

Tennessee Technological University
Policy No. 907



Athletics
Financial Aid

Effective Date: July 1, 2017

Policy No.: 907

Policy Name: Athletics Financial Aid

I. Purpose

This policy defines financial aid sources and award guidelines for Intercollegiate Athletics. Financial aid is provided to assist a coach in competing successfully in a sport by recruiting athletes who can compete athletically while being academically successful.

II. Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years or whenever circumstances require review, whichever is earlier, by the Director of Athletics or the Faculty Athletics Representative, with recommendations for revision presented to the Athletics Committee, Administrative Council, and University Assembly.

III. Policy

- A.** With the approval of the Director of Athletics, each head coach will recommend to Tennessee Tech's Scholarship Office the amount of athletically related financial aid for each student-athlete or prospective student-athlete. Aid will be awarded with consideration for the budget of the Department of Athletics and in accordance with NCAA, OVC, and Tennessee Tech policies. Financial aid for initial and transfer student-athletes will not be released until the Administrative Assistant for NCAA Certification or appropriate designated official approves the release within NCAA rules.
- B.** The Department of Athletics shall comply with all NCAA, OVC, and Tennessee Tech policies and rules in the renewing, non-renewing, cancellation, reduction, or gradation of institutional financial aid. The head coach will recommend to the Scholarship Office proposed actions to be taken with respect to financial aid commitments.
- C.** Appeals: A student-athlete who disagrees with a Department of Athletics financial aid decision may appeal that decision using the procedure found in TTU Policy 909 (Student-Athlete Appeals related to Financial Aid or Permission to Contract Another Institution).
- D.** A clause may be added to the scholarship agreement regarding cancellation of aid. The criteria may include:
 - 1.** Academic Effort:

- a.** Aid may be cancelled if a student-athlete misses more than 10% of classes for unexcused absences per semester.
 - b.** Aid may be cancelled if a student-athlete does not adhere to Department of Athletics applicable academic program guidelines, such as missing Department of Athletics related requirements more than three times (unexcused) per semester.
 - c.** Aid may be cancelled if a student-athlete is found guilty of any type of academic fraud or cheating.
- 2.** Drug Test Result: Aid may be cancelled if a student-athlete tests positive for ANY substance banned by the NCAA, whether during an NCAA administered drug test or Department of Athletics administered drug test.
- 3.** Social Behavior:
- a.** A student-athlete who is convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony may have his or her financial aid cancelled immediately.
 - b.** Aid may be cancelled if a student-athlete has received two citations in writing, from either the head coach and approved by the Director of Athletics or from the Director of Athletics directly, for inappropriate behavior that results in embarrassment of the team, the Department of Athletics, or Tennessee Tech.
- 4.** Special Circumstances:
- a.** A head coach, with the approval of the Director of Athletics, has the right to insert an additional clause or clauses into a scholarship agreement, provided that it is within NCAA and OVC rules.
 - b.** Aid may be cancelled if a student-athlete violates a written clause in the renewal that is within NCAA and OVC rules and has been approved by the Director of Athletics for inclusion due to circumstances believed to be in the best interest of the student-athlete.

IV. Interpretation

The President or his/her designee has the final authority to interpret the terms of this policy.

V. Citation of Authority for Policy

T.C.A. § 49-8-203(a)(1)(E); TTU Policy 003 (Board Reservation and Delegation of Authority);
NCAA Bylaw 15; OVC Constitution and Articles 3 and 12

Approved by:

Athletics Committee: November 1, 2016

Administrative Council: February 22, 2017

University Assembly: April 19, 2017