

*Dear usmnews.net*

Dear usmnews.net,

Some of your readers have been talking about the letter to the editor that expressed concern whether Southern Miss's basketball team would be eligible to play in the NCAA tournament -- regardless of the number of wins. Is there any chance that's really true?

Name withheld

Dear Name withheld,

Southern Miss' basketball program has a long history of excessive turnover. As usmnews.net reported on December 20, 2011 -- less than four months before Larry Eustachy's departure -- roster turnover for USM under Eustachy averaged an astounding [66.9% per year turnover](#) during his six years as head coach at Southern Miss. On March 13, 2012, about a month before Eustachy departed Southern Miss, usmnews.net reported its concerns about [shortfalls in the APR](#). As reported at the time:

As it stands, USM's shortcomings could result in the loss of 10 percent of the program's scholarship slots, while continued failures could lead to postseason bans and practice time limitations, all in addition to scholarship losses. Beginning with the 2013 NCAA Tournament, the minimum allowable APR score rises to 930. In addition to the usual penalties for APR shortcomings, the UCFIDES reports that team's in USM's current position will not be allowed to participate in the NCAA Basketball Tournament.