



# ELIGIBILITY CENTER

## PROOF OF GRADUATION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

NCAA Bylaw 14.3.1 specifies that in order to meet final qualifier standards, a prospective student-athlete must graduate from high school. The following is to clarify what the NCAA Eligibility Center requires to establish proof of graduation for initial-eligibility purposes.

### Proof of Graduation on a High School Transcript

#### Acceptable designations on transcripts:

- » [NCAA Guide to International Academics Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#).
- » Graduation date: MM/YYYY.
- » Diploma date: MM/DD/YYYY.
- » Completed required Carnegie units: MM/DD/YYYY.
- » Exit date: MM/DD/YYYY with exit reason: graduated.
- » Was or will be graduated: MM/YYYY.
- » Was or ~~will be~~ graduated: MM/YYYY.

#### Unacceptable:

- » Anything on a faxed transcript.
- » Anything that doesn't list month AND year.
- » Seasonal dates: "Spring 2023".
- » Class designation: "graduated, class of 2023".
- » Status: graduated; print date 6/15/23.

#### Acceptable with conditions:

If graduation date listed is in the future, but within 31 days of the date reviewed by staff, it may be used as acceptable proof of graduation. If date is more than 31 days in the future, date cannot be used for proof of graduation.

- » Was or will be graduated: MM/YYYY.
- » Graduation: MM/DD/YYYY (expected).
- » Graduation: MM/DD/YYYY (anticipated).
- » Has graduated/will graduate on: MM/YYYY.

**Proof of graduation by letter:**

If a high school is unable to provide acceptable proof of graduation on a transcript, a letter may be submitted from the high school. This letter must:

- » Be on official school letterhead and signed by a school administrator with an academic title;
- » Explicitly state the date on which the student met the school's graduation requirements;
- » Be submitted for only one specific student. (Student's name and NCAA ID should be included in the letter). Letters with multiple students referenced will **not** be accepted; and
- » Letters should be emailed to [ec-processing@ncaa.org](mailto:ec-processing@ncaa.org) or faxed to 317-968-5100.

**Proof of graduation by GED:**

- » Per NCAA Bylaws (Division I: 14.3.5.3 and Division II: 14.3.2.2), only GED tests completed on or after the student's anticipated high school graduation date are acceptable.
- » The GED diploma **and** official GED scores must be submitted to the Eligibility Center from the state agency.

**Review/invalidation of academic credentials:**

When information is received regarding potential inaccuracies or fraudulent activity related to proof of graduation, staff shall review the information. If a "validity" review is initiated, the staff shall notify the involved institution and the PSA's final academic certification decision shall be placed under review until the staff determines whether the academic credentials in question are invalid for purposes of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. If academic credentials are invalidated, the final academic certification shall be updated, and the institution must report any violation that may have occurred as a result of the student-athlete's (SA) receipt of athletically related financial aid or participation in practice or competition and declare the SA ineligible for competition (Bylaw 14.1.2.1). The staff may also notify, involve or share information with high school review and/or enforcement.

**State-specific proof of graduation types:**

Several states offer a variety of alternatively named high school diploma types or end of school certificates, some of which do not meet NCAA requirements. The chart of the next page lists diploma options that have been reviewed by staff to establish acceptance by the NCAA as proof of graduation. **Note: This list may not represent a complete list of all options offered by U.S. schools.** Diploma types not noted may need to be reviewed by the NCAA Eligibility Center staff before acceptance can be confirmed. This list reflects **only** diploma types from the United States. For acceptable proof of graduation information for international student-athletes, please review the [Guide to International Academics Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#) or other available resources on the [Membership Portal](#), or contact [ec-international@ncaa.org](mailto:ec-international@ncaa.org) for assistance.

STATE	TYPE	ACCEPTABLE?
Alabama	Advanced Academic Endorsement	Yes
Alabama	Career/Tech Endorsement	Yes
Alabama	Credit-Based Endorsement	Yes
Alabama	Alternative Adult High School Diploma	Request GED Documents
Alabama	Occupational Diploma	No
Alaska	Certificate of Achievement	No
Arkansas*	Graduation date without a diploma type and a notation "A STATE CORE" has not been met	*Case-by-case basis
California	CHPSE	Yes
California	Grad CAHSEE Exempt	Yes
California	Certificate of Completion	No
California	California Comprehensive Exam Diploma	No
California	UC/CSU	Yes
California	State Seal of Biliteracy	Yes
Colorado	General Course of Study	Yes
Florida	ACCEL Diploma	Yes
Florida	Differential Diploma	Yes
Florida	Standard-Alt Test FCAT Waiver	Yes
Florida	Special Diploma Option #2	Yes
Florida	Special Diploma Option #1	Request GED Documents
Florida	Certificate of Completion	No
Florida	ACCEL 18-Credit Option	Yes
Florida	Standard Diploma – Standardized Assessment Waiver	Yes
Georgia	Technical/Career Prep Diploma	Yes
Georgia	Vocational/Tech Prep Diploma	Yes
Georgia	Certificate of Performance	No
Georgia	Special Ed Diploma	No
Georgia	High School Certificate	No
Georgia	G-General	Yes

Indiana	AHD (Academic Honors Diploma)	Yes
Indiana	Core 40 Diploma	Yes
Indiana	Basic CP	Yes
Kentucky	General	Yes
Montana	Grad date & date of this certificate	Yes
Nevada	Adjusted Diploma	No
New York	Local Diploma	Yes
North Carolina	College/Tech Prep Diploma	Yes
North Carolina	Career Prep Diploma	Yes
Oklahoma	Achievement date student has met grad requirements	Yes
Oregon	Modified Diploma	No
South Carolina	State Certificate	No
Tennessee	High School Certificate	No
Texas	Minimum	Yes
Texas	Competency Based	Yes
Texas	Certificate of Coursework Completion	No
Texas	26 Credit RHSP	Yes
Texas	Foundation Grad Plan with Endorsement	Yes
Texas	Foundation Grad Plan – Distinguishing Level of Achievement	Yes
Virginia	Modified Standard Diploma	Yes
Virginia	Advanced Studies	Yes
Virginia	Other Board of Education Diploma	No
Nationwide	Certificate of Completion/Certificate of Attendance	No