

Student-Athlete Transfer Appeals Process

In accordance with NCAA rules regarding student-athlete requests to transfer, a student-athlete has the right to appeal the institution's decision to restrict or deny the opportunity to discuss transfer opportunities with another institution and/or the one-time transfer release to a specific institution. In such cases, the student-athlete shall have the opportunity to appeal such restrictions. Florida State University's policy on granting a release to transfer mirrors ACC policy in that the student-athlete is required to present objective evidence that demonstrates the student-athlete's extraordinary situation merits a waiver.

This appeal will be heard by a committee of 3 nonathletic department FSU faculty or administrators created by the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). The FAR may choose to be part of the committee or serve only as the moderator in an ex-officio (nonvoting) capacity. The Compliance Office will be present during the appeal hearing to serve as a nonvoting advisor to the committee regarding any legislative or interpretive issues. All coaches and involved student-athletes are expected to fully cooperate with the proceedings and requests of the appeals committee. Transfer appeals shall be governed by the following policies and procedures:

1. Upon written notification from the Compliance Office that the transfer release and/or permission to contact for a particular institution has been denied, the Compliance Office will provide written notification to the student-athlete informing them of this decision and their right to an appeal.
2. In order to invoke the right to a hearing, the student-athlete must submit written correspondence to the FAR no later than 10 business days from the date of the correspondence notifying them of their denied opportunity. The student-athlete's written request for a hearing opportunity must be accompanied by a statement detailing the basis for the appeal. Upon the written request from the student-athlete the head coach will also submit a statement to the FAR detailing the basis for the denial. Each statement will be viewed only by the appeal committee and will not be shared with the coaching staff or student-athlete.
3. Upon receipt of the written request for an appeal, the FAR will be charged with assembling the Committee and scheduling a time and location for the hearing opportunity. Per NCAA rules, the date of this hearing shall be no more than 15 business days after the date the FAR receives the student-athlete's written request to appeal. Once finalized, the student-athlete will be informed of the time and location of the appeals hearing by the FAR.
4. Both the student-athlete and the head coach will be afforded the opportunity to provide a written statement and to actively engage in the hearing opportunity, whether it be in-person, SKYPE, or via telephone; however, active engagement is not required. Should either party refuse the opportunity to appear in-person, they will be required to submit all documentation to the appeals committee prior to the date of the hearing supporting their respective position or rationale on the matter.
5. Both the student-athlete and the head coach will be permitted to invite representatives (e.g. parents, additional coaches, administrators) to attend the hearing at the discretion of the FAR. Additional attendees must be provided in writing to the FAR prior to the appeal for approval. The student-athlete is expected to do most, if not all, of the talking on his/her behalf.
6. The appeal hearing will open with a brief overview of NCAA transfer rules by the compliance staff. Then opening statements will be made by the coach and then the student-athlete. After both parties have been heard, the appeals committee may request additional follow-up questions with either side. At the discretion of the FAR, the additional attendees may be called upon to provide a statement.
7. After the opening statements the appeal committee reserves the right to conduct one-on-one private meetings with the coaching staff and the student-athlete following the opening statements, if necessary. If one-on-one meetings are conducted by the committee, the committee also reserves the right to request that

both parties reconvene in the meeting room for final questions/discussion, and then the committee will conclude the hearing.

8. Once the appeals committee has completed its investigation, the student-athlete and the coach will be released. The committee will deliberate and consider only the information presented by each party. The appeals committee may consider all options when adjudicating a student-athlete's appeal, and shall have the authority to consider full denial, full approval, partial approval or conditional approval. The decision of the appeals committee is considered final and no further appeal opportunity shall exist.
9. A decision letter informing the student-athlete of the outcome will be generated by the FAR within the 15 business days and sent via electronic mail to all necessary parties.