

What is a Representative of Athletics Interests (booster)?

A Representative of Athletics Interests (booster) is any individual who is known (or should be known) by the institution to have:

- made a financial contribution to the athletics department (or any of its programs) or to any booster club or organization promoting Rutgers-Newark athletics;
- participated in or been a member of any organization or group promoting Rutgers-Newark athletics
- assisted with the recruitment of prospective student-athletes;
- assisted in providing benefits (including employment) to enrolled student-athletes;
- been involved in any way in promoting Rutgers-Newark athletics

Once a Booster, Always a Booster

Once an individual has been identified as a Representative of Athletics Interests, he or she retains that status indefinitely, even if that person no longer contributes to or supports the athletics program.

Prospective Student-Athlete

A prospective student-athlete is any student entering ninth grade or above, or anyone who has been contacted for recruiting purposes. This includes students in prep schools and junior colleges. It is best to treat all athletes as prospects.

A prospective student-athlete remains a prospect until he/she participates in an official pre-season practice or begins the first day of full-time enrollment in classes at Rutgers-Newark.

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics
Rutgers-Newark
42 Warren Street
Newark, NJ 07102



Guide for Boosters

Rules and Regulations
That Every Friend
Of Scarlet Raider Athletics
Should Know

What Representatives of Athletics Interests Can't Do

Recruit: Only coaches and Rutgers-Newark staff members can be involved in the recruiting process. Therefore, representatives of athletics interest ("boosters") cannot have any on-campus or off-campus contact with a prospect, a prospect's family members, or a prospect's coach(es) via telephone, letter, email, or in-person contact for the purpose of encouraging participation in Rutgers-Newark athletics. Incidental contact with a prospect is permissible, but there must be no discussion about Rutgers-Newark athletics.

Provide prospects or their family members with any type of offer or inducement: including:

- offers of employment
- gifts of clothing or other tangible items
- financial assistance (cash or co-signing of loans)
- free or reduced services
- free or reduced housing
- transportation of any kind
- free or reduced tickets to any events
- entertainment, tickets, or transportation for high school, prep school or community college coaches

Provide extra benefits to enrolled student-athletes (other than their own children) or their families, including:

- cash, loans, or the co-signing of loans
- gifts, meals, or services (e.g. use of telephone, restaurant meals, birthday gifts, even a soda or cup of coffee!)
- special discounts for goods and services
- use of an automobile
- transportation of any kind (except for the occasional home meal)
- free or reduced housing
- free or reduced tickets to events
- promise of employment after graduation
- financial assistance of any kind (including for post-graduate studies)
- invitations to your home for purposes other than an occasional home meal.

Contact a student-athlete enrolled at another institution for the purpose of encouraging them to transfer to Rutgers-Newark.

Provide awards or gifts to a student-athlete for his/her athletic performance.

Use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to advertise, recommend, or promote sales of a commercial product or service of any kind.

Provide a speaker's fee to a student-athlete.

What a Representative of Athletics Interests Can do

You may provide an occasional meal in your home to a student-athlete or an entire team. Transportation can be provided to a student-athlete only if it is for an occasional home meal.

You may provide a summer job or a job during the academic year to an enrolled student-athlete as long as you and the athlete have received prior written permission from the athletic department. The rate of pay must be the normal rate and it must be for work actually performed.

You may inform the coach about a potential recruit. You can send the Rutgers-Newark coaching staff newspaper clippings or other information about prospects. However, you may not reach out to the prospective student-athlete to try to recruit him/her to attend Rutgers-Newark.

You may attend a high school or community athletic event in which a prospect is playing as long as there is no contact with the prospect or the prospect's family or coach.

You may speak with a prospect via the telephone only if the prospect initiates the phone call and the call is not for recruiting purposes.

You may make a financial donation to a high school athletics program in your community provided:

- you make the donation on your own accord,
- your donation is processed through normal channels established by the high school, and
- your donation is not earmarked for a prospect

You may continue pre-established family relationships with friends and neighbors. Contact with the sons/daughters of the family is permissible as long as such contact is not made for recruiting purposes and not arranged by members of the coaching staff.

Exceptions for Rutgers-Newark administrators, faculty and staff

Administrators, faculty, and staff at Rutgers-Newark are permitted to:

- contact prospects only on the Rutgers-Newark campus
- write to prospects beginning on or after September 1 at the start of the prospect's junior year in high school (only at the direction of the coaching staff)
- telephone prospects for the purpose of recruiting on or after July 1 prior to the prospect's senior year in high school (only at the direction of the coaching staff)

If you have any questions or doubts, ASK!
Violations of any of these regulations may affect the eligibility of the student-athlete and could result in sanctions against Rutgers-Newark and its athletic program.

Contacts

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