



NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS - MEDIA CREDENTIALS CRITERIA

Guidelines.

- Requests for credentials should be made by the assigning editor or news/sports director from legitimate news gathering agencies.
- Agencies shall direct requests for working media credentials through the host media coordinator or the NCAA national office, depending on championship and round. All championship final round credentials should be applied for at [NCAA.com/media-credentials](https://www.ncaa.com/media-credentials).
- Media seating preference will be given to applications that are received by the posted application deadline.
- Individuals will need to display a government issued ID at credential distribution when picking up approved credential.
- Issued credentials are non-transferable and must always be worn in a visible manner.
- Credentials WILL NOT be issued to spouses, guests, or children of media members; persons writing or gathering material for books and/or documentaries; representatives of syndicated television or cable programmers who are not producing programs for immediate news coverage (i.e., to air within 48 hours); podcasts which do not fall under credential policies and guidelines listed below; agents; scouts and other representatives of professional organizations; and publications devoted solely to gambling.

Eligible Media.

Subject to limitations of space, credentials may be issued to working members of the media representing recognized outlets in the business of news gathering as their primary source of revenue. This includes a daily or weekly publication, cable system, radio station, television station or television network, or online entity requiring immediate news coverage. Immediate news coverage for purposes of these criteria shall mean that the editorial, audio and/or visual deadline for the championship action being documented occurs not later than 48 hours after the competition at the site has been completed.

- **Representatives of national media outlets.**
 - Reporters from a weekly or monthly national publication that covers collegiate athletics extensively.
 - Reporters, photographers and couriers from national publications, online entities, broadcast networks and wire services that covers the collegiate sport consistently on a national basis.
 - An individual or crew designated by a national television network or cable system that originates daily sports news programs.

- The designated representative of a national television, cable system, radio network or a radio station that originates a daily “sports talk” program.
 - An online entity that cover the respective sport at the collegiate level on a consistent basis with exclusive content.
 - Team content providers, including team photographers and team videographers, will be credentialed and must adhere to the NCAA team content policies provided at [NCAA.com/media](https://www.ncaa.com/media).
 - Each participating institution may be represented by a maximum of one crew for a “coach’s show” or equivalent production.
 - Reporters representing NCAA conference-affiliated networks.
 - Participating team radio networks.
 - Full-time reporters representing international agencies that regularly cover the sport.
- **Media agencies in the geographic area and/or locale of a participating institution that has staffed its contests on a consistent basis throughout the season.**
- Online writers, daily print reporters and photographers from the local host and participating team markets who regularly cover collegiate athletics (i.e. cover the vast majority of a participating or host institution’s home games).
 - Individuals, certified by a participating institution, who will represent specific campus-related entities (e.g., student newspapers, television stations and radio stations) that are affiliated with a participating or host institution. Credentials may be issued to three individuals, plus three photographers, certified by the director of athletics or designated representative of each participating and host institution, who will be the sole representatives of all such campus media organizations.
 - An individual or television crew, certified by a participating institution, who will represent campus-related entities.

Miscellaneous.

- Having been credentialed for previous NCAA championships or major events does not automatically qualify an agency or individual for credentials.
- Any agency that has been approved for a championship final site credential, shall receive, upon request, a preliminary round credential for that championship. Being approved for a credential to a preliminary round site however, does not automatically qualify an agency for a final site credential.

- Freelance reporters or photographers will not be credentialed unless they are working under a specific assignment. Credential applications must be submitted by the sports editor, sports director/producer, photo editor or participating institution representative.
- At the discretion of the media coordinator, a minority media enterprise that does not meet established criteria may receive one media credential, space permitting. A “minority media enterprise” shall mean a media agency that regularly covers collegiate athletics and provides coverage to individuals socially or economically disadvantaged from cultural, racial or chronic economic circumstances, or other similar cause.
- Membership in a writers’ or broadcasters’ association (e.g., United States Basketball Writers Association) does not automatically qualify an agency for credentials.