

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS POLICY**POLICY**

In accordance with the [Minnesota State Policy 2.6](#), the Ridgewater College (hereinafter “the College”) Intercollegiate Athletic program serves students who desire athletic competition as part of their college experience to develop skills, teamwork and sportsmanship through competition. We believe:

- Participants are students first, and athletics are one of many diversified offerings in the College’s student life program.
- Athletics instill a respect of self and others on and off the field of competition.
- It is important to provide facilities, personnel support, equipment, and adequate funding to provide a competitive experience.

Membership

Ridgewater College shall have membership in the Minnesota College Athletic Conference (MCAC) and shall be affiliated with the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility requirements are established by the National Junior College Athletic Association and the Minnesota College Athletic Conference. A few of the major rules are:

1. **Academic Progress Eligibility** – The basis for NJCAA eligibility is directly related to the number of full-time terms a student-athlete has previously attempted.

Note: Best Hours can be utilized to meet previous term, accumulation credits, and GPA requirements.

- Full-Time Term:** A student-athlete is charged with attempting a term of full-time enrollment when they remain enrolled in full-time status beyond the 18th calendar day (not to end on a weekend or federal holiday) of the term or if they have participated.
- First Season Academic Requirement:** A first season participant must meet accumulation requirements below in Figure 1 for semester institutions or Figure 2 for quarter institutions **OR** earn 12 credits with a GPA of 2.00 or higher during their previous full-time term. These requirements must be met on or before the 18th calendar day of the term (not to end on a weekend or federal holiday).

Figure 1 - Semester Academic Grid

Number of Previous Full-Time Semesters	Accumulated Credits Required	Overall GPA Required	Notes
0	0	X	Must meet all enrollment eligibility requirements.
1	6	2.00	GPA based on the accumulated credits utilized to meet requirement.
2	24	2.00	
3	33	2.00	
4	48	2.00	
5	57	2.00	
6 +	57	2.00	Must also earn 12 credits with a 2.00 GPA during previous full-time term.

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Figure 2 -Quarter Academic Grid			
Number of Previous Full-Time Quarters	Accumulated Credits Required	Overall GPA Required	Notes
0	0	X	Must meet all enrollment eligibility requirements.
1	9	2.00	GPA based on the accumulated credits utilized to meet requirement.
2	21	2.00	
3	36	2.00	
4	46	2.00	
5	56	2.00	
6	72	2.00	
7	82	2.00	
8 +	82	2.00	Must also earn 12 credits with a 2.00 GPA during previous full-time term.

- c. Second Season Academic Requirements: A second season participant must meet accumulation requirements above in Figure 1 for semester institutions or Figure 2 for quarter institutions **OR** earn 12 credits with a GPA of 2.00 or higher during their previous full-time term. These requirements must be met on or before the 18th calendar day of the term (not to end on a weekend or federal holiday).

AND

- i. Have accumulated 24 earned/passing semester credits with a GPA of 2.00 or higher, OR
- ii. Have accumulated 36 quarter credits with a GPA of 2.00 or higher.

2. Adherence to the policies outlined in the Ridgewater College Athletics Code of Conduct.

Physicals

Students are required to have a physical examination prior to being issued any equipment or participation in any college athletic program, including practice. Students are responsible for acquiring a physical exam at their own expense. Physical exams are only valid for one year from the date of exam and must be renewed annually after July 1. The College must have a copy of the physical exam on file before any student will be allowed to practice or participate in scrimmages/games.

Insurance

All students who wish to participate in the College intercollegiate athletic program are required to have and maintain health insurance. A copy of the College's Athletic Department's Insurance Form must be on file with the Athletic Coordinator prior to any student being allowed to practice or participate in scrimmages/games. The College does not provide health insurance for athletes.

*Note: Any student struggling with obtaining health insurance should contact a college counselor for assistance.

Injuries

The coach of any given sport, or if present, the athletic trainer, has the authority to determine who may or may not participate and to what extent they have been injured. All injuries must be immediately reported to the Athletic Coordinator.

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Equipment

Students participating in intercollegiate athletics will be responsible for all equipment issued to them. If equipment is not returned at the end of the season, holds will be placed on all records and athletic awards until all equipment has been accounted for.

Travel

- Coaches and student athletes MUST travel with the team to all competitions.
- Personal cars may only be driven with the approval of the Head Coach and the Athletic Coordinator. If such permission has been granted, then the private vehicle must follow the team vehicle(s) to and from the site of competition unless permission is granted by the Head Coach and Athletic Coordinator.
- Student athletes MUST travel back to the College with the team unless they have had prior approval to leave with their parents or spouse from the opponent's site. All requests for students returning with parents or spouse must be submitted a minimum of one (1) day prior to departure and must be approved by the Head Coach and the Athletic Coordinator.
- The College prohibits the possession, use or distribution of drugs and alcohol by students and employees on the College premises, or in conjunction with any college sponsored activity or event, whether on or off campus. There shall be no transporting or use of recreational drugs or alcohol while traveling with any college athletic team by anybody in the official traveling party. The College will impose sanctions on students and employees who violate this policy, according to the Student Code of Conduct (for students) and the appropriate bargaining agreement (for employees).
- Coaches and athletes represent the College, the athletic department and the College community. The College expects appropriate conduct by everyone in the official traveling party.
- When lodging is involved, the College will take care of room charges only. Telephone, pay TV or other costs are the responsibility of the occupants of the room. Any room damages shall be the responsibility of the occupant(s). Violators will not be allowed to participate in any further practices or contests and a hold shall be placed on the students' records until full restitution is received.

Tobacco

All college buildings are tobacco free. The use of all tobacco products is prohibited by athletes on any of our athletic fields or during any athletic event as per NJCAA and Minnesota College Athletic Conference rules and regulations.

Questions about athletic eligibility or other related inquiries should be directed to:

Athletic Coordinator at 320.222.5572

History:

01.27.15 Adopted

11.25.2020 Proposed - Reviewed and Revised for Equity Compliance; Revised 04.20.2021

11.20.2023 Proposed

05.10.2024 Revised

02.18.2025 Proposed; 11.10.25 Revised