



Athletic Financial Aid Policy

(Fall 2025)

I. Policy Introduction

Syracuse University, under the Higher Education Act of 1965, Title IV and the NCAA Division I Article 15, Financial Aid bylaw, is entitled to administer and is responsible for accurate delivery of, financial aid to eligible student-athletes.

Improper administration of the Athletic Financial Aid Program (Program) may result in fines and/or penalties against a particular team, the Department of Athletics, or in the case of a Title IV violation, may impact the university's ability to administer financial aid to all students. As such, the Athletic Financial Aid program delivery requires precise execution and thoughtful collaboration with our university partners.

II. Whom This Policy Applies

The Athletic Financial Aid Policy (Policy) applies to student-athletes, coaches, staff, and administrators. Parents or guardians of student-athletes also play a role in documenting and submitting supporting material for evaluation of eligibility under the Department of Education's FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) program as well as completing information for the College Board College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile.

III. Policy Principles

A. Guiding Objectives

- a. Athletic financial aid at Syracuse University is to be distributed fairly and equitably according to applicable federal laws and mandates and under the auspices of the NCAA bylaw.
- b. Syracuse University leverages athletic financial aid as a mechanism to recruit and retain outstanding student-athletes who bring competitive excellence to the classroom and to the playing and practice field.
- c. The goal of the Program is to make the cost of attendance more affordable by minimizing the amount of money a student-athlete must borrow or pay out-of-pocket.
- d. Financial aid allocations are distributed in accordance with Title IX laws.



B. Aid Structure

a. Athletic Financial Aid

- i. Athletic aid may cover all or part of tuition and fees, room and board, books and other related expenses up to the cost of attendance in the form of scholarships. With limited exceptions, the NCAA prohibits student-athletes from accepting financial aid beyond the value of the institution's cost of attendance figure (as determined by the Office Financial Aid). Student-athletes who receive more financial assistance than their cost of attendance may be deemed ineligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics.
- ii. Receiving financial assistance is a privilege that student-athletes must earn by participating to the best of their ability, not only on the playing field, but in the classroom as well. To maintain their athletic institutional aid, student-athletes must be contributing members of the team and responsible citizens of the University community.

b. Institutional Financial Aid

- i. Syracuse University provides institutional financial aid, in addition to athletic financial aid, to student-athletes in forms such as academic scholarships (awarded through the admissions process), institutional need-based grants, the New York State TAP Grant, and federal grants, loans and work study.
- ii. To determine if a student qualifies for institutional financial aid they must complete and submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application, a CSS (College Scholarship Service Profile) application, and any other forms that may be required for Federal, State or institutional aid. Applications must be submitted by published deadlines to be considered and a student must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and other applicable guidelines.

c. Outside Aid (Non-institutional Aid)

- i. Student-athletes may also receive non-institutional aid, or outside aid, that is not administered by Syracuse University. In order for student-athletes to receive outside aid and remain eligible for competition, the aid must not be considered pay or promise of pay for athletic skills. Student-athletes have an affirmative obligation to report to Syracuse University any scholarship or other form of financial assistance awarded solely



for non-athletic ability reasons or awarded through an established and continuing program to aid students.

d. Renewal or Change in Athletic Financial Aid

- i. Most athletic financial aid is provided on an annual basis. Aid is officially renewed in the summer between each academic year. The NCAA requires that notification of aid renewal, reduction or cancellation be issued to student-athletes no later than July 1. Multi-year scholarships may be offered to student-athletes at the discretion of the coaching staff.

Athletic aid MAY NOT be canceled, reduced, or non-renewed at any point for any athletics reason including a student-athlete's ability, performance, or contribution to the team's success; injury preventing the student-athlete from participating; or any other athletics reason.

However, a student-athlete's athletic aid MAY be canceled, reduced, or non-renewed at any point if a student-athlete renders themselves ineligible for intercollegiate competition for any reason (i.e., not meeting academic requirements); misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent, or aid agreement; engages in serious misconduct; voluntarily (at his or her own initiative) quits the team for personal reasons; violates an institutional policy; or provides written notification of transfer.

e. Summer School Financial Aid

- i. Syracuse University provides financial aid support and access to summer courses on a case-by-case basis. Interested student-athletes are asked to work with their academic coordinator to be considered for the program. Selection for participation does not guarantee future selection and student-athletes must apply annually for consideration. All applicable NCAA eligibility rules apply to the summer school period and program participation.

IV. Responsibilities

The Program is administered by the Office of Athletic Compliance in partnership with the Office of Financial Aid. All federal, state, NCAA, and institutional mandates will be followed and leveraged to implement an effective and efficient program.



V. Record Retention

Records associated with the policy shall be maintained by the Responsible Office and retained or disposed of in accordance with [University Records Policy](#) and University Record Retention [Schedule](#).

VI. Compliance

The Office of Internal Audit, the Office of Compliance, the Responsible Office of this policy, and others may audit, investigate, and assess compliance with this policy. Non-compliance with university policies is subject to progressive disciplinary action up to and including termination per the [Staff Employee Disciplinary Policy](#).

VII. Related University Policies and Resources

- Higher Education [Act](#) of 1965, Title IV
- NCAA Division I Article 15: Financial Aid bylaw
- Syracuse University Financial Aid [Processes](#)
- Title IX [Policy](#)

VIII. Definitions

Athletically Related Financial Aid: Athletically related financial aid is financial aid that is awarded on any basis that is related to athletics ability, participation or achievement. If an application process specifically requests athletics participation or achievements as criteria for consideration in determining whether an applicant receives financial aid, aid received pursuant to such a process is athletically related financial aid.

Cost of Attendance: In NCAA athletics, the cost of attendance is the total estimated amount it will cost a student-athlete to attend a particular institution for one academic year.

Period of Award: The period of award begins when the student-athlete receives any benefits as a part of the student's grant-in-aid on the first day of classes for a particular academic term, or the first day of practice, whichever is earlier, and continues until the conclusion of the period set forth in the financial aid agreement.

Satisfactory Academic Progress:

Federal regulations and Syracuse University policies require that all financial aid recipients must make steady progress toward completion of their degree requirements. Students must successfully complete (earn) a specified number of credit hours (quantitative measure) as well as attain and maintain a required grade point average (qualitative measure) by the end of each semester.



Stacking: refers to the practice of combining different forms of financial assistance, such as scholarships, grants, and loans, to cover the cost of education to maximize the total financial aid a student receives by combining various sources to meet their college expenses.

IX. Policy Administration and Responsible Office

Contact	Phone Number	Email/web address
Office of Athletic Compliance	(315) 443-3334	https://cuse.com/sports/compliance

X. Responsible Executive

Responsible Executive
Chief Financial Officer

XI. Revision History

Date	Update
September 26, 2025	Original Issue
N/A	Previous Revision(s)
September 26, 2025	Current Version Approved