

Student-Athlete Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

We recognize that the decision to eliminate Sonoma State University athletics next academic year is a significant change. This FAQ document is designed to provide student-athletes with clear information and resources to navigate the transition.

1. Why is Sonoma State University eliminating its Division II athletics programs?

The decision to eliminate Division II Athletics programs at Sonoma State was made after a thorough review of the university's financial necessities and long-term sustainability. This is an extremely difficult decision that impacts student-athletes, staff, faculty, families, alumni, community members and the entire Seawolf community.

Please know we are wholly committed to working with every impacted student athlete to ensure they are aware of their options as they decide whether to remain at Sonoma State or transfer to another institution.

2. When will the Athletics programs be eliminated and what does this mean for the current seasons?

The NCAA Division II athletics program will be eliminated at the end of the current 2024-25 academic year. Teams will be able to complete their current seasons, and competitions will proceed as planned through the spring 2025 semester.

3. What happens to my athletic scholarship?

Sonoma State will honor athletic scholarships for their original duration, provided student-athletes remain enrolled and meet academic eligibility requirements. Please contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@sonoma.edu for further assistance.

4. Can I enter the NCAA Transfer Portal to continue my athletic career?

Yes, as a Division II institution, Sonoma State student-athletes can enter the NCAA Transfer Portal to explore opportunities to compete at other colleges or universities. http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Transfer/DII_NOT.pdf

Steps to Enter the Transfer Portal:

1. Submit a written request to studentaffairs@sonoma.edu.
2. Once in the portal, coaches from other institutions can contact you about transfer opportunities.

In NCAA Division II, student-athletes intending to transfer must provide written notification to their current institution by June 15. Upon receiving this notification, the institution has seven consecutive calendar days to enter the student-athlete's name into the NCAA Transfer Portal.

Unlike Division I, Division II does not have specific transfer windows based on sport seasons. Instead, the June 15 deadline applies universally across all sports. This structure allows student-athletes to explore transfer opportunities during the summer, prior to the upcoming academic year.

It's important to note that while the June 15 deadline is standard, individual institutions may have their own policies or timelines regarding transfers. Therefore, student-athletes should reach out to studentaffairs@sonoma.edu to ensure they meet all necessary requirements and deadlines.

5. Are there any restrictions on my transfer?

Sonoma State will not restrict student-athletes from transferring to another institution. However, eligibility rules (such as academic standing) must still be met, and the new institution will determine your ability to compete immediately.

6. If I transfer in Spring 2025, will my tuition and fees be reimbursed?

Each situation is unique and will depend on when the individual transfers. The [Seawolf Service Center](#) is available to assist with tuition and fee questions. Please contact the Seawolf Service Center at seawolf.servicecenter@sonoma.edu or by phone at (707) 664-2308.

For Housing contract questions, please contact the Residential Education and Campus Housing Office at housing@sonoma.edu or by phone at (707) 664-2541.

7. If I transfer in Spring 2025, will my financial aid be impacted?

As with tuition and fees, each student situation is unique and will depend on when the student transfers. Financial Aid Representatives are available to assist students with their financial aid related questions and paperwork. Please contact the [Financial Aid Office](#) directly for additional support at finaid@sonoma.edu or by phone at (707) 664-2389.

6. What advising support will be available during this transition?

Sonoma State will continue to provide advising support to all student-athletes, including:

- General and athletic eligibility advising
- Major exploration

Contact University Advising at universityadvising@sonoma.edu for assistance or to schedule a meeting.

7. Can I remain at Sonoma State if I choose not to transfer?

Yes, student-athletes who choose to stay at Sonoma State will continue to be supported by campus academic resources, advising, career counseling, and other student support services. Athletic scholarships will continue to be honored for their original duration.

8. Are there other competitive sport options at Sonoma State outside of NCAA Division II?

For those student-athletes who chose to remain at Sonoma State to complete their studies, we currently have a robust Club Sports program and Intramural sports, offered through Campus Recreation. There are 19 active club sports including but not limited to baseball, soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, rugby, rowing and boxing. There are 15 intramural sports including but not limited to basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, dodgeball, flag football, and softball.

For a complete listing of sports opportunities please click here:

- [Sports Clubs | Campus Recreation at Sonoma State University](#)
- [Intramural Sports | Campus Recreation at Sonoma State University](#)

9. Will Sonoma State provide support for the transfer process?

Yes, the university will offer:

- Assistance with the transfer portal process
- Help obtaining necessary documentation (e.g., transcripts, release forms)
- Informational sessions covering topics such as NCAA transfer rules and eligibility

Please contact the Office of the Registrar at registrar@sonoma.edu for assistance with official transcripts and release forms and studentaffairs@sonoma.edu for assistance with transfer portal, NCAA Transfer and eligibility.

10. What mental health resources are available?

We understand this transition may bring emotional challenges. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is available to support student-athletes.

- Schedule an appointment: caps@sonoma.edu

- Crisis support: Call (707) 664-2153

11. What will happen to Sonoma State's athletic facilities?

The university will evaluate future uses for athletic facilities. We are committed to using these spaces in ways that benefit the broader campus and local community.

12. Who can I contact for more information?

- General Inquiries: Student Affairs (707) 664-2838
- Advising Support: University Advising (707) 664-2730
- Transfer Portal/NCAA Compliance: Student Affairs studentaffairs@sonoma.edu
- Mental Health Support: [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) are available for any student seeking support at (707) 664-2153

We are here to help you navigate this transition and achieve your academic and personal goals. Thank you for being an integral part of the Sonoma State community.

For questions not answered in this document, please send an email to questions@sonoma.edu.