



Student Athlete Handbook

Mission Statement of the Delta College Athletic Department

It is the mission of Delta College and the Athletic Department to promote competitive athletics that allow for positive education growth and success. One that fosters the growth of men and women scholastically and athletically to become positive contributors to society.

Ethics and Sportsmanship

Each coach is expected to adhere to high standards of ethics and sportsmanship, and to lead by example.

Responsibilities of the Student Athlete

As a student athlete at Delta College, you represent the college and the Athletic Department in the community. You will have a visibility that other students do not have and will project a lasting image of all student athletes within Delta's Athletic Department.

As student athletes, you are expected to:

- Attend all classes and make prior arrangements for classes missed due to games.
- Conduct yourself in a positive manner and demonstrate responsible behavior on and off the court or playing field, as stated in the NJCAA Code of Conduct (Article XX Pg 182. Of handbook).
- Attend and fully participate in scheduled practice unless excused by the coach.
- Obtain progress reports promptly from instructors as required by the coach and/ or academic counselors. Based on orientation guidelines.
- Avoid drugs or alcohol. The use/ abuse of illegal drugs or alcohol will not be tolerated. Dismissal from all Delta College Athletics programs will occur if found that a Student-Athlete has violated this policy. This is a non-negotiable policy.

- Take good care of equipment and apparel that is provided to you for your sport. All equipment and supplies must be returned to the coach at the end of each sport season. Failure to do so will result in a “Hold” placed on your academic records.
- Dress and groom in an appropriate manner, when traveling. Your coach will advise on how to dress to trips. You will travel, room, and eat with the team unless prior arrangements have been approved by the coach and /or athletic director.
- Be aware that Delta’s insurance covers only athletics, coaches, managers, trainers, scorers, and college personnel. Therefore, other passengers may not travel to away events on team buses.
- Return with the team when you ride the team bus to away events, unless released by head coach to a parent or legal guardian.

Please consult the Delta College catalog for additional Students’ Rights responsibilities and Conduct information.

Athletic Grade Check Policy

The following is the Delta College Athletic Department grade check policy for athletes.

1. Grade checks are taken at regular intervals throughout the semester, usually done on a bi-weekly basis. You will receive a form requesting attendance records and approximate grades from your instructors during the semester.
2. Athletes are expected to attend each class meeting that does not conflict with game schedules. In the case of illness or an emergency, the student should contact the instructor to make up the missed time /assignments.

Penalties:

1. Failure to attend classes will result in suspension from practice/and or games.
2. Continued absence from class of failure to maintain a passing grade in a class may result in suspension from games/matches.
3. Athletes may be required to meet with Academic Advisors, Coach, or Athletic Administrator to resolve academic progress issues before being allowed to continue participating in a sport.

Athletics Academic Advising & Support Services

The Athletic department recognizes the athletic, academic and personal demands faced by student athletes. The Self Study Athletic Program (SSAP) is committed to providing the support services necessary to assist student athletes in achieving their athletic, academic and educational goals. A student athlete needing immediate assistance may contact the following individuals in the Athletic Department, located in D102, (989)686-9477.

- Coach of your sport
- Academic Advisor- D- 102

Program Goals

- To enhance student athletes' study skills and habits
- To facilitate attitudes which are goal oriented and will aid in academic, educational and athletic success
- To assist student athletes in clarifying and identifying educational/career goals
- To advise student athletes of various athletic rules, regulations and eligibility requirements

Athletic Grants

Delta College offers scholarships in several sports.

Division I & II Sports

- The office of Financial Aid & Scholarships administers all athletic scholarships.
- Men's and Women's Basketball, Volleyball, Men's Soccer, and Women's Softball are all NJCAA sports. Scholarships for these sports are restricted to tuition and fees only.

Cancellation of Scholarship

Athletic scholarships may be canceled in these situations:

- Athlete becomes ineligible for competition because of academic and /or disciplinary reasons. i.e. violation of substance abuse policy
- Athlete does not maintain full- time status.

- Athlete does not pass a minimum of 12 credit hours with a 1.75 GPA in first term enrolled at Delta.
- The Second season (year), athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA.
- General misconduct as defined by the Delta College Catalog (unrelated to athletics), violates a policy specific to the Delta College athletics programs deemed serious enough by general administration of the college to deserve suspension/ expulsion.
- Student athlete voluntarily withdraws from a sport.
- Graduation

Supplemental Scholarships provided by sources other than the Athletic Department, but administered by Delta College, may have additional stipulations for cancellations. Reason for cancellation may include non-attendance in class or a low GPA.

Physical Examination

- All student athletes participating in any one of the NJCAA certified sports must have passed a physical examination administered by a qualified health care professional licensed to administer physical examinations, prior to the participating at any level for Varsity Athletics.
- At the time of their physical exam, athletes are required to disclose medical history information concerning past injuries and medical conditions. The student- athlete must also report all medicines he or she is taking for drug testing documentation purposes. Failure to provide information on known medical problems will relieve the College of liability with regard to decisions regarding participation.
- Delta College will pay the balance on participation related medical bills after they have submitted and acted upon by the athlete's personal insurance. **The college will pay no injury related medical bills if the athlete does not have an up-to-date Personal Insurance Information Form on file.** The college will not make payment for correction of pre-existing medical conditions. The head athletic trainer will make decisions regarding whether an injury or condition is a result of participation.
- **The student athlete is responsible for maintaining their own health and accident insurance and that insurance carrier will be the first line of insurance for any accident or injury suffered by the athlete as a result of an athletic activity at Delta College.**

Hold Harmless Clause

I understand and agree that Delta College and anyone associated with the college will not be liable for any loss, injury, or death related to my participation as a student athlete. I understand there may be risks associated with this activity, which include but are not limited to possible bodily injury or death.

In consideration of Delta College allowing my participation, I agree that in return to the fullest extent permitted by law, I shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Delta College, its elected and appointed officials, employees, students, and volunteers and others working in behalf of Delta College from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses including, but not limited to attorney fees and costs arising out of any injury to person or damage to property arising out of or in connection with my participation in this activity or from negligence of wrongful act of omission by myself or others.

- All athletic injuries will be reported to the Head Athletic Trainer by coaches or Athletic Department personnel.
- Serious injuries that occur outside of a Delta College sponsored athletic program, which affects an athlete's ability to perform, may impact their scholarship.
- Student/Athlete Insurance can be purchased from any provider but must be approved by the Athletic Department.
 - Insurance options will be given to all student athletes at orientation
 - The failure to maintain insurance throughout their participation will exclude Delta College from liability to pay any medical bills accrued during the student/athletes participation
- All injuries must be reported by the athlete or coach to the Head Athletic trainer / Athletic Department as soon as possible.

Amateur Status/ Outside Competition

“Ask before you do anything”

To remain athletically eligible, the most important thing to remember is not to endanger your amateur athlete status or violate NJCAA rules regarding outside competition. It is essential that you check with your head coach before making decisions regarding outside athletic participation.

The following are the more commonly applicable NJCAA guidelines for maintain your amateur status (not all NJCAA rules are included):

You cannot within your sport:

- Accept payment or promise of payments in cash, prizes, gifts or travel for participating in your sport.

- Use your athletic skill for payment, i.e. You cannot be employed on a “fee for lesson” basis.
- Play on a recreation team during Delta’s season of competition.

NJCAA Code of Conduct

The basic principles of the National Junior College Athletic Association stand for the highest ideals in sportsmanship. One of the primary objectives of competition is to develop and foster respect for fellow participants, coaches, officials, and spectators. With this in mind and since it is fundamental to the continuance of the activities sponsored by the NJCAA that the rights of the majority shall not be jeopardized by the actions of a few, the Code of Conduct has been adopted.

Basic Responsibilities

- Participants shall recognize their responsibility for proper conduct at any tournament, contest, or event sponsored by the NJCAA or its member colleges.
- Coaches shall recognize and assume responsibility for the actions of themselves and their team members. Each coach who has participants competing in the vent shall be responsible for informing each member of the CODE>

Note: Should individual regional conference or institutional penalties/guidelines require additional sanctions for any of the behaviors listed below, those would take precedence.

Regulations of Conduct

Criteria for Suspension from Athletics Team

The athletics department believes that student-athletes participating on intercollegiate teams represent Delta College in a special way. Their behavior on and off the playing fields/courts does in fact reflect on the College and the rest of the team, and is often attributed to them. Because of this, the Athletics Department imposes a higher standard of conduct on student-athletes.

One expectation is that the student-athlete will avoid criminal activity. A student- athlete arrested for misdemeanors or felonies (this will not apply to minor traffic citations) will be suspended from practice and play pending a prompt investigation to determine whether the suspension should be continued or lifted. Any student-athlete arrested is required to report the arrest to his/her coach immediately.

Sportsmanship

Certain standards of behavior are expected of all student athletes and team personnel participating in any NJCAA event. Student- athletes are guests at any event. Their participation is a privilege, not a right. Sportsmanship and citizenship are modes of conduct that promote and develop respect for fellow participants, coaches, and teammates. That respect should also be reflected in each student athlete's behavior toward officials and spectators.

Student athletes are expected to comply with the Delta College Code of Conduct, which is located in college catalog.

Sexual Harassment

Delta College's Affirmative Action Policy expressly prohibits any faculty, staff or student body member from engaging in sexual harassment.

Sexual Harassment is defined as unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct or communication is made a term or condition either explicitly or implicitly to obtain employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting such individuals employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing.
- Such conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing , or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment, public accommodations, public services, education or housing environment.

Harassment on the basis of an individual's sexual preference or orientation is prohibited. Words, actions, or other verbal, written, or physical conduct which ridicules, scorns, mocks, intimidates, or otherwise threatens any individual because of his/her sexual orientation/ preference constitutes homophobic harassment when it has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing, or creating an intimidating hostile or offensive employment, public accommodations, public services, education or housing environment.

Delta College Athletes Code of Conduct

It is my understanding and responsibility as an athlete that:

- I will place academic achievement as the highest priority.
- I will show respect for teammates, opponents, officials, coaches and fans.
- I will exhibit fair play, sportsmanship and proper conduct on and off the playing field/court.
- I will refrain from the use of profanity, vulgarity, offensive language and violent behaviors.
- I will refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids or any substance that enhances physical performance.
- I will uphold and abide by all the rules of the NJCAA and MCCA.
- I will win with character, and lose with dignity.

Penalties for Violations of the Code of Conduct

- Based on each incident or the culmination of incidents, penalties may range from verbal/written reprimands to expulsion from Delta Athletics programs with scholarships being revoked, based on the discretion of the Coach and Athletic Director.

Athletic Awards

Region XII Awards

- **All Region Team**

Athletes qualify through nominations by their coach and voting by the region coaches in each sport.

- **Real Sport award**

Coaches, administrators, and athletes may be nominated for acts of good sportsmanship.

NJCAA Awards

- **All American**

Coaches nominate athletes at region tournament. Region coaches give rank of nominees to region director. National committee determines recipients.

- **Academic All American**

Athletic department administrator nominates qualified athletes at end of academic year

1. Academic All American

60 hours accumulated minimum 3.6 GPA

2. Distinguished Academic All American

60 hours accumulated, 3.8 GPA

- **NJCAA National Awards**

- Academic Team of the Year
- Betty Jo Garber Female Student Athlete of the Year
- David Rowland's Male Student Athlete of the Year
- Lea Pulaski Award

Class Attendance

There is a direct correlation between consistent class attendance and classroom success (good grades). It is important that class attendance be a **major priority**.

Occasionally, student athletes will miss classes for competition or team travel. A "Notification of Anticipated Absence Form" can be obtained through your coach. This form should be given to your instructors at least one week prior to the anticipated absence. The student athlete is responsible for all assignments and exams that occur during the absence. **This form does not guarantee that you will be excused.**

Please not that excessive unexcused absences and work not completed may also affect final grades, financial aid, and VA benefits.

Dropping Courses or Withdrawing from the College

- An Athlete dropping below 12 hours in a semester of competition immediately becomes ineligible.
- Veterans: If a student drops a course or withdraws from all classes, it is the student's responsibility to notify the Veterans Assistance Office. Courses dropped any time during the semester could result in an overpayment dating back to the first day of the semester. Mitigating circumstances may be considered for payment purposes.
- **Federal financial aid students should see the section on dropping classes in the Bulletin/College Catalog for information on how the financial aid award is affected when classes are dropped.**

Financial Aid & Scholarship

Located in D101, the Financial Aid Office staff assists with questions related to financing education through scholarship, grants, loans, and student employment.

General Information

- Students should contact the financial Aid Office for information on eligibility requirements, application deadlines and other information.
- Financial Aid counselors are available during specific hours on a walk-in basis. Call ahead for available days and times in D101 (989)686-9080
- All student athletes must fill out the **FASFA** form before being considered for athletic scholarship in their sport.

Delta College Resources

Frequently, students should be referred to other offices for more detailed information. This section lists offices and their services most often needed by student athletes.

Admissions
D101
(989)686-9093

Provides admissions applications, admissions counselors, information about academic programs, catalogs and campus tours.

Athletic office

D102
(989)686-9477

Bookstore

N15 (commons)
(989) 686-9030

Career Planning & Placement Center

East Concourse
(989) 686- 9072

Provides career counseling, career resource library, workshops on career/life development and job seeking skills, placement services.

Counseling

D102
(989) 686-9330

Provides individual counseling for personal/ social and career development concerns.

Disability Services

D102
(989) 686-9322

Arranges various services for students with physical and/ or learning disabilities or other disabilities, including: taped textbooks, exam proctors, tutors, counseling services and handicapped parking permits.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

D101
(989) 686-9080

Provides financial aid forms and counseling services and scholarship applications.

Registration & Student records

B101
(989) 686-9305

Handles student records, registration activities, transcripts, diplomas, and reviews student eligibility for any number of awards such as scholarships, graduation honors, the Dean's List and degrees.

Agreement

I have read and understood the Delta College Pioneer Student Athlete Handbook, have received a copy, and agree to abide by its requirements.

I understand and agree that Delta College and anyone associated with the College will not be liable for any loss, injury, or death related to my participation as a student athlete. I understand there may be risks associated with this activity, which include but are not limited to possible bodily injury or death.

In consideration of Delta College allowing my participation I agree that in return to the fullest extent permitted by law, I shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Delta College, its elected and appointed officials, employees, students, claims, damages losses and expenses including, but not limited to attorney fees and cost arising out of any injury to person or damage to property arising out of or in connection with my participation in this activity or from negligence or wrongful acts of omission by myself or others.

(Signature)

(Date)

(Name, Printed)

(Parental Signature, if necessary)