NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification
Governance & Commitment to Rules Compliance (Class 9)

The committee developed these measurable standards to clarify expectations for each operating principle and to bring more consistency to the athletics certification process for institutions, peer-review teams and the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification.

~ Measurable Standards for Operating Principle 1.1 ~
Institutional Control, Presidential Authority and Shared Responsibilities

- The institution’s governing board’s oversight and policy formulation for athletics must be consistent with its policies and stated responsibilities for other units of the institution.

- The president or chancellor must have clear and direct oversight of the athletics program.

- The institution should identify individuals or groups external to the athletics department that have meaningful input in formulation of policies and the periodic review of policy implementation.

~ Measurable Standards for Operating Principle 1.2 ~
Rules Compliance

- The institution must provide evidence that all individuals inside the athletics department have statements regarding the importance of rules compliance in all of the following documents: contracts or letters of appointment, performance evaluations and job descriptions.

- The institution must provide evidence that all individuals outside the athletics department who are involved or associated with athletics have statements regarding the importance of rules compliance in all of the following documents: contracts or letters of appointment, performance evaluations and job descriptions.

- The institution must provide documentation that demonstrates that its entire rules-compliance program has been subject to an external comprehensive review once every four years.

- The institution’s comprehensive compliance review must be conducted by an individual(s) external to athletics who is knowledgeable of NCAA compliance and who does not have day-to-day responsibilities in the areas under review.

- The comprehensive review must demonstrate that the rules-compliance program is engaged and functioning.
The comprehensive rules-compliance evaluation must include, at a minimum, the following areas:

- Initial-eligibility certification
- Continuing-eligibility certification
- Transfer-eligibility certification
- Financial aid administration, including individual and team limits
- Recruiting (e.g., official visits, contacts, phone calls)
- Camps and clinics
- Investigations and self-reporting of rules violations
- Rules education
- Extra benefits
- Playing and practice seasons
- Student-athlete employment

The institution must...

- Assign direct accountability for rules compliance to the individual the president or chancellor assigns overall responsibility for the athletics program (e.g., athletics director, vice president for athletics).
- Have written compliance policies and procedures.
- Identify individuals who have compliance-related responsibilities and must identify the reporting lines of these individuals.
- Ensure that the compliance policies and procedures are functioning.
- Identify individuals external to the athletics department who are active participants in critical and sensitive areas of compliance (e.g., eligibility certification, investigation and self-reporting of rules violations, monitoring financial aid).
- Demonstrate that individuals external to the athletics program (e.g., registrar, financial aid personnel, faculty athletics representative) are engaged in the critical and sensitive areas of compliance.
- Have an ongoing educational program for all individuals associated with the athletics program including boosters, institutional staff members, student-athletes and athletics department staff, which includes coaches.