**Position Statement for Athletics & Residency**

The California Association of Community College Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACCRAO) recognizes the importance of intercollegiate athletics, and acknowledges the value that it brings to college, the community and the campus. It is, therefore, our position that practices which enhance and ensure the integrity of the recruitment and enrollment process of student athletes, are ultimately a benefit to our institutions and our communities, as well as to the athletes themselves. We believe this was emphasized and supported by the State Chancellor’s Office on March 2, 2010, when it issued its memorandum addressing out-of-state athletes, residency determination and nonresident tuition.

CACCRAO therefore encourages institutions to adopt the following as guiding principles:

* Promote “truth telling” in all aspects of the recruitment/enrollment process of student athletes, including, but not limited to student data submission
* Recognize the importance of checks & balances in athletic eligibility process

**Best Practices**

CACCRAO encourages institutions to adopt the following “best practices” wherever deemed feasible and appropriate:

* Educate college & athletic staff members to residency & funding issues (including consequences of false reporting)
* Offer an orientation by the Chief Admissions & Records Officer for coaches, Athletic Director and prospective student athletes regarding residency and how it is determined
* Take steps to strengthen the integrity of the application process
	+ Prospective students should complete the application process, unassisted
	+ Require Tracers from all institutions previously attended – share these with the A&R Office for verification of residency
	+ Require proof of financial independence for all athletes coming from out of California
* Takes steps to strengthen the athletic eligibility process
	+ Recognize the need for checks & balances
	+ Toward that end, require A&R sign-off in eligibility checking
	+ Compare Form 1 content with application to verify athletes residency & eligibility

**Recommendations**

CACCRAO makes the following recommendations to the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA) in an effort to strengthen the quality and integrity of intercollegiate athletics:

* CACCRAO is supportive of including a “perjury statement” on all applications, as well as on the Form 1, adjacent to the student signature.
* CCCAA is encouraged to include a “verification statement” on the Form 1, alluding to the accuracy/truthfulness of contents, adjacent to signature of Coach, Athletic Director and Registrar.
* CACCRAO recommends follow-up training on issues related to Residency & Eligibility of Athletes for staff at the operational level in both Admissions & Records and Athletics.