



**Purpose:** To describe the Sun Devil Athletics (SDA) policy governing walk-on student-athlete tryouts.

**Policy:**

1. Scope – This policy applies to prospective and enrolled students who are asked to participate on SDA teams but who will not receive athletically related financial aid. Walk-ons may be invited to participate with an SDA team (e.g., preferred walk-ons) or they may join a team through a tryout process.
2. Tryout opportunities – SDA sport programs are not required to conduct tryouts, and those that do regularly conduct tryouts are not required to conduct them every year.
  - a. Required approvals for tryouts – Individuals will not be permitted to tryout or participate in any athletically related activity at a walk-on tryout unless they are certified as eligible to participate by the Compliance Office and Sports Medicine.
    - i. Compliance Office – For a student to tryout, he or she must be eligible to participate under NCAA rules. The Compliance Office will only consider requests for eligibility waiver submissions if they are made by an SDA head coach or the coach’s designee.
    - ii. Sports Medicine – For a student to tryout, he or she must have proof of (a) a physical exam administered by a medical doctor, physician’s assistant, or nurse practitioner within the past six months, (b) health insurance, and (c) sickle cell test results.
  - b. Permissible tryout activities – Tryouts must comply with all applicable NCAA rules and regulations, including those related to countable athletically related activities and coaching activities (e.g., instruction only by countable coaches, only conditioning activities if outside the declared playing and practice season).
3. Coaches’ discretion regarding other selection requirements – In addition to athletics ability and the compliance and sports medicine requirements noted above, each sport program may establish additional eligibility-related requirements (e.g., a minimum grade point average, years of eligibility remaining).

**Process:**

1. The sport program will provide a list of names and ASU identification numbers of potential tryout participants to the Compliance Office before the tryout.
2. The Compliance Office will review the list and determine if each student is eligible under NCAA rules for the tryout.
3. The Compliance Office will provide the list of eligible students to the sport program and Sports Medicine.
4. Before the tryout begins, Sports Medicine will verify that each eligible student has also met Sports Medicine's tryout eligibility requirements.
5. After the tryout, the sport program will provide Sports Medicine and the Compliance Office with a list of students they would like to add to the team.
6. Before the students is added to the squad list, they will complete drug testing with Sports Medicine.
  - a. In the case of a positive test result, the senior staff member who oversees Sports Medicine, the sport program, and the sport administrator will be notified and they will make a determination as to whether the student who tested positive will be added to the squad list.
  - b. In the case of a negative test result, Sports Medicine will notify the Compliance Office so the student can be added to the squad list.
7. For all students that are added to the squad list, the **Practice Eligibility** process will begin.

[Note: A physical will not be administered by Sports Medicine, as a part of the **Practice Eligibility** process, until a negative drug test result has been received or associate athletics director who oversees Sports Medicine, the sport program, or the sport administrator adds the student to the squad list despite a positive drug test.]