



Redshirts: Definitions, Processes and Other Information

	REDSHIRT	MEDICAL HARDSHIP
Description	The term “redshirt” is used to describe a student-athlete who does not participate in competition in a sport for an entire academic year. If the student-athlete does not compete during the academic year, he/she has not used a season of competition.	A medical hardship is for those student-athletes who have sustained an incapacitating injury or illness which prevented them from competing in the remainder of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship.
Requirements	There is no official form to complete regarding a redshirt student-athlete. A student-athlete’s [non] participation in competition is recorded on the “competition report” which is submitted to the Compliance Services Office via ACS at the completion of a team’s season.	Medical Hardship Waiver Required. The Compliance Services Office files medical hardship waivers with the Pac-12 conference office. The Pac-12 Faculty Athletic Representatives determine whether the student-athlete is granted an additional year of competition (to replace the lost opportunity) as a result of his/her incapacitating injury or illness. This does not extend a student-athlete’s five-year clock.

Medical Hardship Waiver Criteria

Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred. There are three main requirements to submit a medical hardship waiver.

1. Injury/Illness occurs in the first half of the season. Incapacity must be for the remainder of the season. Student-athlete cannot be cleared for participation prior to the season’s end.
2. In team sports, student-athlete cannot have participated in more than 3 contests OR more than 30% of competitions, whichever number is greater.

In individual sports, student-athlete cannot have participated in more than 30% of maximum permissible dates of competition as set in Bylaw 17.

*Please note that calculations of these percentages vary based on sport and declaration of seasons.

3. All hardship waivers must be supported by contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation. The Compliance Services Office will work with the Athletic Training and Sports Medicine staffs to collect documentation. If a student-athlete utilized individuals outside of Stanford, they are required to submit necessary documentation.

If a student-athlete doesn’t meeting all three criteria listed above, any amount of competition (including scrimmages and joint practices for most sports) will utilize a season of eligibility.