It’s the time of year for traditions of giving, thanking, and EATING! While students are starting their winter break, keep in mind that NCAA rules never go on vacation. This Compliance Weekly Update highlights exactly who our student-athletes may receive Thanksgiving meals from, without it constituting an extra benefit and violation of NCAA rules.

Instead of going over the things that can’t be done, let’s focus on what CAN!

Coaches: Due to recent NCAA rule changes regarding meals, it is now more flexible than ever in regards to allowing coaches to pay for meals of student-athletes. Therefore, a coach may provide student-athletes with a Thanksgiving meal either at their own home or a local restaurant! Also, keep in mind that a meal does not solely constitute required athletic activity.

Dartmouth Staff Members: Non-coaching staff members employed at Dartmouth (e.g., Administrators, professors, deans, trainers, etc.) may provide student-athletes with a Thanksgiving meal either at their own home or a local restaurant!

Boosters: Friends/donors of athletics, season ticket holders, fans, community members, etc., may provide student-athletes with a Thanksgiving meal, but only after they have submitted the form for, and received approval of, an occasional meal from the compliance office. The meal, however, may take place ONLY at the booster’s local residence.

Parents of Current Student-Athletes: Although considered boosters, the parents of current student-athletes may provide the teammates of that parent’s child with a Thanksgiving meal at any location (as opposed to only their home in the locale of Dartmouth, per booster rules).

*Please note that this list is not exhaustive. If someone that does not fit in these 4 categories wants to provide a meal to our athletes, be sure to check with compliance first! ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!