

NCAA TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING PROCEDURES

1. The NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Committees recognize the differences in event conversions from fully automatic timing (FAT) to manual timing (MT). The standards encourage the use of FAT qualifying for NCAA championships based on accuracy inherent in FAT.
2. The declarations form for national championships will include only eligible competitors.
3. The qualifying marks must be made in a scheduled collegiate or open track and field meet conducted under the NCAA Rules of Competition or an open track and field competition conducted under the competition rules of the NCAA, USATF or IAAF. A qualifying mark for entry into national championships, including preliminary round meets for Division I outdoor must be made between the following dates:

Indoor

Division I – December 1 through the first Saturday prior to the first day of the national championships. (Exceptions: A combined event competition concluding December 1 falls within the qualifying window. In addition, conference championships concluding by 5 p.m. Eastern time the Sunday prior to the national championships fall within the qualifying window.)

Division II – December 1, if it falls on a Friday. If not, then the Friday preceding December 1 through the second Sunday prior to the national championships.

Division III – December 1 through the Saturday prior to the national championships.

Outdoor

Division I – March 1 through the second Sunday prior to the start of preliminary-round competition.

Division II – The third Thursday in February through the second Sunday prior to the national championships.

Division III – March 1 through the Friday prior to the national championships.

4. Marks will **not** be acceptable if they are set in meets or events as follows:
 - a. Where men and women compete together in a running event (except the 10,000 meters on the track);
 - b. Where contestants or spectators are asked to officiate;
 - c. Held on other than certified (i.e., surveyed and all measurements certified after initial construction and after resurfacing) and regularly used facilities;
 - d. Where official results are not kept and available for inspection (i.e., retain photos, hand times and field-event results through six months after the championships);
 - e. Involving only combined-events competition in which fewer than six eligible student-athletes start or all participants are from the same team;
 - f. Where intermediate times are taken from a longer race (e.g., 800 meters during 1,000 meters);
 - g. Where wind readings are not recorded in the 100 meters, 200 meters, 100- and 110-meter hurdles, and long jump and triple jump with a gauge specific for that event and where wind readings exceed 4.0 meters per second. This is applicable to combined events submission for open events;
 - h. Where contestants are given a second opportunity to compete in the same event(s) within the same meet, unless it is in accordance with the normal established advancement procedure;
 - i. Where the competitor was entered with a false entry performance in a competition which had a non-speculative entry mark requirement;

- j. Where trials and finals of the dash and hurdles are not contested at the same distance;
 - k. Where competitors run any turn on indoor tracks that are 400 meters or longer; or
 - l. Held on outdoor tracks that are longer than 400 meters or in lanes where the radius is greater than 50 meters.
5. Minimum Number of Institutions and Student-Athletes. Marks will only be accepted for qualifying in meets as follows: **Division I** - Where at least two, three or four four-year institutions each with a minimum of 14 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution compete and the meet is scored, or at least five four-year institutions participate. **Division II** - Where at least two, three or four two-year or four-year institutions each with a minimum of 10 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution compete and the meet is scored, or at least five two-year or four-year institutions participate (Indoor). Where at least two, three or four two-year or four-year institutions each with a minimum of 14 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution compete and the meet is scored, or at least five two-year or four-year institutions participate (Outdoor). **Division III:** Where at least two, three or four two-year or four-year institutions each with a minimum of 10 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution compete and the meet is scored, or at least five two-year or four-year institutions participate.
6. Minimum Number of Events. Marks will only be accepted for qualifying in meets where a minimum of ten events are open to collegiate student-athletes, per gender, are contested. Multiple groupings, sections or divisions of any event distance or discipline is a single event. (Refer to “e” for combined event only competition and number 8 for single-event meets.
7. Qualifying Marks and Unattached Student-Athletes. Institutions may not submit marks for qualification to the championships for student-athletes who are not “representing the institution”, as defined by NCAA at the time the mark was achieved, i.e., “unattached student-athletes”.
8. Qualifying Marks and Single-Event Meets. Qualifying marks will be accepted from events commonly recognized as single-event meets if the single-event meet is associated with a track meet that meets the qualifying requirements herein and if the following criteria are satisfied:
- a. Event(s) shall be accessed by one admission ticket per day/session;
 - b. Event(s) shall be held on the same or consecutive days;
 - c. Event(s) shall share a name;
 - d. Event(s) shall occur/be held in proximity of location unless;
 - (1) For demonstrable safety reasons, competition sites must be separated (e.g., hammer throw), or
 - (2) Insufficient or inadequate facilities are available for spectators or competition;
 - e. Registration for event(s) is in common;
 - f. Results for event(s) are in common;
 - g. Recognition/sanction of the event(s) must be in common; and
 - h. Awards must be consistent.
9. Photos, hand times and field-event results may be requested by the championship committee for the verification of performance.
10. To meet the qualifying standards for relays, only student-athletes eligible for national championships (NCAA Bylaw 14) may be used.
- a. Relay times shall not be accepted for individual events.
 - b. In relay races, the names of four student-athletes who ran a qualifying time shall be entered. In the final declaration, four student-athletes must be designated as the team.
 - c. Qualification for the distance medley relay must be contested in the following order: 1,200, 400, 800, and 1,600 meters; or 1,320, 440, 880, and 1,760.

11. Field events marks for the Division I, Division II and Division III championships must be measured, recorded, and entered metrically.
12. Adjustments to performances in specific events, for (a) the type of indoor facility and (b) altitude, shall be determined by the NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee. Indoor facility adjustments apply to all oval running events. Altitude adjustments shall not apply to running events used in combined event scoring.
13. Indoor Procedures
 - a. Qualifying marks must be made using an indoor facility with the exception of the weight throws, which may be conducted outdoors;
 - b. The 60 meter dash and hurdles must be conducted in any facility which can be configured to have at least two meters before the start and at least 12 meters after the finish. Qualifying marks at a distance of 55 meters will only be accepted from facilities unable to be configured for the 60 meter events or originally configured for the 55 meter only;
 - c. Qualifying standards in oval events may not be met on banked tracks of more than 220 yards; and
 - d. Final Qualifying Meet Applications. - **Divisions I and III** - Institutions wanting to host an indoor meet, other than a conference meet, in the final week of the qualifying window (Monday through Saturday), must petition the NCAA for sanctioning no later than December 1, 2012. Individual institutions may apply to host only one meet during this period. The gender of the meet must be specified. The application can be found on www.ncaa.org [select Winter Sports, Track (Indoor)].
14. Outdoor Procedures
 - a. Qualifying standards must be competed in meters, except for the 400- and 1,600- meters relays, and the 1,500 meter run;
 - b. Qualifying marks in all divisions must be made using an outdoor facility, except that the high jump and/or pole vault may be moved indoors for safety reasons by a decision of the competition's game committee. Qualifying marks attained under these circumstances will be accepted for individual and combined events; and
 - c. Final Qualifying Meet Applications. - **Division III** - Institutions wanting to host an outdoor meet, other than a conference meet, in the final week of the qualifying window (Monday through Friday) prior to the national championships, must petition the NCAA for sanctioning before February 1, 2013. Individual institutions may apply to host only one meet during this period. The gender of the meet must be specified. The application can be found on www.ncaa.org [select Spring Sports, Track (Outdoor)].