What is an athletics booster?
An Athletics Booster is any individual who has participated in or is a member of an agency or organization that has been involved in promoting the athletics department; has made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of the institution; has assisted in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes or is assisting in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes without request from the athletics department; has assisted or is assisting in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or is otherwise involved in promoting the institution’s athletics program.

Definitions you should know:
Prospective Student-Athlete
A “prospect” is a student who has started classes for the 9th grade or is attending another 2-year or 4-year collegiate institution. A student who has not yet started classes for the 9th grade becomes a “prospect” if the student receives any benefits that the institution does not provide to prospective students in general. The college requests that you treat ALL students as prospects.

Student-Athlete
An enrolled student-athlete is an individual whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student’s ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program.

Contact
A contact is any face-to-face encounter between a prospect or the prospect’s parent or legal guardian and an institutional staff member or athletics representative during which any dialogue occurs in excess of an exchange of a greeting. Any such encounter that is prearranged or takes place on the grounds of the prospective educational institution or at the site of organized competition or practice involving the prospect’s high school, preparatory school, two-year college or all-star team shall be considered a contact, regardless of the conversation that takes place.

Recruiting
Recruiting is any solicitation of a prospect or the prospect’s family by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the college’s athletics interests for the purpose of securing the prospect’s enrollment at the college and/or participation in the athletics program. Actions considered recruiting are:
- Providing the prospect with an official visit
- Having an arranged, in-person, off-campus encounter with a prospect or prospect’s parents
- Initiating or arranging a telephone contact with a prospect on more than one occasion for recruiting purposes.

Prohibited benefits by booster:
1) A loan of monies
2) Guarantee of bond
3) Use of automobile
4) Signing or cosigning a note with an outside agency to arrange a loan
5) Preferential treatment for services for athletics reputation
6) Cash or merchandise
7) Free or reduced-cost housing
8) Use of athletics equipment
9) Sponsorship of, or arrangement for, an award banquet for athletes by an institution, or representatives of its athletics interest
10) May not serve as sponsors or families for student-athletes

Employment of Student-Athletes and Prospects
Employing prospects is permitted, providing the employment does not begin prior to the completion of the prospect’s senior year in high school. Compensation may be paid to a student-athlete only for work actually performed, and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.

Transportation for Student-Athletes
An institution or its representatives shall not provide an athlete or a prospect free transportation to and from a summer job unless it is the employer’s established policy to transport all employees to and from the job site.

Entertainment
An institution’s staff member or representative may entertain alumni or other friends of the institution in the hometown of the prospect provided those entertained are not friends of any particular prospect being recruited by the institution.

Contact Restrictions
These restrictions apply to institution’s staff members and/or representatives:

In-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall not be made with a prospect or the prospect’s relatives or legal guardian(s) until the prospect has completed the junior year of high school. Recruiting contact cannot be made with a prospect before or during any athletics competition in which the prospect is a participant during the day or days of competition, even if the prospect is on an official or unofficial visit.