Contestant: **G-2**

As the college football season nears the postseason and the college basketball season is just revving up for the year, the debate over whether the NCAA should pay these Division 1 college athletes (in addition to athletic scholarships) is bound to heat up once more. For years, season after season, fans of college athletics have been fiercely vying both in favor and against the additional paying of NCAA Division 1 athletes.

While there is no absolutely clear approve all changes and proposed regulations, which can turn approval into a long process. This sort of change simply couldn’t occur overnight.

Another wrongful assumption that Ford corrects is that the NCAA has endless funds. While the association does bring in about $900 million a year, not much is left over after NCAA employees, branding and marketing firms and other expenses are paid.

These “other expenses” include giving money to each individual school to cover the athletes’ costs of attendance and postseason travel accomodations, among other things. Quite simply, the NCAA doesn’t have the money to pay its Division I athletes a supplemental amount, even if the organization wanted to.

Division I athletes on full-ride scholarships don’t have to pay for tuition, room and board or other expenses. And while, yes, they do commit an incredible amount of time to their athletes, it’s time spent doing something they love while receiving a valuable education at the same time. Most college students are spending thousands of dollars each year for the same education. And to account for the extra time Division I athletes are spending at practices, games, workouts and tournaments. Oftentimes NCAA-affiliated colleges will allow athletes to attend their school on the same scholarship for a total of five years.

In addition to covering the costs of athletes’ education, the NCAA has also been making efforts to provide these athletes with additional resources, such as insurance protection and academic services.