

## APPENDIX Q: MIAC Elite 22 Award

Updated June 2024

### MIAC Elite 22 Award

The MIAC Elite 22 Award recognizes the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the conference championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among his or her peers. The MIAC Elite 22 Award is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating in the MIAC Playoffs for team sports and earns all-conference for individual sports.

#### Selection Criteria

Identify the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average (GPA) who meets the following criteria:

1. At least a junior in academic AND athletics standing, and in at least their second year of competition (in any sport) at their current institution.
2. An active member on the roster and a member of the designated squad size for the playoffs/championship.
3. Sport Specifics: Team Sports – playoff-qualifying teams (football - top two teams in divisional standings)  
Individual Sports - Recognized as All-Conference
4. Must be nominated by the institution by the prescribed deadline.

#### Use the following guidelines when calculating GPA

1. Calculated GPA must be the official cumulative GPA from the current institution.
2. No remedial courses may be counted in GPA calculation.
3. If your institution uses a grading scale other than 4.0, you also must complete and return the additional calculation form excel spreadsheet in addition to the information below.
4. If you have two or more student-athletes tied for the highest GPA on your team, please only return the information for the individual who has earned the most credits.
5. Please make sure you list the GPA to the thousandth place (e.g., 3.979) and make sure all credit hours are equated to semester hours even if your institution is on the quarter system.

#### Additional information to remember when submitting a nomination

1. The GPA should be current as of the date you submit the form.
2. You may submit names early but only those individuals qualifying for the finals or earning A.C. will be eligible to win.
3. If two or more student-athletes are tied with the highest GPA, ties will be broken by selecting the student-athlete with the most credits earned.
4. If credits are also equal, all student-athletes with the highest GPA/Credits will receive the award.
5. Only undergraduate GPA at the current institution is applicable. If the student-athlete has graduated from the institution and is in graduate school, they are still eligible for the award but consideration will be based strictly on an undergraduate GPA, therefore only undergrad GPA and credits should be submitted. Graduate students must be in good academic standing with the institution. (NCAA Elite 90 Policy)

#### Deadlines for GPA Submission

The Athletic Director is responsible for ensuring the submission is on time and accurate. The AD may designate an administrator to submit the information. The MIAC office will create a website portal to submit the requested information.

Team sports - The week following the MIAC playoffs for each season (fall, winter, spring), MIAC staff will distribute a communication requesting the name of the student-athlete with the highest GPA (and who also meet the additional criteria). Institutions will be required to submit the student-athletes name and GPA by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday following playoff/championship week. (*revised 5/22, 5/17*)

Individual sports - On the Monday following the MIAC Championship, MIAC staff will distribute a communication requesting the name of the student-athlete with the highest GPA (and who also meet the additional criteria, including earning all-conference). Institutions would have until 12:00 p.m. on Thursday following the championship to submit.

#### Presentation

The honoree will be announced following the MIAC Playoffs and Championships. A plaque will be provided to the honoree following the announcement. (*revised 5/22, 5/17*)