Away-From-Home Contests
MSU may pay the actual costs (but MAY NOT provide cash) for reasonable entertainment that takes place within a 100-mile radius of where a team plays or practices in connection with an away-from-home contest or en route to or from such a contest. [16.7.1]

- It is permissible for an alumnus, alumni organization or the sponsoring organization of the event (in addition to the involved member) to provide the actual and necessary costs for reasonable entertainment that takes place in the general area where the team is playing or practicing in conjunction with an away-from-home contest, provided such entertainment is approved by the institution. [3/5/87 Official Interp.]

- Student-athletes may receive admission to a MSU athletics contests for entertainment purposes when student-athletes in different sports participate in road contests on the same date at the same site. [12/7/86 Official Interp.]

- In the sports of basketball, football and women's volleyball, it is not permissible for an institution, as part of entertainment in conjunction with an away-from-home competition, to pay the expenses of the institution's team to scout a future opponent. In all other sports, it would be permissible to pay the expenses for a team to scout a future opponent; however, it would not be permissible for the coach to attend the opponent’s contest. [11.6.2, 12/16/98 Staff Interp.]

Home Contests
MSU may rent a film or movie, provide pay-per-view movies in the student-athletes' hotel rooms or take its intercollegiate team to the movies the night before a home contest without the film or movie being considered an extra benefit. MSU may not provide cash to student-athletes for entertainment expenses. [16.7.2]

Vacation Period
MSU may pay the actual costs (but MAY NOT provide cash) for reasonable entertainment that takes place within a 30-mile radius of the institution’s campus or practice site during vacation periods (e.g., preseason period) when the team is required to reside on campus (or at a practice site normally used by the institution) and classes are not in session. [16.7.1]

Professional Sports Tickets
Complimentary tickets to professional sports contests may not be provided to student-athletes, unless the tickets are provided by the institution (or by a representative of athletics interests through the institution) for entertainment purposes to student-athletes involved in an away-from-home contest. Under the latter circumstances, the institution may pay actual costs for reasonable entertainment that takes place during a team trip. [Note: MSU limits this benefit.] [16.7.1.1]

In addition, a conference office would be permitted to purchase and provide to its member institutions complimentary tickets to a professional sports contest, provided the tickets are provided in conjunction with a conference event and are for entertainment purposes for student-athletes involved in the conference event. [10/25/91 Staff Interp.]

Team Bonding
It is not permissible for an institution to provide expenses to student-athletes in conjunction with permissible conditioning activities that may occur outside the playing season during the academic year. Thus, an institution may not provide transportation expenses or the payment of any fees associated with participation in a ropes course (or other related team building activities) outside the playing season. [1/1/01 Ed. Column, 8/23/96 Staff Interp.]

During the playing season, it is permissible to pay for expenses for practice sessions only if they are associated with an away-from-home contest or conducted at a site located within the state of Michigan, or, if outside the state, no more than 100 miles from campus. Any practice on an extended road trip must take place either at the competition site or on a direct route between two consecutive competition sites. It is not permissible to schedule practice sessions at other locations in order to provide entertainment opportunities for team members. [16.8.1.1, 16.8.1.1.1]