 8/1/01)

(a) Official Pan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games, World University Championships and Olympic training, tryouts and competition; (Revised: 10/18/11)
(b) Officially recognized training and competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic tryouts; or
(c) Official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport).

14.2.4.2.2.3 Skiing Exception. For a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted in skiing when such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the U.S. Skiing Association and its international counterparts. (Adopted: 1/8/01 effective 8/1/01, for those individuals first entering a collegiate institution on or after 8/1/01)

14.2.4.2.2.4 Men's Ice Hockey Exception. In men’s ice hockey, for a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted, provided such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the United States Hockey Association or the international equivalent. (Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)

14.2.4.2.2.4.1 Major Junior Ice Hockey—Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who participates on a Major Junior men's ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs. The individual shall fulfill an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.3) before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition in men’s ice hockey. (Adopted: 1/15/11 effective 8/1/11)
14.2.4.2.3 Waiver. The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to review and grant waivers of the organized competition legislation. (*Adopted: 1/16/10 effective 8/1/10, for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after 4/1/10*)