

Student-Athlete Handbook 2025-26 (NCAA Sports)



Westminster University Athletics

1840 South 1300 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105
Toll-Free: 800.748.4753
westminstergriffins.com

Table of Contents

Section 1: Introduction	6
Contacts	6
NCAA Division II Strategic Positioning Platform	6
Online Resources	7
University Mission Statement	7
Westminster Athletics Mission Statement	9
Athletics Philosophy Statement	9
Athletics Diversity Statement	10
University-Wide Learning Goals for Athletics	11
Academic Calendar	11
Section 2: Eligibility	12
Hardship Waivers	12
Summer Term	13
Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR)	14
NCAA Amateurism Legislation	14
NCAA Playing and Practice Season Rules	15
Countable Athletically Related Activities (CARA)	17
Non-Countable Athletically Related Activities	17
Promotional Activities	18
Section 3: Expectations of Student-Athletes	20
Westminster University Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy	20
Westminster University Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy (Title IX)	21
Student-Athlete Code of Conduct	22
Disciplinary Action	24

Grievance Procedures	25
Team Meetings Related to Eligibility and Rules Compliance	27
Team Rules	27
Request to Transfer Process	27
Section 4: Alcohol/Substance Use and Drug Testing Policy	29
Intent.....	29
Alcohol and Tobacco	30
Dietary Supplements	32
Prohibited Substances	32
Reasonable Suspicion.....	33
Testing Procedures.....	34
Sanctions	36
Appeal Process	37
Counseling Component	38
Safe Harbor Program	38
Confidentiality.....	39
Individual Team Policies.....	40
NCAA Drug-Testing Program.....	40
Section 5: Westminster Athletics Policies and Rules	43
Athletic Injuries and Illness	43
Hygiene, Nutrition, and Rest	43
Class Attendance.....	43
Curfew (In-Season)	44
Dress Code	44
Facilities Use.....	44
Gambling	45
Social Media	45

Hazing and Initiation Activities.....	46
Language or Gestures	47
Locker Room Use.....	47
Outside Competition.....	47
Practice and Game Participation.....	47
Respect.....	48
Game Environment	48
Team Travel.....	48
Theft.....	49
Uniforms and Equipment	49
Exit and End-of-Year Interviews	50
Section 6: Westminster Academic Regulations.....	51
Undergraduate Good Standing	51
Graduate Good Standing	51
Probation	52
Academic Honesty	53
Dropping/Adding Courses	54
Academic Advising and Registration.....	54
Westminster University Excused Absence Policy	54
Section 7: Student Information and Campus Resources	57
Academic Computing Resources.....	57
Academic Support Services	57
Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and Education Program..	57
Career Center	58
Meldrum Science Coaching Center	58
Integrated Wellness	59
Disability Services.....	59

Gore School of Business Tutoring Center	59
Identification Card.....	60
Math, Physics, and Computer Science Tutoring Center	60
Residential Life	60
Tutoring	61
Writing Center	61
Policies.....	61
Section 8: Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and Student-Athlete Involvement.....	63
The Purpose of SAAC	63
Goals of SAAC	64
Other Ways for Student-Athletes to be Involved.....	64
Recruiting and Student Hosts Opportunities.....	65
Section 9: Financial Aid	67
Athletic Aid Policies and Procedures for Student-Athletes	67
Reduction or Cancellation of Athletic Aid.....	69
Section 10: Awards and Extra Benefits	73
Extra/Impermissible Benefits	73
Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Policy	74
Awards.....	74
Complimentary Admissions	74
Section 11: Athletic Training, Medical, and Insurance Information.....	76
Athletic Training Room and Staff	76
Athletic Training Room Rules	76
Injury or Illness	77
Emergencies.....	77
Practice or Game Participation for an Injured Student-Athlete	77
Insurance and Medical Forms	78

Dental Care and Corrective Lenses	81
Concussion Management Policy	81
Sickle Cell Trait Testing.....	81
Student-Athlete Pregnancy Policy	82
Athletic Training Services for Former Student-Athletes	83
Section 12: Public Relations and Community Engagement	84
Community Engagement.....	84
Press and Media	84
Photos and Video	85

Section 1: Introduction

Contacts

Directories

- [View Westminster Campus Directory](#)
- [View Westminster Department Directory](#)
- [View Athletics Staff Directory](#)

Phone Numbers

- **Toll Free:** [800.748.4753](#)
- **Athletic Phone:** [801.832.2344](#)
- **Athletic Training Fax:** [801.832.2073](#)

NCAA Division II Strategic Positioning Platform

Westminster University fully supports the following NCAA Division II Strategic Positioning Platform.

NCAA Mission

To govern competition in a fair, safe, equitable, and sportsmanlike manner, and to integrate intercollegiate athletics into higher education so that the educational experience of the student-athlete is paramount.

NCAA DII Positioning Statement

Life in the Balance. Higher education has lasting importance on an individual's future success.

For this reason, the emphasis for the student-athlete experience in Division II is a comprehensive program of learning and development in a personal setting. The Division II approach provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, learning in high-level athletic competition, and development of positive societal attitudes in service to community. The balance and integration of these different areas of learning opportunity provide Division II student-athletes a path to graduation while cultivating a variety of skills and knowledge for life

ahead.

NCAA Division II Attributes

- Learning: Multiple opportunities to broaden knowledge and skills.
- Balance: Emphasis on collective knowledge and the integration of skills.
- Resourcefulness: Versatile skill set drawn from broad range of experiences.
- Sportsmanship: Respect for fairness, courtesy, and ethical conduct toward others.
- Passion: Enthusiastic dedication and desire in effort.
- Service: Positive societal attitude through contributions to community.

Online Resources

- [Westminster University Athletics Homepage](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference](#)
- [National Collegiate Athletic Association](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association \(RMISA\)](#)
- [United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association \(USCSA\)](#)

University Mission Statement

Westminster University is a private, independent university dedicated to student learning. We are a community of learners with a long and honored tradition of caring deeply about students and their education. We offer liberal arts and professional education in courses of study for undergraduate, selected graduate, and other innovative degree and non-degree programs. Students are challenged to experiment with ideas, raise questions, critically examine alternatives, and make informed decisions. We encourage students to accept responsibility for their learning, to discover and pursue their passions, and to promote more equitable and sustainable communities.

Our purposes are to prepare students to lead lives of learning, accomplishment, and service and to help them develop skills and attributes critical for success in a diverse and interdependent world.

We promote distinctive approaches to engaged learning that emphasize theory and practice in our academic and co-curricular programs. Grounded in a culture of creativity and innovation, we work to pursue excellence while promoting inclusiveness and respect for differences.

Westminster Athletics Mission Statement

The mission of Westminster Athletics is to support the mission of Westminster University. The athletic programs offered at Westminster University are developed for the purpose of supporting the university's commitment to student learning. Through athletics, Griffin student-athletes have the opportunity to learn lifelong skills such as leadership, self-discipline, healthy lifestyle, teamwork, and competitive experiences, which provide all student-athletes an opportunity to achieve excellence in their academic, athletic, and personal pursuits. In this pursuit of excellence, the department supports equitable opportunities for all student-athletes and staff and adheres to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics' principles of amateurism, sportsmanship, fair play, ethical conduct, institutional control, and the health and welfare of our student-athletes.

Athletics Philosophy Statement

Westminster Athletics is committed to the following guiding principles:

- We support the educational mission of Westminster University by:
 - focusing on the student-learning experience,
 - prioritizing academics and emphasizing paths to graduation, and
 - integrating the university-wide learning goals into the athletics department learning outcomes.
- We support student-athletes in their pursuit of academic and athletic excellence while encouraging their holistic development and well-being.
- We value equity and diversity and work to create an inclusive community in which all members are respected and feel a sense of belonging.
- We develop leaders with a strong sense of social responsibility.
- We support and engage with our local community.
- We maintain high standards of fairness, sportsmanship, and ethical conduct in all endeavors.
- We play a role in enriching campus life and increasing school

pride.

- We contribute to the recruitment and retention of qualified students to the university.
- We serve as ambassadors for the university and enhance its reputation through the development of successful student-athletes and teams.

Westminster University is committed to the Principles of Conduct of Intercollegiate Athletics as outlined in Constitution 2 of the NCAA Division II Manual, the NCAA Division II Philosophy Statement, and the "Life in the Balance" NCAA Strategic Positioning Statement.

Athletics Diversity Statement

Westminster University Athletics is committed to developing and sustaining an inclusive culture that welcomes and supports all members of our community. We foster a diverse and equitable environment where all student-athletes, coaches, and athletic staff are treated with respect and understanding. Through our educational and community engagement activities we promote social responsibility and ethical awareness. We partner with other campus departments in supporting the *Commitment to an Inclusive Westminster*, and we continually work to achieve inclusive excellence through implementation of our departmental diversity and inclusion plan.

We use the definitions found on page 2 of the Westminster University Diversity Statement.

University-Wide Learning Goals for Athletics

Critical Thinking

Students will comprehensively explore issues, ideas, artifacts, events, and other positions, before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.

Creativity

Students will combine or synthesize new ideas, practices, or expertise in original ways that are characterized by innovation, divergent thinking, and risk taking.

Collaboration

Students will demonstrate self-awareness, understanding of effective group dynamics, and project management skills.

Communication

Students will communicate ideas to audiences in oral, visual, and written forms to establish knowledge, to increase understanding, or to advocate for a particular position.

Global Responsibility

Students will (i) employ practices informed by social responsibility across the spectrum of differences and (ii) demonstrate knowledge of and evaluate solutions for challenges affecting local, regional, and global communities.

Academic Calendar

[View the current academic calendar](#)

Section 2: Eligibility

Prior to participation in any intercollegiate sport, and at the end of each semester, a student-athlete's eligibility to participate is certified by the faculty athletics representative, university registrar, and director of athletics. A student-athlete may not participate without certification of eligibility and confirmation of full-time enrollment at Westminster University. If a student-athlete becomes ineligible, they will not be able to compete in intercollegiate athletics at Westminster University until eligibility requirements are met according to the applicable national association, conference regulations, and institutional policy.

To be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics a student-athlete must:

1. Be in good academic standing at Westminster University. A student-athlete is not eligible if they are on academic probation or suspension.
2. Be currently enrolled during any given term of participation in a minimum of 12 institutionally approved or required credit hours at the time of participation.

Important Note: As an [NCAA member institution](#), new and returning students are expected to fully comply with the NCAA rules and regulations. Any questions regarding eligibility should be directed to the director of compliance or the faculty athletics representative. The links below provide a summary of the NCAA requirements; however, it is not all-inclusive.

[View NCAA II Eligibility Requirements](#)

[View NCAA Transfer Requirements](#)

Hardship Waivers

If you are incapacitated by injury or illness and miss most or all a season, you may be able to apply for a hardship waiver that would grant an additional year of eligibility. Such injury or illness must occur during the first half of the playing season, and you cannot have participated in more than 30 percent of the contests. Contact the Director of Compliance for more information.

Summer Term

Westminster offers a variety of WCore courses (at least one course in every category) and Business Core courses over summer term. Summer term is a great opportunity for students to boost their GPA and to take WCore courses, so they can focus on major courses during the fall and spring semesters. It also gives student-athletes the option of taking a lighter load during competition season, knowing they can take additional hours during the summer and stay on track toward graduation and athletic eligibility. In 2022, the NCAA passed legislation that student-athletes can use a maximum of six credit hours earned during a summer term toward a voluntary or optional minor to meet progress-toward-degree requirements.

Payment of full-time undergraduate tuition for one semester fall or spring earns a 50% tuition rate reduction on your summer tuition. Payment of full-time undergraduate fall and spring tuition earns you an 80% rate reduction on your summer tuition rate. If you are not full-time or have not paid your tuition for the fall or spring semesters, the discount credits will not apply, and you will be responsible for the charges.

The summer term is only applicable to regular undergraduate programs for students charged at the rates listed in the summer tuition chart.

They do not apply to the [Bachelor of Business Administration](#) program, or any other undergraduate program that is billed at an already discounted rate. The summer tuition discount does not apply to the [IPSL program](#).

If a student-athlete is placed on academic probation (see section 6, Westminster Academic Regulations) at the end of spring semester but wants to be eligible to participate in a fall sport, the only way to become eligible is to take a summer course(s) at Westminster. Only Westminster courses are calculated into a student's Westminster GPA.

Students can take courses at other institutions but only credit hours are transferred in. Grades at other institutions do not affect the Westminster GPA nor do they replace Westminster grades for repeated courses. Students also need to be cognizant of the 36-hour

Westminster Residency Rule and the maximum number of credits that can be transferred from other institutions. We recommend working with an advisor and the Registrar's Office to ensure transferability of courses. If you will be taking summer courses elsewhere that are needed to fulfill the NCAA 24-hour requirements, you must meet with the director of compliance and eligibility coordinator before registering to make sure they will count.

Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR)

The faculty athletics representative (FAR) plays a vital role in determining student-athlete eligibility and compliance with the applicable national rules and regulations and university/Athletics policies. The FAR is a faculty member at our institution whose responsibility is to serve in an advisory and oversight capacity for both academic and athletic interests, including academic integrity, institutional control, and student-athlete welfare. The FAR is appointed by the president and works closely with the president, senior administrative staff, and the director of athletics to support a campus environment where the athletics program is maintained as a vital part of the overall educational program, mission of the institution, and in which student-athletes remain an integral part of the student body.

Alysse Morton, management professor, is the current FAR at Westminster University. She can be reached at [801.832.2638](tel:801.832.2638) and her office is in Gore 220.

Please speak with the Director of Compliance or the FAR about any eligibility requirement you are unsure of for further advisement.

NCAA Amateurism Legislation

The amateur status of incoming student-athletes in NCAA-sponsored sports must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center and Westminster University. The director of compliance will monitor the amateurism status of continuing student-athletes. Under NCAA rules, participation in the following activities or receipt of the following benefits will cause you to lose amateur status and jeopardize your eligibility.

1. Use of athletics skills for pay in any form in that sport

2. Acceptance of a promise of pay even if such pay is to be received following completion of intercollegiate athletics participation
3. Receipt of any direct or indirect salary, gratuity, or comparable compensation for participation in athletics
4. Signing a contract or commitment of any kind to play professional athletics
5. Receipt, directly or indirectly, of a salary, reimbursement of expenses, or any other form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization based on athletics skill or participation, except as permitted by NCAA rules and regulations
6. Competing on any professional athletics team, even if no pay or remuneration for expenses was received
7. Entrance into an agreement with or receipt of benefits from an agent
8. Receipt of cash as an award for participation in competition or payment based on place finish at any time, even if such an award is permitted under the rules governing an amateur, noncollegiate event

Exception: Individual Sports

In individual sports, a student-athlete may receive prize money based on place finish or performance in an open athletics event. The competition must occur during summer vacation. The prize money shall not exceed the student-athlete's actual and necessary expenses and may be provided only by the sponsor of the event.

The above list is not all-inclusive. Do not participate in any activity in which you receive payment or the promise of pay—even for expenses. NCAA legislation permits student-athletes to tryout with a professional athletics team and practice, but not compete, provided that the student-athlete does not miss class to do so. However, do not become involved with a professional athletics team or make any decision that could potentially jeopardize your NCAA eligibility without first talking with the director of compliance.

NCAA Playing and Practice Season Rules

NCAA Division II has specific limitations on activities teams can be involved in during and outside of each sport's playing season.

Playing Season

All athletic activities shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week.

NCAA rules require one day off per seven-day period Monday to Sunday (except during conference, post-season, or NCAA championships).

Playing Season – Non-championship Segment

All athletic activities shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 15 hours per week—with the exception of golf at 20 hours. NCAA rules require two days off per seven-day period Monday to Sunday during the non-championship segment.

Outside of Playing Season

Required athletically related activities are limited to weight training, conditioning, and individual skill instruction. A maximum of eight hours per week are permitted, with no more than four hours devoted to team activities. Some sports have greater constraints. Two days off per seven-day period Monday to Sunday are required. All athletically related activities are prohibited from one week prior to the beginning of final exams through the end of the final exam period.

Miscellaneous

- Countable Athletic Related Activities (CARA) may not occur at any time after competition, unless between tournament games or double-headers.
- A student-athlete may not participate in any countable athletically related activities outside of the playing season during any institutionally designated vacation period (academic year or summer).
- No student-athletes shall participate in any voluntary athletically related activities on campus during the defined NCAA Winter Break unless the facility is open to the general student body. No competition or transportation to competition shall take place during the NCAA-defined Winter Break.

Countable Athletically Related Activities (CARA)

The following are representative of activities considered countable athletically related for the purpose of practice hour limitations (the list is not all-inclusive):

- Practice (no more than four hours per day)
- Competition (counts as three hours regardless of actual length)
- Field, track, pool, or on-court activities
- Setting up offensive and defensive alignments
- Required weight training and conditioning activities
- Required participation in camps/clinics
- Participation outside the regular season in individual skill-related instructional activities with a member of the coaching staff
- Discussion or review of film
- Participation in a physical activity class for student-athletes only and taught by athletics staff
- Participation in clinics in which student-athletes and coaches are both present

Non-Countable Athletically Related Activities

The following activities are not considered countable athletically related activities for the purpose of practice hour limitations:

- Compliance meetings
- Meetings with coaches or athletics department staff members on nonathletic matters (e.g., compliance, drug education, academic support services, housing and meals information)
- Drug/alcohol educational meetings or Life Skills meetings
- Study hall, tutoring, or academic meetings
- Student-athlete advisory committee (SAAC) meetings
- Voluntary weight training not conducted by a coach, no attendance taken

- Voluntary sport-related activities, no attendance taken, no coach present
- Traveling to/from the site of competition
- Training room activities
- Recruiting activities (e.g., student host)
- Training table meals
- Attending banquets
- Fund-raising activities or public relations/promotional activities or community service project

Promotional Activities

Student-athletes are permitted to participate in charitable, nonprofit, and/or educational activities under the following conditions:

1. The student-athlete does not miss class
2. The student-athlete receives written approval from the director of athletics (or designee)
3. All monies derived from the activity will go directly to the charitable/nonprofit agency
4. The activity in which the student-athlete participates does not involve co-sponsorship, advertisement, or promotion by a commercial agency
5. The student-athlete may only accept actual and necessary expenses from the institution or charitable/nonprofit agency
6. The student-athlete's name, picture, or appearance is not used to promote commercial ventures

To ensure that NCAA requirements are met, and that student-athlete eligibility is not jeopardized, director of compliance approval is required before any student-athlete may participate in a promotional activity. The director of compliance will then notify the group sponsoring the activity about NCAA rules governing student-athlete participation in promotional activities. The director of compliance will then review the request and notify the representative if the request has been approved or denied.

In addition, all student-athletes sign a blanket promotional activity release as part of the NCAA and institutional paperwork before the

beginning-of-the-year team meetings.

Unauthorized Promotional Activities

If a student-athlete's name or picture appears on commercial items (e.g., T-shirts, posters, etc.) or is used to promote a commercial product without the student-athlete's knowledge or permission, both the student-athlete and Westminster University are required to take steps to stop such an activity in order to retain the student-athlete's eligibility.

Section 3: Expectations of Student-Athletes

Westminster University Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy

Westminster University expects all students to conduct themselves as responsible members of the academic community and to respect the rights of other students, faculty, and staff. All members of the university community are responsible for maintaining an environment where behavior is guided by respect, reason, and honesty.

The [Student Code of Conduct](#) applies to behavior on university property, at all university-sponsored activities held on or off campus, and to students' behavior off campus when such behavior violates university policies or federal, state, or local laws and negatively impacts the university, the university community, or the university's neighborhood; interferes with the relationship of the university to others; or harms the reputation of the university.

All students are expected to abide by applicable federal, state, and local laws. Individuals in violation of any laws are subject to prosecution by appropriate authorities, regardless of whether the behavior occurs on or off campus. In situations involving the use, possession, or distribution of narcotics or other controlled substances, the matter will be reported to outside authorities. Regardless of whether outside authorities pursue prosecution, the student may be subject to disciplinary action under this code.

All students are also expected to understand and abide by all other university policies including the nondiscrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual assault policies.

Westminster University Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy (Title IX)

Westminster University is committed to providing a safe and non-discriminatory learning and working environments for all members of the Westminster community. The university does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its education or employment programs and activities.

Westminster prohibits sexual assault, sexual and gender-based harassment, gender-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, interpersonal violence, and retaliation against a person for the good-faith reporting of any of these forms of conduct or participation in any investigation or proceeding under the Title IX policy, complicity in the commission of any act prohibited by the policy, and false reporting. The university will take prompt and equitable action to eliminate prohibited conduct, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects. Westminster conducts ongoing prevention, awareness, and training programs for students and employees.

All members of the Westminster community are encouraged to take reasonable actions to prevent or stop an act of prohibited conduct. The university will support and assist community members who take such actions.

The university urges anyone who experiences or becomes aware of an incident of prohibited conduct to report the incident immediately to the university through the following reporting options:

- Contact the university's Title IX coordinator
- Submit a report online from the [Title IX webpage](#). A report may be made anonymously. The university will use this information to better understand the scope of sexual and interpersonal violence on campus and to develop and implement prevention efforts. However, if anyone is named, the report will no longer be considered anonymous, and the university will proceed accordingly.

- Contact Campus Patrol at [801.832.2525](tel:801.832.2525).

There is no time limit for reporting prohibited conduct to the university and reporting an incident does not necessarily mean that an investigation will be pursued. To encourage the reporting of prohibited conduct, the university will not pursue disciplinary action for disclosure of illegal personal consumption of drugs or alcohol where such disclosures are made in connection with a good-faith report or investigation of prohibited conduct. After a report is made, the Title IX coordinators will consult with the reporting party to determine whether any supportive measures are necessary for their safety or well-being. These supportive measures might include changes in living arrangements, adjustments to class or work schedules, no-contact orders, rescheduling exams, or restricting access to facilities or programs.

Westminster University remains committed to Title IX compliance in athletics and in promoting gender equity and inclusion in all athletic programs. The athletics department also complies with the NCAA Campus Sexual Violence policy and requires all student-athletes, coaches, and other athletic staff to complete annual Title IX training.

Student-athletes are expected to understand and comply with the university Title IX policy. The complete Westminster University IX policy is found on the [Westminster University institutional policies webpage](#).

Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

Intercollegiate athletics at Westminster University are an important component of the educational system and process. Participation in intercollegiate athletics at Westminster is a privilege, not a right.

With that privilege comes the responsibility to conduct oneself, both on and off campus, in a positive manner. As such, Westminster student-athletes are expected to adhere to a high standard of conduct.

To serve the interests of the university and its students, faculty, and staff, the intercollegiate athletics program must function as an integral part of the educational mission of the institution. This requires that academic interests take priority over athletic interests at all levels, from the participation of the individual student-athlete to the general

policies of the university.

1. All participants in intercollegiate athletics are expected to observe rules of fair play and reasonable standards of safe participation and to use university facilities in accordance with applicable policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.
2. All competition must be honest and fair, prioritizing sportsmanship and ethical conduct.
3. Student-athletes must recognize the importance of academics. Only student-athletes making satisfactory progress toward a degree may compete. Student-athletes must obey all general student regulations and should exemplify the highest standards of academic honesty. Because of the increased visibility that comes with being a student-athlete, members of athletic teams must take care to avoid violations of the law, including, but not limited to, the abuse of alcohol and controlled substances.
4. Student-athletes must attend their classes. Student-athletes shall not fraudulently misrepresent, lie about their class attendance, or blatantly miss classes.
5. The physical well-being of the student-athlete takes precedence over the outcome of competitive matches. Coaches must be conservative in their decisions on this point and student-athletes themselves should exercise good judgment. The use of drugs, including steroids, and any other NCAA-banned substance to enhance athletic performance is strictly forbidden and will not be tolerated.
6. Westminster University is committed to providing a fair and equitable athletic opportunity for men and women.
7. Student-athletes at Westminster University will conduct themselves in a manner that will not discredit themselves, the team, or the university
8. Hazing among team members is illegal, strictly forbidden, and will not be tolerated. Please refer to the Hazing and Initiation Activities Section.
9. This Code of Conduct requires all student-athletes to comply with:
 - a. Applicable federal, state, and local law

- b. Westminster University Code of Student Conduct and Code of Ethics
- c. Athletics department policies and procedures
- d. Team rules

Interpretation of the Code of Conduct

The director of athletics has complete and discretionary authority to interpret and construe the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct may be modified or amended at any time.

Student-athletes are responsible for keeping themselves informed of the requirements of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct.

Disciplinary Action

If a student-athlete is found responsible for violations to the university Student Code of Conduct or other university policies, the dean of students (or designee) will notify the appropriate head coach and the director of athletics; the dean's report can include the student's judicial history with the university. Because student-athletes are expected to adhere to high standards of conduct, the Athletics Department will respond promptly to any reported offenses. In this case, the head coach, director of athletics, or designated university administrator may take disciplinary action in addition to sanctions imposed by university judicial officials or boards. Serious and/or repeated violations of either the university or Student-Athlete Code of Conduct will likely result in the loss of athletic privileges. The Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy and other university policies can be viewed on the Westminster University website under student life and found in the Student Handbook.

The head coach and/or the director of athletics or a designated university administrator has the authority to impose appropriate disciplinary actions for violations of standards established by the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct and other Athletics Department policies.

If a student-athlete violates team rules, the head coach will meet with the student-athlete and provide education or impose sanctions as appropriate. This will be done in consultation with the director of

athletics if the sanctions include missing games or removal from the team.

If a student-athlete is suspected of violating other sections of the Westminster University Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, the director of athletics (or designee) will conduct an investigation. If the student-athlete is found to be responsible of violating the code, the director of athletics, in consultation with the head coach, will impose sanctions.

Disciplinary actions may include any or all of the following:

1. Initial warning with the understanding that corrective measures will be taken immediately
2. Temporary suspension of athletic privileges
3. Permanent dismissal from the team
4. Reduction or loss in athletic financial aid
5. Other sanctions as deemed appropriate under the circumstances

Grievance Procedures

Disciplinary Appeals Procedure

A student who believes that they have a legitimate grievance regarding a specific disciplinary action must make a good faith effort to contact the coach or athletics administrator involved and to resolve the issue informally before initiating the grievance procedure. This appeals procedure concerns only disciplinary decisions and sanctions made by the director of athletics (or designee) or head coaches. For other concerns, please see the following section (*Grievances Regarding Coach Relationships*).

1. The student must begin the grievance procedure within four weeks of the decision that is being appealed.
2. If it is not possible to resolve the issue directly with the coach or athletics administrator, or if the issue is not about a specific incident, the student must contact the relevant athletics director (athletic director, SWA, or assistant/associate athletic director), who will seek to mediate a resolution.
3. If it is not possible to resolve the matter within the program, the student may submit a written appeal with supporting documentation to the faculty athletics representative (FAR). The

written appeal and all supporting documentation must be received by the FAR within two weeks of the contact with the director of athletics. After receiving the written appeal, the FAR will attempt to resolve the grievance in a meeting with the student and, if applicable, the coach or athletics administrator involved.

4. If the issue cannot be resolved by the FAR, they will refer the matter to an ad hoc Grievance Committee chaired by the dean of students or their representative, which shall consist of three Athletics Advisory Board members appointed by the FAR.
5. Within one week of receiving the information from the FAR, the committee shall conduct a hearing at which the student and other relevant parties may be asked to testify and to present whatever evidence may be appropriate. The grievance committee chair (appointed by the FAR) will schedule the hearing, moderate the deliberations of the committee and ensure that full and fair consideration is provided to all parties. Unless previously approved by the chair, no representatives, observers, or third parties to the complaint shall attend the hearing. All committee deliberations shall be held in private and shall be kept confidential by all members of the committee and the parties to the grievance. The use of recording devices shall be prohibited. The recommendation of the committee shall be based on the factual evidence and documentation presented. The burden of proof shall rest with the grievant, who must demonstrate that the decision or action being appealed was unfair or discriminatory or that it violates relevant policies and procedures.
6. Within one week of the meeting, the chair of the Grievance Committee shall deliver a written report of the committee's decision and its recommended resolution to the student, coach or athletics administrator, athletic director, and FAR.
7. Within one week of receiving the committee's report, the FAR will communicate the decision to student, coach or athletics administrator, and athletic director.

Grievances Regarding Coach Relationships

If student-athletes have any concerns arising from the relationship with

their coach, they should talk with the director of athletics, associate AD/SWA, or director of compliance. If they wish to talk with someone outside of Westminster Athletics or believe their concerns are not being addressed, they can meet with either the faculty athletics representative or the dean of students. Any issues related to Title IX or other discrimination or harassment will also be referred to the campus Title IX coordinator/EEO compliance officer.

Team Meetings Related to Eligibility and Rules Compliance

You are required to attend a meeting at the beginning of the season to review and sign required documentation and to review NCAA, conference, and institutional rules and regulations that impact your eligibility. In addition, you will receive rules-education materials throughout the year from your coach and/or the director of compliance and you may be asked to attend rules-education sessions. You will also be expected to attend a meeting at the conclusion of the academic year to review rules and regulations that can impact your eligibility during the summer.

Team Rules

Individual team rules may vary to reflect the program and coach's philosophy, the nature of the sport, and the practice/competition schedule. Student-athletes must obey decisions and expectations of the head coach and are subject to the rules established by the head coach in the respective sport.

Each head coach will present team rules before the start of each season. To ensure a level of consistency among all teams, it is understood that all student-athletes will adhere to the rules as set forth in this handbook (in addition to other rules implemented for particular teams).

Request to Transfer Process

The NCAA II transfer request process is as follows:

- A student-athlete must first contact the head coach or

compliance director if they desire to transfer to another institution.

- Once a written notification of transfer is communicated, the student-athlete must complete an educational module related to transferring before the institution may enter the student-athlete's information into the national transfer database.
- Compliance will place your name in the transfer portal within seven business of the written notification of transfer request or receipt of the student-athlete's completion of the educational module, whichever occurs later, as required by NCAA II.
- After your name enters the transfer portal, you will receive an email notification, verifying a coach's ability to contact you.
- Select the school you will attend next. You will have the opportunity to receive financial aid.

Implications

- YOU decide your future but CONSIDER all options carefully before making any decisions.
- In Division II, once you request to enter the transfer portal, your institution can reduce or cancel athletics aid at the end of the period of the award listed within the scholarship agreement.
- After notification, your original school is not obligated to take you back as a student-athlete.
- Failure to follow the listed steps may result in NCAA violations.

For more information on transfer rules, [visit the NCAA transfer webpage](#).

Section 4: Alcohol/Substance Use and Drug Testing Policy

The health, safety, and well-being of our student-athletes is of utmost importance to Westminster University. Substance abuse and misuse in athletics and society is a serious issue and one where preventive measures are necessary. The use of illegal drugs, misuse of legal drugs and supplements, use of performance enhancing substances, misuse and abuse of alcohol, and tobacco are contrary to the expectations of students or ideals and standards of Westminster university. Substance use and abuse can pose health risks and negatively affect a student-athlete's academic and athletic performance and potentially compromise the integrity of athletics competition.

Intent

The intent of our Alcohol/Substance Use and Drug Testing Policy is to prevent substance misuse and abuse by student-athletes through education, testing, and professional guidance. Westminster Athletics will work to provide educational resources to support a positive decision-making process. Westminster University and Athletics believe drug screening based on reasonable suspicion is appropriate to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of student-athletes; to promote fair competition in intercollegiate athletics; to comply with applicable rules and regulations regarding drug and alcohol misuse and abuse; to identify student-athletes who are at risk and possibly misusing drugs or alcohol; and to provide assistance to them before they harm themselves or others. Professional counseling is an essential element of an effective program of treatment and rehabilitation.

The specific provisions and sanctions of this policy that will be administered, should violations of the policy occur, are stated below. For the purposes of this policy, "student-athlete" is any Westminster University student who participates in any Athletics Department sanctioned event and/or practice or is listed on an official team roster. In addition to the sanctions from the Athletics Department, student-athletes may also be subject to sanctions under the university's Drug and Alcohol Policy, as outlined in the Westminster University Student

Handbook. Although this policy will impose specific sanctions, those should be viewed as minimum sanctions. The sanctions outlined in this policy will not preclude a head coach from enforcing a team rule regarding such conduct. In all instances, a prior history of poor behavior or violations of team rules may be considered when imposing department and/or team sanctions. For health and safety reasons, a team physician or the head athletic trainer and/or assigned team athletic trainer may withhold a student-athlete from organized or informal/ad hoc team practice and/or competition at any time.

- **Education:** The Athletics Department will provide student-athletes and athletics staff with information about substance use in sport and promoting health and safety in sport. This information shall be communicated in writing as well as through verbal communication and training with student-athletes.
- **Testing:** Analyzing biological specimens to detect prohibited substances student-athletes may introduce to their bodies and punitive consequences resulting from use. Student-athletes will be required to sign and return the WU Athletic Substance Screening Consent Form and Student-Athlete Authorization Release of Information Form prior to their participation in practice or competition.
- **Professional Referral:** The university and/or the Athletics Department shall facilitate appropriate treatment and rehabilitation of student-athletes.

Alcohol and Tobacco

Westminster University prohibits the illegal or otherwise irresponsible use of alcohol. It is the responsibility of every member of the campus community to know the risks associated with alcohol use, misuse, and abuse. This responsibility lies with the student-athletes to know relevant university policies and federal, state, and local laws and to conduct themselves in accordance with these laws and policies. It should be understood that possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by individuals under the age of 21 is a violation of Utah state law. Likewise, it is illegal for anyone to supply alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21. Please refer to the Westminster University

Student Handbook for specific alcohol policies and Utah state laws.

A conviction, pleas of guilty or no contest, or a determination of responsibility to any of the following will be considered a violation of the Department Policy:

1. Driving under the influence (DUI/DWI) or other motor vehicle violations involving alcohol or drugs
2. Public intoxication
3. Drunk and disorderly conduct
4. Other violations of law involving alcohol or drugs, including possession—including minor in possession alcohol/drug violations
5. Violations of university policies involving alcohol or drugs

Sanctions for a student-athlete's involvement with alcohol under conditions prohibited by Westminster Athletics and/or team rules, but in which there are no legal implications, will be determined by the head coach, the director of athletics, and/or their designee. Depending on circumstances, sanctions may include (1) suspension from practice and/or competition, (2) dismissal from the team, and (3) loss of athletics financial aid, as well as additional consequences as deemed appropriate by the Office of Student Life under university policy.

A student-athlete shall not drink or be in possession of alcohol during any contest, practice, or team travel. In addition:

1. It is illegal and prohibited for student-athletes under the age of 21 to consume alcoholic beverages.
2. Student-athletes of legal drinking age (21 or older) are prohibited from consuming alcohol 24 hours before any athletic contest. Alcohol is strictly prohibited from being consumed while traveling as a member of a Westminster University athletics team. The use of tobacco or "dip" is prohibited during any contest, practice, team travel, or team-related activity. Department and team sanctions will be on a case-by-case basis in accordance with sanctions imposed by game officials, conference, and/or national governing rules.

Dietary Supplements

Westminster Athletics personnel shall not encourage or advise any student-athlete to take performance-enhancing or non-therapeutic drugs. Furthermore, they shall not issue or assist student-athletes in obtaining any performance-enhancing or non-therapeutic drugs. Many dietary supplements or ergogenic aids contain banned substances and could result in a positive drug test. Often, the labeling of dietary supplements is not accurate and is misleading. Student-athletes currently taking dietary supplements or considering taking any should review the product with the athletic training staff prior to use. [View additional information about dietary supplements.](#)

Prohibited Substances

Students participating in intercollegiate athletics are prohibited from the use, purchase, possession, manufacture, and/or distribution of any substances on the current NCAA banned drug list. Student-athletes may not use NCAA banned substances regardless of whether such use occurs before, during, or after the student-athlete's competitive seasons. **Student-athletes should consult with the athletic training staff and refer to the [NCAA banned substance list](#).**

Note: Changes may be made to the banned drug list without prior notice from the university or Westminster Athletics. The head athletics trainer, upon receipt of official notice of changes to the banned drug list, will promptly notify all head coaches and student-athletes of such changes.

The NCAA bans the following classes of drugs:

- Stimulants
- Anabolic Agents
- Alcohol
- Beta Blockers (banned for rifle only)
- Diuretics and other masking agents
- Street drugs
- Peptide Hormones and Analogues
- Anti-estrogens

- Beta-2 Agonists

Medical Exception Process

Westminster University recognizes some banned substances are used for legitimate medical purposes and allows exceptions to be made for those student-athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating a need for regular use of such a substance. Student-athletes are required to inform the athletic training staff, in writing, of all medications (prescribed and over the counter) they are taking.

The athletic training staff should maintain, in the student-athlete's medical record, a letter from the prescribing physician, which documents the student-athlete's medical history demonstrating the need for regular use of such a drug. That letter should contain information as to the diagnosis (including appropriate verification), medical history, dosage information, and prescribed length of time for usage.

In the event a student-athlete tests positive, the head athletic trainer, in consultation with the team physician (and/or the student-athlete's prescribing physician), will review the student-athlete's medical record to determine whether a medical exception should be granted. In this instance (or other instances regarding the medical exception process), student-athletes will be required to sign a HIPAA release of information. Further, Westminster University reserves the right to contact treating physician(s) to discuss this process.

Reasonable Suspicion

Reasonable suspicion may be based on objective information as determined by the university, faculty athletics representative, dean of students, director of athletics, associate/assistant athletic directors, head coach, assistant coach, head athletic trainer, athletic trainer, or team physician, and deemed reliable by the dean of students, director of athletics, or their designee.

Reasonable suspicion may include, but not be limited to:

1. Reported or observed possession and/or use of prohibited substances.

2. Presence or possession by a student-athlete of drug-related paraphernalia.
3. An arrest or conviction for a criminal offense related to the possession or transfer of prohibited drugs or substances.
4. Proven history of positive results.
5. University disciplinary action related to prohibited substances.
6. Observed abnormal behavior, conduct or appearance that may be reasonably interpreted as being caused using alcohol, prohibited drugs, or substances. Indicators that may be used in evaluating a student-athlete's abnormal appearance, conduct, or performance are erratic class attendance, significant GPA changes, athletics practice attendance, increased injury rate or illness, physical appearance changes, changes in academic/athletics motivational level, emotional condition, mood changes, and legal involvement.

The case for reasonable suspicion made by Westminster Athletics shall be reviewed by the director of athletics (or their designee) and dean of students to assure the determination is based on reliable information/evidence. Written approval from the director of athletics or dean of students shall be obtained prior to testing. The director of athletics or dean of students may elect to conduct further investigation prior to approving testing.

Testing Procedures

Drugs to be screened for are those on the NCAA-banned drug list, plus all recreational/street drugs.

The following procedures will be followed for drug testing of Westminster University student-athletes:

1. Urine samples shall be collected by an independent, certified laboratory for analysis. Samples will be tested to determine if banned drugs or illegal substances are present.
2. Upon entering the collection site, the student-athlete will provide photo identification.
3. The student-athlete will comply with all instructions given by the approved collector, including the execution of a form consenting to the testing and disclosure of results as discussed herein.
4. The laboratory will make final determination of specimen amount.

A student-athlete is considered drug/substance free until the results are obtained from the laboratory. Student-athletes undergoing drug testing may continue to fully participate in sports until the results are released to university personnel. However, participation may be limited if violation of other university, department, or team rules are involved.

Reporting Results

Test results will be made available to the director of athletics or their designee, the head athletics trainer, the head coach, and the dean of students, all of whom shall treat the information with confidentiality. If the test is positive, the director of athletics or head coach will notify the student-athlete, and the student-athlete may be asked to notify their parent(s). If the student-athlete chooses not to notify their parents, the director of athletics may do so at their discretion in accordance with the student-athlete FERPA waiver completed at the beginning of each year. The student-athlete will meet with the director of athletics or their designee, head coach, and athletic trainer for a complete review of the situation. At the student-athlete's request, parents/guardians may be present at this meeting.

A violation is defined as any one of the following:

1. A specimen is reported as positive (following laboratory testing) for the presence of one or more of those drugs identified as a substance on the NCAA-banned drug list, a recreational/street drug, or the detection of a masking agent by the laboratory.
2. If a student-athlete fails to report to the testing site, fails to produce a specimen at time of testing, and/or manipulates the integrity of the specimen and/or collection process, it will be considered a positive test.
3. Failure to comply with sanctions imposed following a prior positive result.
4. Being otherwise found in violation of the university's Drug and Alcohol Policy.

In the case of a positive result, the cost of the initial test and all subsequent testing will be the financial responsibility of the student-athlete. Should the result be negative, the expense will be incurred by Westminster Athletics. Drug test results that come back negative will

involve notification to that student-athlete. All circumstances involved in the case will be evaluated in determining if any sanctions are appropriate.

Sanctions

Violations are cumulative for the student-athlete's athletics career at Westminster University. Failure to meet any of the sanction requirements will be considered a subsequent violation of this policy and the next subsequent sanction shall apply. The following disciplinary sanctions shall apply:

First Violation

A first positive test will result in the following sanctions:

- A minimum one-week suspension or more as deemed appropriate from participation in practice, competition, team activities, and travel.
- Student-athlete will be required to meet with the Westminster University Counseling Center. The counselor shall determine appropriate form(s) of intervention needed, based on circumstances of the case.
- The student-athlete may not be permitted to return to practice and/or competition in intercollegiate sports until they have complied with the counselor's directions for treatment, have had a negative result on a reentry drug test, have made a written request for reinstatement, and the request has been granted. The student-athlete may be subject to follow-up testing. Testing will be unannounced and will be required at a frequency determined by the director of athletics or their designee. Failure to comply with the counselor's directions for treatment and/or having a positive result on a reentry drug test will be deemed a second offense.
- Any offense may be grounds for termination of athletic-related financial aid. Decisions of athletic financial aid removal may be made by the director of athletics and head coach.
- The student-athlete may also face further consequences per university policy, including but not limited to expulsion from the

university

Second Violation

A second positive test will result in the following sanctions:

- Suspension from participation in practice, competition, team activities, and travel for the remainder of the current season.
- The student-athlete may be terminated from any future participation in Westminster University athletics.
- The student-athlete will be required to meet with the Westminster University Counseling Center. The counselor shall determine appropriate form(s) of intervention needed, based on circumstances of the case.
- Any offense may be grounds for termination of athletic-related financial aid. Decisions of athletic financial aid removal may be made by the director of athletics and head coach. The student-athlete may also face further consequences per university policy, including but not limited to expulsion from the university

Third Violation

- The student-athlete is permanently banned from intercollegiate athletics at Westminster University.
- **Note:** First and second violations will be decided by the director of athletics, head coach, and dean of students. Third violation results in a permanent ban from Westminster University athletics. Any costs in addition to the initial substance screening during this disciplinary process will not be covered by Westminster University and will be the responsibility of student-athlete. The same consequences will occur for a student-athlete who is found to have taken a banned substance outside of the Westminster University Athletic Substance Screening Program.

Appeal Process

The student-athlete's decision to appeal a result must be submitted in writing to the director of athletics within five working days of the positive result. The Athletics Substance Screening Committee (dean of students, director of athletics, head athletic trainer, and team physician

or designee) shall meet to consider the appeal. Within five working days after it concludes its inquiry, the committee shall report its conclusions regarding the facts and establish the appropriate sanction. The proceedings shall be confidential. A student-athlete requesting such an appeal may be subject to interim sanctions until a final determination is made by the Athletics Substance Screening Committee.

The decision by the Athletics Substance Screening Committee regarding the sanction to be imposed, if any, shall be final. The director of athletics shall inform the student-athlete of the committee's decision in writing. A formal record of the hearing shall be kept.

Counseling Component

The counseling component provides assessment and counseling for the student-athlete as a result of mandatory sanctions or self-referral. If the student-athlete wishes to continue participation in Westminster University athletics, the student-athlete must sign an Authorization for Release of Information Form, which will enable the counseling staff to communicate with the athletic training staff and/or the director of athletics about the rehabilitation plan as needed to help the student-athlete and ensure compliance with this policy.

Westminster University counselors will provide an initial consult for counseling and rehabilitation services. If counseling, rehabilitation, or treatment must be referred off campus, Westminster University Athletic Insurance will not be responsible for funding these services.

Safe Harbor Program

The Safe Harbor Program provides for a student-athlete to voluntarily disclose the use of a banned and/or illegal substance to a member of the Athletics Substance Screening Committee (e.g., director of athletics, head athletic trainer, dean of students, and team physician) or the coaching staff to receive evaluation, testing, and counseling. Student-athletes are not eligible for the program after they have been informed of an impending drug test or after having received a previous positive Westminster University drug test.

The student-athletes will be required to make an appointment with

Counseling Center personnel. Subsequent drug testing may be required, at the expense of the student-athletes, to determine what type of program will best assist individuals. This baseline test, if positive, is for evaluation purposes and will be exempt from any violation standards. The head athletic trainer may suspend a student-athlete from competition and/or practice if medically indicated.

A student-athlete will be permitted to remain in the Safe Harbor Program for up to 30 days. If a student-athlete is determined to have substance use after the initial admittance to the Safe Harbor Program, or fails to comply with the treatment plan, the student-athlete will be removed from the Safe Harbor Program. A student-athlete will only be permitted to enter the Safe Harbor Program once during their athletic eligibility at Westminster University.

Confidentiality

Any information concerning a student-athlete's suspected or confirmed improper use of drugs shall be restricted to institutional personnel identified within this document and to parents or legal guardians of minors. All forms, correspondence, and meeting notes with regard to positive test results will be kept electronically by the director of athletics' office and will not be included in the student-athlete's personal medical record or academic record. No other release of such information will be made without the student-athletes written consent, unless it is requested under federal judicial process. The institution cannot guarantee that law enforcement or prosecuting authorities will not gain access to information in the possession of the institution since valid subpoena or court orders might be issued to compel disclosure. The institution, however, will not voluntarily disclose such information.

If asked by any member of the community or the media, the institution will reply with the following statement, "The student-athlete was found in violation of Westminster University's Student-Athlete Code of Conduct and has been sanctioned."

If a student-athlete decides to transfer to another institution while in period of suspension due to a positive drug test, Westminster Athletics will inform on documents provided by schools seeking transfer

permission the following statement, "The student was found in violation of Westminster University's Student-Athlete Code of Conduct."

The director of athletics, dean of students, head athletic trainer, student-athlete's head coach, and the team physician will be informed of the student-athlete's participation in the Safe Harbor Program. The Athletic Trainer assigned to that sport also may be notified, if medically appropriate. Assistant coaches also may be informed at the discretion of the head coach. Other Westminster University employees may be informed only to the extent necessary for the implementation of this policy.

Individual Team Policies

Each athletics team at Westminster University is required to present team rules at the beginning of each academic year. Team rules may have a specific drug and alcohol code of conduct or expectation addressing drug and alcohol violations. Such policies shall be in writing, consistent with Westminster Athletics and university policies, and approved by the director of athletics prior to being presented by the team's head coach to the student-athletes of their respective team. Each student-athlete shall sign an acknowledgement form stating they have read and understand the specific team rules. Sanctions contained in team policies that have not been written, approved, and presented, as discussed above, will not be imposed. Team policies are separate from, and in addition to, the Westminster Athletics Alcohol/Substance Abuse policy as well as university policy. Sanctions contained in the department policy shall be the minimum sanctions governing student-athlete conduct. The director of athletics will review any sanctions imposed by the team policy in regard to the violation and may consider team-related sanctions when imposing Westminster Athletics substance abuse sanctions.

NCAA Drug-Testing Program

In addition to the Westminster University Athletics Substance Screening Program, the NCAA conducts testing at its championships and Division II member institution intercollegiate athletic programs through its year-round testing program. Every Division II institution is subject to year-

round drug testing. Division II institutions not sponsoring football will be selected at least once every two years.

Annually, information about NCAA drug-testing policies and sanctions are presented to all Westminster University student-athletes by the head athletic trainer and compliance at the beginning and end of the year required team meetings.

Drug Free Sport (DFS) will notify the director of athletics, compliance director, and site coordinator via email of their institution's selection for drug testing no earlier than two days before test day. In most cases, institutions will be notified one day before test day. Some tests may even include no-notice testing.

The institution's site coordinator or designee will provide DFS with a squad/eligibility list for the sport(s) selected for drug testing. DFS will randomly select student-athletes for drug testing and provide the names of the selected student-athletes to the site coordinator or designee. The site coordinator or designee will notify the selected student-athletes in person or direct by phone of their selection for drug testing. Selected student-athletes are required to sign the Student-Athlete Notification Form and will report to drug testing at the testing facility on the date and time designated by the site coordinator.

Any student-athlete who refuses to sign the notification form or signature form, fails to arrive at the testing site at the designated time without justification, fails to provide an adequate urine sample, leaves the testing site before providing a specimen, or attempts to alter the integrity or validity of urine specimen and/or collection process will be treated as if there was a positive for a banned substance other than a street drug as defined in NCAA Bylaw 31.2.

Student-athletes are drug tested through urinalysis and are observed by a member of the drug-testing crew of the same gender. The length of the process depends on the student-athlete's ability to provide an adequate specimen. In most cases, the entire process is completed in less than 20 minutes.

If the NCAA tests the student-athlete for the banned substances per NCAA bylaws and as shown on the NCAA Banned Substance List and they test positive in the initial Sample A test, that student-athlete will

be suspended until the Sample B test has been determined. If the student-athlete tests positive for Sample B, then that student-athlete will be ineligible for further participation in regular season and postseason competition in all sports in accordance with the provisions in NCAA Bylaw 18.4.

A student-athlete who tests positive shall be charged with a loss of a minimum of one season of competition in all sports if the season of competition has not yet begun for that student-athlete or a minimum of the equivalent of one full season of competition in all sports if the student-athlete tests positive during their season of competition.

The list of NCAA banned substances is subject to change and student-athletes shall be held accountable for all banned drug classes on the current list. The list is located on the NCAA website (ncaa.org) and is posted in the athletic training rooms.

For information on NCAA banned substances, medications, and nutritional supplements, call the Resource Exchange Center (REC) at [877.202.0769](tel:877.202.0769) or visit [Drug Free Sport International](http://DrugFreeSportInternational.com).

Section 5: Westminster Athletics Policies and Rules

Athletic Injuries and Illness

Student-athletes must immediately report injuries and illnesses to the athletic trainer assigned to their sport. Student-athletes are asked to adhere to the guidelines established by the athletic training staff regarding the care and rehabilitation of injuries, physician referral and consultation, and appropriate coverage.

Hygiene, Nutrition, and Rest

Student-athletes must practice good hygiene to help prevent illness and infection and the spread of either. Wash thoroughly after workouts, practice, and competitions. Do not share water bottles, towels, razors, or gear. Keep your practice and game uniforms laundered and your locker and locker rooms clean.

Eat healthy and get plenty of rest in order to perform to the best of your ability academically and athletically each day.

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all sessions of each class. Specific attendance requirements are established by each instructor, and such requirements are enforced by the university. Students are responsible for making sure they have dropped courses that they do not plan to attend.

Student-athletes will attend ALL classes when not traveling and meet ALL academic eligibility requirements and responsibilities. According to NCAA bylaws student-athletes may not miss classes for practice. It is the responsibility of student-athletes to meet with their instructors before the end of the add/drop period each semester in which they will be traveling, provide faculty with a copy of the departmental travel schedule letters, and make arrangements to complete any work missed during those absences. A signed copy of the letter should be returned to the associate athletic director. Westminster University student-athletes do not receive preferential treatment due to athletic travel.

They are required to make up any missed classwork and assignments due to travel. **The Westminster University Absence Policy** can be found in Section 6: Westminster Academic Regulations.

Any student-athlete found to fraudulently misrepresent, lie about their class attendance, or blatantly miss classes will be subject to Athletics Department discipline, which may include athletic suspension and/or a reduction of the student's athletic financial aid.

Curfew (In-Season)

Individual team curfews may vary to reflect the program/coach philosophy, but a good rule of thumb for all student-athletes is to get plenty of rest to be able perform at a high level and avoid possible infractions, which most commonly occur during the evening hours.

Dress Code

Appropriate dress is expected of all student-athletes when traveling for competition or visiting another institution. Student-athletes are expected to abide by team rules regarding required dress standards and/or required to wear team-issued apparel as determined by the head coach.

For contact sports: earrings, watches, and other jewelry may not be worn during team workouts, practice, or competition.

Facilities Use

Student-athletes will be required to carry and use their Westminster University student identification card when accessing the main entrance Dolores Doré Eccles Health, Wellness, and Athletic Center. Repeat violators will lose use privileges in HWAC.

Student-athletes are responsible to pick up after themselves and to maintain proper use when using institutional and athletic facilities. Violators will lose use privileges.

Student-athletes are prohibited from allowing non-Westminster students, groups, persons, teams, or others from using any Westminster University athletics, recreation, or campus facility and/or space. Student-athletes in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate

disciplinary actions.

Student-athletes are prohibited from using any Westminster University athletics, recreation, or campus facility and/or space to instruct, practice, or train non-Westminster students, groups, persons, teams, or others. Student-athletes in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary actions.

Gambling

Student-athletes should be aware of the tragic consequences that gambling has had on individual student-athletes and their institutions across the country. Gambling and bribery, even in the simplest form, can be damaging and are strictly forbidden. Additionally, NCAA rules prohibit student-athletes from participating in sports wagering activities or providing any information to individuals associated with sports wagering concerning intercollegiate, amateur, or professional athletics competition. This includes sports wagering in "March Madness Bracket" competitions, fantasy football, and other activities when a student pays money or puts something "at stake" in order to participate.

Social Media

While the Athletics Department does not prohibit student-athlete involvement with internet social networking communities, it does reserve the right to act against any currently enrolled student-athlete engaged in behavior that is not appropriate and/or violates university, Athletics Department, NCAA and RMAC rules, or team rules, including such behavior that occurs in postings on the internet. Student-athletes found in violation of posting discriminatory, disparaging, harassing, or other types of communications via social media sites directed toward fellow students, faculty, staff, and/or others as deemed inappropriate will be found in violation of university policy and student-athlete code of conduct. Such behavior will warrant appropriate disciplinary action.

Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok and others provide individuals with an opportunity to interact with an extraordinary expansive universe of new people and connect with current friends. Postings on personal profiles, groups, and chat

rooms are in the public domain and easily accessible by anyone, including reporters, parents, coaches, fans, predators, future employers, post-graduate school institutions, and others. Once information is posted, it can be retrieved by computer savvy individuals even after it has been deleted.

The Athletics Department recommends you immediately review any platforms on which you may have posted to ensure the postings are consistent with university, Athletics Department, and team rules and that they do not present you in a manner in which you do not want to be portrayed. For your safety and privacy, you should refrain from posting and should promptly remove any personally identifiable information such as telephone number, address, class schedule, and places frequented, as well as any inappropriate photos you may have posted.

Hazing and Initiation Activities

Student-athletes are strictly prohibited from engaging in any form of hazing or initiation activities.

At Westminster University, hazing is defined as an act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or that destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. Physical hazing includes, but is not limited to, paddling, head shaving, requiring or compelling the forced consumption of any liquid (including alcohol) or solid substance, and all forms of physical activity that are used to harass or are not part of an organized athletic contest and not specifically directed toward constructive work.

Psychological hazing includes any act that is likely to:

1. Compromise the dignity of a member or prospective member.
2. Cause embarrassment or shame to a member or a prospective member.
3. Cause a member or prospective member to be the object of malicious amusement or ridicule.
4. Cause psychological harm or substantial emotional strain.

Language or Gestures

Profane, derogatory, and abusive language or gestures during class, on-campus, during team-related activities, practices, or games are absolutely prohibited. Student-athletes must exercise the necessary self-discipline to avoid the use of improper language or gestures.

Locker Room Use

Locker assignments and/or locks will be issued at the beginning of the year by your team coach.

Lockers should not be altered or defaced as the student-athlete will be financially responsible and a hold will be placed on the student's account.

Student-athletes are prohibited from allowing any non-team members of the Westminster community or any non-Westminster students, groups, persons, teams, or others to access and use any Westminster University team locker room and/or team space. Student-athletes in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary actions.

Outside Competition

Student-athletes are not permitted to compete in their sport on an outside team during the academic year or during their playing season.

Participation during an official break during the academic year (e.g., summer) may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Student-athletes must consult with their head coach and submit the Outside Competition Form to the director of compliance prior to participation.

Practice and Game Participation

Attendance and participation at practice, contests, team meetings, and off-season workouts during the academic year (excluding summer breaks) are mandatory unless declared unfit by the team athletic trainer or doctor—or any other way that is no fault of the student-athlete.

Student-athletes who cannot participate in team-related activities due to class conflict, illness, and/or injury must notify and be excused by

the head coach.

In case of an emergency or impending tardiness, student-athletes are responsible for notifying the head coach.

Respect

Student-athletes shall demonstrate respect for all members of the Westminster University community and the community at large.

Student-athletes shall cooperate with people of authority (including, but not limited to, coaching staff, university faculty, and staff employees) and shall refrain from insubordination.

Game Environment

Westminster University places great emphasis on providing a positive game environment for our fans, visiting teams, and officials.

A positive game environment not only includes sportsmanship, but also includes ensuring that the game environment is comfortable and entertaining. With regard to sportsmanship, the principle of sportsmanship is to play fair; follow the rules of the game; respect the judgment of referees and officials; and treat opponents, coaches, and fans with respect. Play hard and within in the rules, win with class, and lose with class.

Student-athletes, coaches, and all others associated with the Griffins athletic program should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty, and responsibility.

Team Travel

All Westminster University athletic travel to and from practice and competition sites will be via approved travel methods. Most travel is provided by bus, with some trips by air, minibus, van, or car. The director of athletics approves all athletic transportation.

On overnight trips, student-athletes will remain in the hotel after the curfew hour that is determined by the head coach.

All student-athletes are required to travel with the "team travel party" to and from campus and competition site. A student-athlete who needs an exception to this policy must submit a completed Travel

Release/Assumption of Risk Form to their coach who in turn submits to the director of athletics prior to team departure from campus. For student-athletes under the age of 18, their parent or legal guardian must sign the Travel Release/Assumption of Risk Form. The request must be approved by the director of athletics or designee prior to the student-athlete departing on team approved travel. Student-athletes will only be released to the individual(s) designated on the form. A Travel Release/Assumption of Risk Form can be obtained from the director of athletics and/or appropriate head coach. If a student-athlete leaves the team travel party for any reason without notifying his or her head coach and submitting a Travel Release and Assumption of Risk Form, the student-athlete will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include suspension from the team and/or the university.

Student-athletes choosing to drive personal vehicles to Westminster practice facilities or fields do so at their own risk.

Theft

Any degree of theft by a student-athlete is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Offenders will be prosecuted and disciplined appropriately.

Uniforms and Equipment

Student-athletes are personally responsible for the care and return of all equipment and/or uniforms issued to them. If equipment and/or uniforms are not returned in good condition (reasonable wear and tear are expected), the student-athlete will be financially responsible, and a hold will be placed on the student's account.

- Equipment and uniforms will be issued after student-athletes have passed their physical examination and submitted insurance coverage and are cleared by the director for compliance.
- If any item becomes damaged or not usable, the item must be returned to the head coach of the associated sport before a replacement will be issued. Any lost item will be replaced at the expense of the student-athlete.
- It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to return all issued

equipment and uniforms at the completion of the season. The time and date for the return will be established during the last week of the season.

- Failure to return all issued items will result in charging the price of the items to the student-athlete's student account and placing a hold on the athlete's academic transcript until the equipment is returned or payment is received.

Uniforms and equipment will be worn for authorized practices and competition in accordance with university standards as they may be established from time to time.

Exit and End-of-Year Interviews

Annually, student-athletes will be given the opportunity to provide feedback and rate their overall student-athlete experience at Westminster University through electronic surveys/interviews and exit interviews for seniors with their respective head coach, FAR, director of athletics, associate athletic director, and/or designee. Student-athletes who quit their teams or leave the university are also provided this opportunity.

Section 6: Westminster Academic Regulations

Student-athletes must be in good academic standing in order to be eligible to compete in intercollegiate athletics at Westminster University. Please refer to the online university catalog and student handbook for additional information and the latest updates.

Undergraduate Good Standing

The academic standing of each student is determined by examining records at the end of fall and spring, and undergraduate summer term. Students must earn the minimum semester grade point average (shown below) to be in good standing at the university.

Total number of hours attempted at Westminster (for those entering as first-year students only)	Minimum semester GPA required:
1-13	1.70
14-27	1.80
28 and above	2.00

Not meeting the above academic requirements could result in one or more of the following:

1. Temporary suspension of athletic privileges.
2. Permanent dismissal from the team.
3. Reduction or loss in athletic financial aid.

Graduate Good Standing

Students in all graduate programs are expected to maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0. Students whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. Students placed on academic probation must earn a semester grade point average of at least 3.0 the next semester in which they enroll. Students who are on academic probation may take

no more than 4 credit hours each semester. Probationary students who fail to earn a semester grade point average of at least 3.0 that semester will be suspended from their graduate program.

Probationary students whose semester grade point average is 3.0 or higher but whose cumulative grade point average still remains below 3.0 will continue on academic probation. Probationary students whose cumulative grade point average reaches 3.0 or higher will be returned to good academic standing.

Probationary students are required to meet with the program director prior to enrolling for the upcoming semester. Please see the Academic Handbook of each graduate program for what constitutes a passing grade for individual classes.

Probation

A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 is required to remain in good standing at the university. Students whose semester or cumulative GPAs drop below 2.00 will be placed automatically on probation and assigned a counselor in one of the student services areas. Probationary students are required to set a learning contract with their academic advisor and meet with them at regularly assigned times.

While on academic probation, students may register for no more than 13 semester hours of credit, may not register for an internship, and may participate in only one curricular or extracurricular activity, unless an additional activity is required for the major and is approved by the program director. Curricular activities include choir, drama, and journalism. Extracurricular activities include student government and students on academic probation **are not eligible to participate in university athletics.**

Students who meet semester grade point average requirements, but not cumulative grade point average requirements, may be considered for continued probationary status rather than suspension if the term grade point average shows substantial progress toward meeting all grade point average requirements. To be returned to good standing, students must have a 2.0 semester and cumulative grade point average. This applies to fall and spring semesters and summer term.

Academic Honesty

Westminster University operates on the assumption that all academic work is the honest product of each student's own endeavors. The faculty and staff at Westminster expect such integrity from the students, and violations are cause for disciplinary action, including suspension, probation, loss of credit, or expulsion from the university.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and furnishing false or misleading information to any faculty or staff member.

Cheating on examinations includes, but is not restricted to, copying from another student's exam paper, using unauthorized notes during an exam, arranging for a substitute to take an examination, or giving or receiving unauthorized information prior to an exam.

Cheating on written assignments includes plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration with others or submitting the same material for more than one class without the authorization of the instructor.

Plagiarism includes borrowing information or ideas, whether directly quoted or paraphrased, from any source beyond one's first-hand experience and not acknowledging the source. The student must give credit to the material by identifying the source, using one of the generally accepted citation methods.

Initially, sanctions are the responsibility of the class instructor. The instructor may simply reprimand the student, or may demand the work be repeated, or may give a failing grade for the assignment or exam in question or may give a failing grade for the entire course. In each case, a short report of the incident will be filed with the appropriate academic dean.

In the case of repeated or more serious violations, the faculty member may recommend to the dean that the student be put on probation, suspended, or expelled from the university. The dean's recommendation will then be sent to the Dean of Students.

Students may appeal such decisions to the Academic Grievance Committee. In the case of an appeal, the student has the right to be present at the hearing and refute the charges. A written copy of the

decision will be distributed to all involved parties within 72 hours of the hearing.

Dropping/Adding Courses

Before a student-athlete decides to add or drop any course, they should first talk with the eligibility coordinator in the Registrar's Office to review the consequences of any change on academic progress and eligibility. Student-athletes should never drop below 12 credit hours during the semester. Holds are placed on student-athlete registrations to prevent class changes that might affect current eligibility. After consulting with their academic or faculty advisor, student-athletes will need to be cleared by the eligibility coordinator before adding or dropping a class. Remember to fill out a drop card to avoid being charged for course work not taken.

Academic Advising and Registration

New first-year students are advised and registered by specially trained first-year faculty advisors; new transfer and international students are advised by the transfer advisor. After initial advising and registration students meet with their first-year learning community faculty or faculty major advisors. Career Center staff can assist with major exploration and decision-making. **Each student-athlete is responsible for meeting with their advisor, who will aid in determining the student's course(s) of study and scheduling classes.**

Student-athletes must meet with a faculty major advisor and formally declare their major before the start of their fifth full-time semester. If student-athletes want to change their major after their fourth semester, they need to get approval from the eligibility coordinator who will review NCAA progress toward degree requirements.

Westminster University Excused Absence Policy

Westminster University recognizes that students may occasionally have to miss classes for legitimate reasons. The university further recognizes that not every learning experience a student has in college takes place in a classroom or by a predetermined schedule. Further, we are

dedicated to giving students the space and time they need to fulfill spiritual and cultural obligations, to care for their own well-being, and to foster their own intellectual and professional growth. The university therefore encourages faculty members to excuse absences that are necessitated for reasons that spring from their priorities. At the same time, class attendance is especially important in a student-centered learning environment at Westminster. The excused absence policy is designed to help instructors balance these possibly competing values, and to inform them of certain legal obligations pertaining to class attendance.

If instructors choose to establish them, course-specific attendance policies must appear on the course syllabus and must be available to students within the first week of classes. Course-specific policies can supersede this policy when it comes to university-sponsored activities (item 1 below), but not when recognized religious holidays, authorized ADA accommodations, or military service require absences.

Westminster University expects students to attend all class meetings with the following excused exceptions:

1. Absences necessitated by university-sponsored activities, including athletics, academic-conference attendance, or mock trial contests. Students must provide documentation from the office sponsoring the events necessitating absences before the end of the add/drop period each semester. The documentation should provide a comprehensive list of all possible absences, including those that may not be necessary (for example, post-season competition). In some rare cases, the sponsoring office may not have complete information about events so early in this semester. Instructors should be informed in writing of these uncertainties before the end of the add/drop period.
2. Absences required by religious or cultural observances of substantial import. Before the end of the add/drop period, the student must provide the instructor a comprehensive written list of absences necessitated by religious or cultural observances.
3. Absences required under a university-administered ADA accommodation. The office of Disability Services will communicate the nature of the accommodation to the faculty

member.

4. Absences required by a student's military service. Before the end of the add/drop period, the student must provide the instructor a comprehensive written list of absences necessitated by military service.

Student responsibilities in case of excused absence: An excused absence does not excuse the student from work done in class on that day. The student should discuss the consequences of missing class with the instructor and is responsible for obtaining notes or other documents associated with the missed meeting and making up any work produced in that meeting (including exams) on a timetable provided by the instructor. The student should understand that some work carried out in class, for example class discussions and associated pieces of writing, cannot be made up in any reasonable way. Instructors should nonetheless make reasonable efforts to help students complete any learning activities they miss because of excused absences (e.g., providing any materials distributed or presented in class and providing opportunities for make-up exams and activities). It is important for students to recognize that no absence is without consequence, and that even excused absences may have some impact on their grades.

In the event that an instructor believes a student cannot complete the course objectives due to excused absences, the student may be advised to drop the class.

In the event that a student misses so many class meetings that they cannot achieve the course-learning outcomes, the instructor may work with the Office of the Dean of Students to facilitate the student's withdrawal from the class.

Please note that this policy only applies if student-athletes have met with their instructors and provided them with the team travel schedule letters before the add/drop date each semester. See "Class Attendance" for more information.

Section 7: Student Information and Campus Resources

[View Westminster Campus Directory](#)

[View Westminster Department Directory](#)

Academic Computing Resources

Westminster University's academic computing resources currently include computer classrooms, 35+ presentation classrooms and equipment, and various labs for special purposes, such as digital graphic design and Linux. There is also a support desk in Giovale Library.

Academic Support Services

Individual assistance with time management, test-taking, and study skills is available from staff academic advisors.

Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and Education Program

Westminster University is dedicated to providing a voluntary, confidential resource to assist students who are affected directly or indirectly by alcohol and other drug abuse. The program provides education, referral, assessment, and support to all campus community members. The program promotes standards of conduct that prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on campus or as any part of university activities.

The program:

1. Offers information, support, and referral assistance to students who have problems/issues related to alcohol/drug use or abuse.
2. Provides information, support, counseling, and referral for those students affected by substance abuse within their families.
3. Promotes and supports alternative student programs and activities.
4. Provides health-risk education to help prevent abuse of alcohol and the illicit use of other drugs.

5. Offers workshops, seminars, and training.
6. Gives support to friends and family who are affected by someone else's alcohol/drug use.
7. Supports other Westminster offices, faculty, and staff in issues relating to alcohol/drug use.
8. Houses a comprehensive lending library on alcohol, other drugs, addictions, counseling issues, recovery, etc.
9. Maintains information on local treatment and recovery program options.

More information about the prevention program can be obtained from the counselors in the Shaw Center by calling [801.832.2246](tel:801.832.2246).

Career Center

Westminster's team of certified career coaches provides free, lifetime service to students and alumni. Through application of the most current tools and industry insights, they can help you with:

- Career exploration and pivots
- Internship and job searching
- How to find remote opportunities
- Networking
- Personal branding on [LinkedIn](#)
- Cover letter and resume development
- Digital and in-person interview prep
- Strengths and career assessments
- Salary negotiation
- Mock interviews
- Personal statements

Meldrum Science Coaching Center

Meldrum Science Coaching offers free, drop-in, and in-person coaching and tutoring. Coaches can help with classroom and laboratory assignments. The center can also be used as a place to gather for study groups. Coaches offer support with general chemistry and organic chemistry, among other subjects such as biology and neuroscience.

Open the appointment scheduler to view all available subjects.

[Schedule an Appointment with Meldrum Science Coaching](#)

Coaching Location: Chemistry Coaching Center, Meldrum 150

Integrated Wellness

Integrated Wellness offers medical and mental health services when you need it, whether that's face-to-face or online with a trusted professional. Students can also participate in wellness-focused programs across campus to help them take care of their minds and bodies.

[Learn more about Integrated Wellness.](#)

Disability Services

Westminster University seeks to provide equal access in higher education to academically qualified students with physical, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. Disability Services works with departments throughout the university to help ensure that programs and facilities are accessible to all members of the university community.

Disability Services is located in the lower level of Giovale Library. If you have questions regarding services for students with disabilities, please call [801.832.2272](tel:801.832.2272).

Gore School of Business Tutoring Center

The Business Tutoring Center offers free tutoring to all undergraduate students taking business courses. Tutors are successful business students who are highly recommended by a professor and have a desire to help fellow students understand business concepts.

Location: [Gore 126, Finance and Investments Lab](#)

One-on-one appointments can be made on a case-by-case basis with the approval of Rick Haskell, director of the Center for Financial Wellness.

Identification Card

Your Westminster ID card, validated with a sticker for the current academic term, is needed to use the Giovale Library, HWAC, and all college and university libraries in the state. It will also entitle you to student discounts at Westminster theatre productions, movie theaters, Utah Symphony concerts, and other places that offer student discounts. You may obtain your ID and current term sticker at the Health, Wellness, and Athletic Center. This service is available during HWAC hours throughout the semester. Your ID card provides FREE (must validate for UTA use) use of Utah Transit Authority Services (i.e., busses and TRAX trains).

Math, Physics, and Computer Science Tutoring Center

The Math, Physics, and Computer Science Tutoring Center, on the 1st floor (east side of building), provides free assistance with math, computer science, and physics courses. When you use the center, you can expect an individualized session with an experienced tutor.

Residential Life

Westminster views living on campus as an integral part of the educational experience. Residential experiences provide opportunities for students to develop socially and emotionally as well as academically. Residents also share in the development of a community and its governance. All first- and second-year students under 21 years of age and not living with a family member are required to live on campus. Reservations are made through the director of residence life. Residents expect a living environment that promotes courtesy, honesty, respect for privacy, study time, and consideration of one's values and needs. In return, the residents are expected to be willing to create the same conditions for other members of the living unit. A complete description of residential policies and procedures can be found in the Campus Housing Handbook. For more information about residential life, contact the director of residence life at [801.832.2245](tel:801.832.2245).

Tutoring

Free peer-to-peer tutoring is available in many subjects for current Westminster students. Tutors can help you with specific questions or general knowledge on a topic and are a great option for you to get the one-on-one support you need throughout your educational experience.

Tutors are fellow students (recommended by professors) who have excelled in what they are tutoring for that are available in the fall, spring, and summer semesters at various hours depending on the tutoring center.

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides free assistance with writing, reading, and speaking to all Westminster students, faculty, and staff. When you come to the Writing Center, you can expect an individualized session with an experienced writing consultant who will provide feedback at every stage of the writing process, from research and brainstorming to final edits. Consultants can offer feedback for any writing, whether for classes, applications, scholarships, graduate programs, or personal writing projects. The center also provides language support for multilingual students.

Appointments

The Writing Center offers three kinds of writing consultations during [posted hours](#):

- In-person (schedule an appointment or drop by the center)
- Synchronous online (schedule an appointment and meet in real-time with a consultant)
- Asynchronous online (upload your writing to receive written and video feedback)

Contact Christopher LeCluyse at the Writing Center by email at clecluyse@westminsteru.edu.

Policies

See the Westminster University Student Handbook for the following policies and resources related to students (listed alphabetically):

- Academic Honesty
- Commencement (Graduation)
- Drug and Alcohol Prevention
- Family Educational Right and Privacy Act
- Parental Notification of Alcohol/Substance Abuse and Emotional Issues
- Responsible Use of Information Technology on Campus
- Smoking Policy
- Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy
- Student Expression
- Substance and Alcohol Abuse Policy of Westminster University
- Title IX Policy
- Weapons and Non-Weapons Intended to Cause Harm

Section 8: Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and Student-Athlete Involvement

There are several ways for student-athletes to become involved at Westminster. One opportunity is the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). The SAAC is made up of student-athletes from all NCAA sport athletic teams at Westminster University. The committee is assembled to provide insight on the student-athlete experience; discuss volunteer opportunities; and offer input on the rules, regulations, and policies that affect student-athletes' lives on the Westminster University campus.

The committee meets monthly to discuss campus, departmental, and other issues of concern to student-athletes. The committee consists of two appointed student-athletes from each team, and the chair of the SAAC is a student-athlete voted on by peers. Student-athletes interested in participating in SAAC should contact their coach or one of the SAAC advisors (associate athletic director/SWA or assistant athletic director for compliance).

The Purpose of SAAC

The purpose of the SAAC is to act as a liaison and maintain lines of communication between student-athletes, coaches, and Westminster Athletics to advance the interests of the student-athlete population and promote growth and education through sports participation. As a student-athlete, there are opportunities to talk to a representative of SAAC about issues and concerns affecting you and other student-athletes at Westminster University on both a local and national scale. It also enables student-athletes to provide recommendations for the improvement of academic, athletic, and social experiences.

Goals of SAAC

1. Serve as a student-athlete voice within the Athletics Department.
2. Promote, support, and improve the overall mission of the Westminster University Athletics Department.
3. Make recommendations to the director of athletics for improvement of the student-athletes' academic, athletic, and social experiences.
4. Encourage unity, common purpose, and camaraderie between teams and athletes.
5. Promote and support all intercollegiate athletics at the institutional, conference, and national levels.
6. Perform and organize regular service within the local community.
7. Work to increase campus and community support at athletics-sponsored events.

Other Ways for Student-Athletes to be Involved

1. Attend home sporting events of fellow Griffin teams and sit in the student section.
 - Westminster students receive FREE admission to all home athletic events with their Westminster University student ID card, so take advantage of this benefit—Go Griffins!
2. Attend other campus-related activities and/or events.
3. Support Associated Students of Westminster University (ASW) activities.
4. Be outgoing and friendly with other students and encourage them to attend athletic events.
5. Be a student employee in the Athletics Department! Annual opportunities exist in the following areas:
 - a. Athletic Communication
 - b. Athletic Training
 - c. Compliance
 - d. Events (i.e., concessions, game day assistant, ticketing, concessions, web stream production, score board operator, statistician)

e. Strength and Conditioning

Positions can be found on through [Westminster University Student Employment](#) or by contacting an [Athletics staff member](#).

Recruiting and Student Hosts Opportunities

Student-athletes are not permitted to recruit prospective student-athletes. All recruiting activities should be left to each sport's coaching staff. An exception to this rule is that occasionally a student-athlete may be asked to participate as a student-host during a prospective student-athletes visit.

The selection of student-athlete hosts for an official visit is the responsibility of the head coach for each sport. If during a visit, a host is in doubt of what they should do, they should contact the coach immediately. If a coach is unable to answer the question, the coach should contact the director of compliance.

The director of compliance sends the Student Host Form to the individual designated as the host by the coaching staff via DocuSign. The host is encouraged to contact the director of compliance with questions/concerns regarding the following rules set forth on the Host Form prior to signing. The host must submit the form to the assistant athletic director for compliance via the compliance software PRIOR to the start of the visit.

- All student-hosts must be enrolled students at Westminster University.
- If a first-year student serves as a host, they must have been certified through the NCAA Eligibility Center as a qualifier or partial qualifier.
- If other team members take part in the visit, only the actual host may be provided a free meal as part of the visit.
- A maximum of \$30 each day may be provided to cover all actual costs of entertaining the prospective student-athlete and their relatives or legal guardians. The student-host may be provided an additional \$15 per day for each additional prospective student-

athlete hosted. All money should be always handled by the host. No cash may be given to prospective student-athletes at any time.

- A prospective student-athlete cannot be provided gifts or tangible items of any kind (e.g., souvenirs, clothing) at any time by their student-host or any Athletic Department staff members. Prospects may be given items as part of an admissions visit or other admissions event, so long as the items are given to all prospective students and the recruit is part of that group.
- Receipts are required for all cash expenses incurred during the official visit. The host must return all receipts and unused money to the head coach immediately following the conclusion of the visit.

Hosts must conduct themselves in a manner that represents them, their team, and the university in a positive way. While hosting a recruit, they cannot participate in any activities that violate Westminster University Student Code of Conduct, the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, or the laws of the state or community.

Section 9: Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office oversees all financial aid (athletic and institutional). Financial aid is designed to meet the difference between the cost of attending university and the amount you and your family can afford to pay toward that cost. The university does this through a merit-based and need-based financial aid program (scholarships and grants), loans, and work-study eligibility. The office also makes short-term emergency loans. The university uses the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility for federal, state, and institutional aid. Determining need is an annual process.

You must re-apply every year for financial aid. Please refer to the Westminster University Student Handbook or the university website for more information regarding financial aid policies, procedures, and deadlines.

Athletic Aid Policies and Procedures for Student-Athletes

Westminster University has established a model that allows NCAA II our sports to offer a limited number of partial athletic scholarships. These awards are based upon recommendations made by the specific sport head coach.

1. Student-athletes are eligible to receive any other federal or state financial assistance for which they qualify. Federal and state funds shall be awarded by the Office of Financial Aid and CANNOT be promised to the student-athletes by the specific sport coaches or members of the athletics department.
 - a. No estimates will be sanctioned or honored by the University for federal, state, or campus-based financial aid funds other than those through the established financial aid process.
 - b. Such aid is only available after completing all forms mandated by the government and after the award process is completed.
 - c. The student is required to complete an application for financial aid and submit the application to the Office of

Financial Aid.

- d. Student-athletes are eligible to apply for other institutional funds according to the published financial aid policies and procedures of the University.
 2. Athletic awards shall be applied to student accounts equally for fall and spring semesters.
 3. Awards are provided for full-time students (12 or more credit hours) who are satisfactorily progressing toward a degree and will not apply after any semester in which the students become ineligible to participate in the sport for which the athlete is receiving scholarship funding.
 4. An athletic award shall be applied first to cover the cost of full-time enrollment tuition for fall and spring semesters and may also include remaining qualifying costs, such as room and board.
 - a. Summer term and other enrollment periods may also be covered as appropriate when approved.
 - b. Athletic awards shall be utilized only for satisfying campus-based charges administered through the Business Office.
 - c. All other fees and expenses are the responsibility of the student.
 5. At no time shall the combined financial aid award exceed the cost of attendance. All fees and costs not funded by the combined financial aid shall be the responsibility of the student and must be paid by the beginning of each semester in full or with satisfactory payment arrangements.
 6. Any financial aid award in excess of total cost of attendance and/or not in conformity with (1) state and federal policies and procedures relating to financial aid or (2) the rules and regulations of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) shall be rebated by a reduction of the award amount and/or athletic aid.
- Student-athletes must report all outside scholarships to the Director of

Compliance using the outside aid report form provided with required NCAA paperwork at the beginning of the academic year.

Reduction or Cancellation of Athletic Aid

If a student-athlete is receiving institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability, that financial aid MAY be reduced or canceled during the period of award (e.g., during that year or term) if the student-athlete:

1. Renders themselves ineligible for intercollegiate competition.
2. Misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent, or financial aid agreement.
3. Commits serious misconduct, which warrants a substantial disciplinary penalty (the misconduct determination must be made by the university's regular student disciplinary authority).
4. Voluntarily quits or withdraws from the sport for personal reasons.

Athletic scholarships are awarded on a yearly basis. It should never be assumed that a scholarship will automatically be renewed for the following year. Various circumstances can result in the non-renewal of your athletic scholarship for the following year. Your respective head coach should outline these terms but can include things such as:

Dismissal from the team due to violation of team, institution, or NCAA rules; blatant misrepresentation of the University; an obvious lack of motivation or negative attitude towards the program; failure to maintain a 2.0 cumulative G.P.A.; and failure to complete 12 credit hours per semester or 24 credit hours in the previous two semesters of attendance. The Director of Athletics and/or designee clears all cases of non-renewal. Student-athletes will generally not have their aid withdrawn mid-way through the school year, except in cases of ineligibility or grievous disciplinary issues.

Renewal/Non-Renewal

Aid based in any degree on athletic ability cannot be awarded in excess of one academic year. The decision whether a student-athlete is awarded institutional financial aid is made on a year-by-year basis and may be renewed annually at the sole discretion of the head coach,

athletics department, and Westminster University. In order to be eligible to receive athletics financial aid, a student-athlete must meet the following qualifications:

1. Maintains a minimum grade point average of 2.00.
2. Does not lose eligibility due to academic or disciplinary failure and makes current of all obligations to the university.
3. Follows the social, academic, and athletic standards of the university.

In any event, the award will not extend beyond the period of eligibility as per NCAA legislation.

Athletic scholarships shall not be renewed until the Finance Office has certified that the student has paid all sums due and owing to the university.

1. Athletic scholarships may not be awarded for more than eight semesters of enrollment.
 - a. Students can compete for any and all financial aid available to other students who have passed eight semesters of study.
2. If a student-athlete is receiving institutional financial aid based in any degree on athletics ability, the institution must notify the student in writing on or before July 1 whether the aid has been renewed for the next academic year. This written notification comes from the Financial Aid Office and not from Westminster Athletics.
3. The Athletics Department is not responsible for making up financial aid lost due to grade point averages falling below the set requirement for an athletic award or any other form of financial aid to and accepted by the student.
4. If a student-athlete has a grievance concerning the non-renewal, graduation, or cancellation of their student athletic scholarship, they must first report it to their head coach, then if not satisfied, they can appeal to the Financial Aid Office.
5. If the institution decides not to renew the aid, or is going to reduce the aid, the institution must notify the student-athlete in writing that they have the right to an appeal.

The decision to renew or not renew financial aid is left to the discretion

of the institution, to be determined with its normal practices for students generally.

Right to Appeal

Opportunity for a Hearing

In accordance with NCAA Bylaw 15.5.2.4, when a student-athlete's athletics aid is reduced or cancelled during the period of the award or is reduced or not renewed for the following academic year, Westminster University must provide the student-athlete with an opportunity for a hearing upon the student-athlete's request. The appeal hearing will be conducted by a committee consisting of the director of financial aid, the financial aid counselor, and the eligibility coordinator.

Notification of Hearing Opportunity

Upon request for a reduction or cancellation of athletics aid during the period of the award, or a reduction or non-renewal of such aid for the following academic year, the Financial Aid Office will promptly provide the student-athlete with written notification of the decision affecting their athletics aid, and of the opportunity for an appeal hearing. This written notification will be sent by email and must include the Westminster University Athletics Aid Appeal Policy and a date by which the student-athlete must request a hearing (within 14 calendar days from the date of notice). Failure to request a hearing by the deadline indicates the student-athlete's acceptance of Westminster Athletics decision regarding their athletics aid.

Statement of Intent

Should the student-athlete decide to exercise the option of a hearing, they must file a Statement of Intent with the Financial Aid Office within 14 calendar days from the date of notice that the athletics aid will be reduced, cancelled, or not renewed. Upon receipt of a Statement of Intent, the Financial Aid Office, in conjunction with the committee, will make a good faith effort to arrange the hearing within a reasonable time (within 30 days) and notify the student-athlete of the location and time via email.

Supporting Documentation

Both the student-athlete and the involved Athletics Department staff member will be given the opportunity to provide supporting documentation to the committee. This material must be provided to the Financial Aid Office at least 48 hours prior to the hearing date. The Financial Aid Office will disseminate the student-athlete's Statement of Intent and any supporting documentation provided by each party to the committee.

Hearing Participants and Decision

In addition to the committee members mentioned above, the faculty athletics representative and the assistant athletic director for compliance will be in attendance in a non-voting capacity to provide procedural guidance and NCAA rules clarification to the committee and all participants. Both the student-athlete and the involved staff member will be individually afforded time to present the merits of their respective case and answer any questions the committee may have. After oral presentations by each party, the committee will review all evidence presented and deliberate until a decision is reached. The Financial Aid Office will provide a written decision to all parties involved within one week of the hearing.

Section 10: Awards and Extra Benefits

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by a Westminster employee, booster, or anyone who the student-athlete is not legally dependent upon, which provides the student-athlete, or the student-athlete's relative or friend, a benefit not available to other members of the Westminster student body or authorized by the NCAA. Receipt by a student-athlete of an award, benefit, or expense allowance not authorized in NCAA legislation renders the student-athlete ineligible.

Student-athletes are permitted to receive expenses from the institution that are directly related to travel and competition while representing the institution, as well as the expenses and funding included in the scholarship agreement. Receipt of any other monetary or tangible benefit or award from persons outside of Westminster Athletics is not permitted.

Benefits provided or available to all students generally are not considered "extra benefits" when received by student-athletes. If a student-athlete has any questions regarding the permissibility of a benefit they should always ask the director for compliance prior to accepting the benefit.

Extra/Impermissible Benefits

A student-athlete may not receive "extra benefits" that are part of a special arrangement by a Westminster employee or representative of athletics interest.

A student-athlete may not receive "discounts," free or reduced-cost services, use of credit cards, or the following from a Westminster employee or representatives of athletics interest:

- Loan
- Guarantee bond
- Use of an automobile
- Transportation
- Signing or cosigning a note
- Any other impermissible benefits

All student-athletes will receive education regarding extra and impermissible benefits at the beginning-of-the-year team meetings.

Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Policy

Name, Image, and Likeness Compliance NCAA rules allow student-athletes to be compensated for the use of their names, images, or likenesses (NIL). The NCAA's interim NIL policy, adopted on June 30, 2021, requires member institutions to follow their own state laws or create their own policies. This deregulated area will likely be in place until student-athlete NIL rights are addressed through nationally applicable federal law or NCAA legislation. The state of Utah passed HB202, which took effect May 1, 2024. The legislation provides for certain allowed and prohibited uses of a student-athlete's name, image, or likeness; provides that a student-athlete agreement is not subject to Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records and Management Act; and prohibits an Institution of Higher Education from using appropriated funds for purposes related to a student-athlete agreement.

Read the Westminster University Athletics Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Policy

Awards

The Athletics Department may select deserving student-athletes to receive athletics awards as recognition of athletic participation, academic performance, and outstanding achievement. Each sport may have team awards that are based on criteria set for the sport. These awards are presented at the discretion of the head coach and Athletic Department.

Complimentary Admissions

Enrolled student-athletes in sports that charge for admission are eligible for a maximum of four complimentary admissions to a home athletics event in their sport through a pass list only.

Complimentary Admissions Procedure

- The director of athletic events and facilities manages the distribution of complimentary admissions and presents the

process to those teams who have paid admissions at the beginning of each team's season. Student-athletes are responsible for following the process and submitting their guest request at least 24 hours before each event.

- All guests must show a photo ID at the time of entry to the event and sign their complimentary ticket.

Section 11: Athletic Training, Medical, and Insurance Information

Athletic Training Room and Staff

Westminster University is committed to the health and well-being of its student-athletes. The athletic training rooms are the main medical areas for evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation of all athletic injuries. The HWAC athletic training room is located on the lower level of the Dolores Doré Eccles Health, Wellness, and Athletic Center. Payne athletic training rooms is on the lower level of the Payne Gymnasium. The athletic training rooms are staffed by three full-time and one part-time athletic trainer, all of which are certified by the National Athletic Trainers' Association and licensed by the state of Utah. They are assisted by work-study students certified in first aid and CPR.

Athletic Training Room Rules

Please be respectful of the athletic training room, pick up after yourself, and put items away that you use. Below is a list of the athletics training room rules:

1. Cleats are NOT allowed in either the HWAC or Payne athletic training rooms.
2. No loitering or horseplay is allowed.
3. Shorts or sweats are to be worn for treatment and taping.
4. Foul language is not permitted in the athletic training room or anywhere else on campus.
5. Student-athletes are NOT allowed to use the modality equipment (ultrasound or stimulus equipment) without the help of an athletic trainer.
6. NO tobacco is allowed in the athletic training rooms
7. The athletic training staff reserves the right to withdraw any athlete's athletic training room privileges for disrespectful or abusive behavior.
8. Student-athletes needing treatment (e.g., taping, heat) before practice must be in the athletic training room at least 30 minutes prior to practice and 1-2 hours prior to home games. Please

adhere to these times and take the necessary steps to heal your injury and follow the trainer's recommendations.

9. Student-athletes who are no longer a member of an intercollegiate athletics team roster are not allowed to utilize Westminster athletic training rooms or services. Exceptions to this rule are former Westminster student-athletes who are currently enrolled at Westminster, were injured while competing in a Westminster practice or competition and require additional treatment for prior injury as determined by the head athletic trainer. Pre-approval and discontinuation of such treatment will be determined by the head athletic trainer and/or director of athletics under the guidelines above.

Injury or Illness

The team athletic trainer should be notified if a student-athlete is injured out of season, injured outside of intercollegiate activity, or becomes ill during or after the season. Any athletic injury or athletic-related illness during season must be reported to the team athletic trainer. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to report this information in a timely manner. The University is not responsible for injuries or illness not directly related to competing or participating in an intercollegiate activity. The athletic training staff will make necessary medical referrals as needed. The student-athlete must receive prior authorization from the athletic trainer to receive medical attention for injuries related to athletics.

Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, medical attention should be obtained at the nearest medical facility. The team athletic trainer and/or head athletic trainer must be notified within 24 hours of emergency service.

Practice or Game Participation for an Injured Student-Athlete

Decisions of the availability of a student-athlete for practice or game competition are the sole responsibility of the team athletic trainer and/or head athletic trainer and team physician. Failure to comply with

these decisions will relieve the staff of any further responsibility of the injured or ill student-athlete. Injured student-athletes are expected to report to all practice sessions in practice.

gear unless directed otherwise by the head coach. Treatments will not be given during practice unless communicated prior with the team athletic trainer and head coach.

Insurance and Medical Forms

All student-athletes must have the following required forms on file in the athletic training room in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics at Westminster University (these forms can be obtained from the Westminster Athletics web page under Athletic Training, "[Student-Athlete Packet](#)").

1. Physical Examination Form
2. Medical History Form
3. Athletics Department Medical Insurance Information Form
4. Sickle call waiver or test results

Student-Athlete's Responsibilities Regarding Injuries

When a student-athlete is injured during practice or competition, he/she is responsible to notify the certified athletic trainer (ATC) covering their sport or the head athletic trainer. If a doctor's attention is required, the ATC will make the determination at that time and help arrange the appointment. **Student-athletes must be referred to a physician by the athletic trainer covering that sport or the head athletic trainer to be eligible for secondary insurance coverage by the university's insurance carrier.** If emergency treatment is necessary, and an ATC is not present, it is the responsibility of the athlete, coach, and/or parent to contact the athletic trainer assigned to their sport. In case of extreme emergency, when the athletic trainer cannot be reached, the coach may take necessary action to protect the welfare of the student-athlete. The athletic trainer must then be notified as soon as possible.

Secondary Insurance

Westminster University carries a secondary insurance policy to cover expenses incurred as a result of student-athlete's athletic-related injuries. The policy provides "excess" coverage only and is considered secondary to all other collectible medical insurance policies by the student-athlete's parents, legal guardians, or spouse. This means that any claims must first be filed with the student-athletes' primary insurance policy (i.e., parent's group insurance company providing coverage from their employer and/or an individual policy).

The university's insurance policy provides coverage for injuries sustained in Westminster University owned and supervised practice, competition, and team travel only. The University's secondary insurance will only provide coverage after the \$5,000 deductible has been met by primary insurance or athlete/parents. The Athletics Department is not financially responsible for nonathletic-related injuries and/or illnesses (e.g., participation in intramurals, accidents, cold/flu, dental care, eye care, etc.) or for pre-existing injuries and illnesses that occur prior to participating in athletics at Westminster University. All injuries must be reported to a certified athletic trainer.

Insurance Procedures and Protocol

Westminster University requires all student-athletes to be covered by a primary insurance policy that covers office visits to team physicians, scans, x-rays, and hospital visits in the state of Utah regardless of primary residence. This primary insurance coverage must be provided by the student-athlete or parents no later than the respective student-athletes' first practice or first day of Fall Semester classes, whichever comes first. This policy must also cover the student-athlete during their attendance at Westminster University, including their sport in- and out-of-season.

Student-athletes not meeting this requirement by the date specified above will not be allowed to participate in practices or competitions until the requirement is met. Insurance coverage will be verified throughout the year, so if insurance coverage lapses or there is a change of coverage, student-athletes will need proof of coverage through a new insurance card.

Westminster's athletic accident policy provides insurance for injuries incurred while participating in the play or practice of intercollegiate sports—this coverage is **secondary** to any other collectible group insurance benefits. Any claim for benefits must **first** be filed with the group insurance providing coverage for the student-athlete through their policy. After the primary carrier has paid all available benefits, our insurance will pay any remaining amounts (provided if the \$5,000 deductible is met and claim is approved by the head athletic trainer) for athletic-related injuries only for a period of no more than two-years from the date the injury occurred.

The university does not have the option to waive the requirement to file with your group insurance. Most group insurance policies allow dependent coverage to be continued to age 26 if you are a student. Do not drop from your parents' policy while you are participating in intercollegiate athletics. It is a university policy that all student-athletes carry health insurance.

In order to activate the secondary insurance on claims, student-athletes must first see the athletic trainer to obtain the necessary paperwork for billing purposes once the \$5,000 deductible has been met. As a student-athlete your responsibilities are to:

1. Make sure the athletic training staff has your current insurance information, primary residence, parent's residence, emails, and phone numbers on file. Failure to do so will result in insurance and payment issues.
2. Submit primary health care insurance information to the athletic training department.
3. Initiate and obtain a medical referral from the team athletic trainer when injured during a sanctioned practice or competition. Without an authorized referral, Westminster University is not financially responsible.
4. Submit primary health care insurance information to the athletics department.
5. Forward all medical bills associated with Westminster Athletics referral to the assigned athletic trainer at Westminster University once the \$5,000 secondary insurance deductible has been met.

Dental Care and Corrective Lenses

Dental Care

The Athletics Department will only be financially responsible for injury to natural teeth incurred while participating in an official practice session or game and the \$5,000 secondary deductible has been met by primary insurance and/or athlete/parents. Normal dental care not directly related to an athletic injury, is the responsibility of the student-athlete.

Corrective Lenses

Student-athletes are responsible for the purchase of glasses or contact lenses for participation purposes. The university is not responsible for lost or broken contact lenses or eyeglasses.

Concussion Management Policy

When a student-athlete shows any signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, the athlete will be immediately removed from practice or competition and evaluated by a health-care professional (usually an athletic trainer or team physician) for concussion. If a student-athlete is diagnosed with a concussion, the training staff will follow specific Return-to-Play (practice, competitions) and Return-to-Learn (academics) protocols. In this event, faculty will be notified and provided with information about what activities may need to be limited while symptoms are present. The training staff and/or other medical professionals have final authority over when a student-athlete can return to play and should return to learn.

Sickle Cell Trait Testing

Westminster University requires all student-athletes who are beginning their initial season of eligibility and students who are trying out for a team be tested for sickle cell trait, show proof of a prior test. Sickle Cell test results must be submitted by student-athlete prior to any athletics participation.

Student-Athlete Pregnancy Policy

In the purpose of good health of student-athletes at Westminster University, the following recommendations are made in the event of pregnancy.

Any student-athlete who suspects they may be pregnant should have this verified through a physician as soon as possible. The student-athlete should then notify their athletic trainer, who will help in notification of the head coach and team physician with the student's permission in order to protect her health and well-being.

The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology states that competitive athletes can remain active during pregnancy but need to modify their activity as medically indicated and require close supervision.

Continued participation in athletic activities, including competition, will be evaluated by the student-athlete, athletic trainer, obstetrician, or other primary health care provider and team physician. Athletic participation will depend on the physicians' recommendations related to medical safety.

After delivery or pregnancy termination, the student-athlete may return to athletic participation after full clearance through the obstetrician/primary health care provider and team physician. Care should be taken to individualize return to practice and competition.

All medical expenses that are a result of pregnancy are the responsibility of the student-athlete.

Student-athletes should contact and communicate with their athletic trainer for referrals and further support as needed.

NCAA Footnote: Per NCAA regulations, all grants in aid are renewed in accordance with NCAA rules. Please see the appropriate NCAA rulebook for more information.

Athletic Training Services for Former Student-Athletes

Student-athletes who no longer are a member of an intercollegiate athletics team roster are not allowed to utilize Westminster athletic training rooms or services. Exceptions to this rule are former Westminster student-athletes, currently enrolled at Westminster who were injured while competing in a Westminster practice or competition and require additional treatment for prior injury as determined by head athletic trainer. Pre-approval and discontinuation of such treatment will be determined by the head athletic trainer and/or director of athletics under the guidelines above.

Section 12: Public Relations and Community Engagement

Community Engagement

NCAA Division II is committed to developing students and communities by actively engaging in shared experiences and therefore has targeted community engagement as one of its strategic priorities. The objective of community engagement is to build relationships by bringing the community to campus to experience Division II and its events.

Westminster University embraces the concept of community engagement. During your career at Westminster, your team and our department will conduct community service and community-engagement efforts and special events in order to enhance the student-athlete service-learning experience. You will be required to participate in a limited number of these events/projects during your time as a student-athlete.

Press and Media

Occasionally, student-athletes are asked to give media interviews. Provided these requests are reasonable and do not conflict with class schedules or team related activities, student-athletes are asked to make themselves available and project a positive image of themselves, their team, and Westminster University. Student-athletes must get clearance from the [Director of Athletic Communications](#) prior to granting any interviews or responding to media questions.

The following guidelines are to assist you:

1. Remember, you are representing the university and your team during an interview. Conduct yourself professionally.
2. Always be positive with your comments concerning your team, teammates, coaches, and Westminster University.
3. Never say discouraging remarks about your opponent.
4. Always be courteous with media members.
5. When speaking, take your time and focus on your thoughts.
6. Relax and be yourself.
7. If you are uncomfortable with the line of questioning the reporter

is asking you, please say you have no comment and politely move on to the next question.

8. Always thank the interviewer at the end.

Photos and Video

While competing as a student-athlete at Westminster University, you may have your photo and/or video taken during competition by institutional photographers and videographers. The Athletics Department reserves the right to co-ownership of those images and video photos with the photographer and videographers and to use the photos and video for departmental promotional and resale purposes. By signing the acknowledgement statement within this handbook, you confirm that you understand and consent for your photos and video to be used.



1840 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

westminstergriffins.com