

WHAT CAN I DO AS A BOOSTER?

An athletics representative (booster) may bring to the attention of a UF coach an outstanding PSA from the representative's local area. Boosters may not, however, involve themselves with the actual talent evaluation of the PSA. This restriction also applies to recruiting-type conversations or written or electronic correspondence with a PSA's high school or non-scholastic coach, principal, guidance counselor, or family members. Boosters may not visit the PSA's educational institution to pick up film or transcripts pertaining to the evaluation of the PSA's athletic or academic abilities.

A representative of an institution's athletics interests may provide funding to benefit a high school athletics program located in the community in which the athletics representative resides, provided:

- The representative acts independently of the institution;
- The funds are distributed through channels established by the high school or the organization conducting the fundraising activity; and
- The funds are not earmarked directly for a specific prospect student-athlete

COMPLIANCE CHALLENGE

Answer: True/False

1. The parents of a student-athlete may receive an occasional meal at the expense of a booster.
2. Boosters may not attend meals with a prospect during his/her official (or unofficial) visit.
3. Boosters are allowed to purchase items or services from a SA or the SA's family.
4. Fans and boosters may recruit PSAs to Florida.
5. When a SA celebrates his/her birthday, a booster cannot give the SA any gift (e.g., gift card, birthday card, meal, etc.).

Please note that this guide is not a replacement for the NCAA Manual. If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact the UAA Compliance Office.

Contact the UAA Compliance Office
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ASK BEFORE YOU ACT®

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (UAA) COMPLIANCE



BOOSTER GUIDE



INTRODUCTION

The University of Florida, as a member of the Southeastern Conference (SEC) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), is responsible for ensuring that its coaches, student-athletes (SAs), faculty and staff, donors, boosters, former students, fans, and friends abide by SEC and NCAA regulations.

The University of Florida can attribute its athletic success to its SAs, coaches, and administrators who strive to make the University of Florida a model athletics program, both on and off the field of competition. Another key component to UF's success is the unfaltering support of our alumni, boosters, and fiends of the athletic department. The University of Florida is appreciative of the financial support of our boosters and their efforts to abide by the NCAA rules regarding collegiate athletics. As we strive for continued excellence, we must always seek the highest standard of ethical conduct. With your assistance and cooperation, we can undoubtedly accomplish our vision of being the *model* collegiate athletics program, combing excellence and integrity in academics, athletics, and fan engagement to elevate the UF brand.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INSTITUTION

Each institution shall comply with all applicable NCAA rules and regulations in the conduct of its intercollegiate athletics programs. It shall monitor its program to assure compliance and to identify and report to the NCAA instances in which compliance has not been achieved. In any such instance, the institution shall cooperate fully with the NCAA and shall take appropriate corrective actions.

Members of an institution's staff, SAs, and other individuals and groups representing the institution's athletics interests shall comply with the applicable NCAA rules, and the member institution shall be responsible for such compliance. [NCAA Bylaw 2.8.1]

AM I CONSIDERED A UF REPRESENTATIVE OF ATHLETICS INTERESTS ("BOOSTER")?

An individual is considered to be a representative of UF's athletics interests (booster) if he or she has ever been involved with any of the following activities listed below. Once identified as a representative or "booster," he or she retains this status indefinitely, even if the individual is no longer associated with the athletics program.

- Contributed to the athletics department or its booster club
- Joined the institution's booster club or any sport specific sport group
- Provided benefits to enrolled SAs or their families
- Assisted in any manner in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes (PSAs)
- Promoted the institution's athletics program
- Purchased season tickets (as opposed to a single game ticket)

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES (PSAs)

A PSA is:

- A student who has started classes for the ninth grade
- A student who has not started classes for the ninth grade becomes a prospective student-athlete if the institution provides such an individual (or the individual's relatives or friends) any financial assistance or other benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students generally.

A PSA remains a prospect **even after** he or she has signed a National Letter of Intent or accepts an offer of financial aid to attend UF or any institution. Both the institution and the PSA continue to be governed by NCAA recruiting legislation regarding PSAs until:

- The PSA reports for regular squad practice or competes in a game; or
- The PSA attends his/her first day of classes in any regular term

Please note that an athletics representative (booster) **may not**:

- Contact a prospect, his/her parents, legal guardians, or spouse on or off campus
- Contact a prospect by telephone, letter, e-mail, social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Vine, etc.)

Please keep in mind, impermissible contact between you and a PSA may jeopardize the PSA's ability to compete and represent the University of Florida.

RECRUITING

Recruiting is any solicitation of a PSA or the PSA's family by any institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics interests for the purpose of securing the PSA's enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletic program. Only UF coaches may be involved in the recruiting process.

EXTRA BENEFITS

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or representative of the institution's athletics interest (booster) to provide a SA (or a SA's relative or friend) a benefit that is not generally available to other UF students and their relatives and/or friends.

Examples of IMPERMISSIBLE extra benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Cash, loans, or special discounts not available to the general public or student body;
- Signing or co-signing a note for a loan; loaning money or other tangible items (e.g., clothes, cars, jewelry, electronic equipment, awards, travel expenses);
- Purchasing items or services from a SA or the SA's family (apparel, awards, tickets);
- Free or reduced cost housing or transportation arrangements;
- Educational expense (e.g., typing costs, course supplies, etc.)