

September 22, 2025

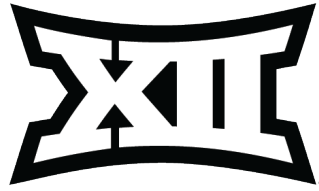
Big 12 Conference Statement Support the SCORE Act

The Big 12 Conference writes to share its support for the principles included in the Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsement (SCORE) Act and believe this is a critical first step in confronting the issues currently plaguing collegiate athletics. This bipartisan bill codifies the *House v. NCAA* settlement and mandates enhanced benefits to student-athletes such as revenue sharing, NIL rights, healthcare guarantees, and increased scholarship opportunities. The SCORE Act protects the educational mission of college athletics and the ability of universities to sponsor a broad offering of sports programs through a number of critical provisions, including a requirement that institutions sponsor a minimum of 16 varsity sports programs. It also provides a stable, uniform national standard in the area of name, image and likeness that will ensure student-athletes are treated equitably regardless of what institution they attend. In addition, the bill includes a prohibition on student-athletes being classified as employees, which is critical to ensure that universities in conferences of all sizes across the country have the resources to fund women's and Olympic sports.

The SCORE Act embodies and continues the historic commitment of colleges and universities to women's and Olympic sports. For example, according to the most recent Department of Education data, the institutions that make up the Big 12 Conference spent hundreds of millions of dollars on sports other than basketball and football in fiscal year 2024 alone. This ongoing commitment has produced extraordinary opportunities and results for Big 12 student-athletes with over 140 of our current or former student-athletes participating, and dozens winning medals, in the 2024 Paris games. The SCORE Act will help continue this push for excellence.

We believe the principles included in this legislation embody the protections necessary to preserve women's and Olympic sports. In fact, since the *House* settlement went into effect, our universities collectively have increased, not decreased, scholarships to our Olympic sports by over 450 with more than 300 going to women's sports programs. Our fear is that without this federal legislation, schools will be forced to decrease these scholarship gains or even eliminate many non-revenue sports.





While we understand that there is more work to do, we urge Congress to pass the SCORE Act now as the first step in securing the future of college sports. With the stability the SCORE Act will provide we look forward to focusing on other issues that will continue to stabilize collegiate athletics to provide this uniquely American experience for all student-athletes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brett Yormark".

Brett Yormark
Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Doug Girod".

Doug Girod
Board of Directors Chair

