



Eligibility  
Center

# 2014-15 Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete



Your Path to the Student-Athlete Experience



**EVEN IF YOU'RE A  
SUPERSTAR, THIS IS ONE  
NUMBER YOU WON'T BE  
ABLE TO GET AROUND.**

**2.3** Or Take a  
**KNEE**

But your GPA isn't the only challenge. If you don't have the core GPA, the test scores or the right core courses in high school, you don't play in college. Don't let academics hold you back. Check out [2point3.org](http://2point3.org).





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## NOTICE

The information contained in this publication is provided as a service to college-bound student-athletes and does not constitute binding advice on compliance with NCAA rules and bylaws. The NCAA Eligibility Center tries to provide quality information, but because this document is provided in an updated electronic form online that is subject to change as needed, the NCAA Eligibility Center makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information contained in this publication.

**For more information, see [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org) or [2point3.org](http://2point3.org).**

# The NCAA and NCAA Eligibility Center

## How to use this Guide...

The Guide addresses issues for four important groups of readers:

- High school students who hope to participate in college athletics at an NCAA Division I or II college or university;
- Parents and legal guardians;
- High school counselors and athletics administrators; and
- Scholastic and nonscholastic coaches.

## What is the NCAA?

The NCAA, or National Collegiate Athletic Association, was established in 1906 and serves as the athletics governing body for more than 1,300 colleges, universities, conferences and organizations. The national office is in Indianapolis, Indiana, but the member colleges and universities develop the rules and guidelines for athletics eligibility and athletics competition for each of the three NCAA divisions. The NCAA is committed to the student-athlete and to governing competition in a fair, safe, inclusive and sportsmanlike manner.

The NCAA membership includes:

- 346 active Division I members;
- 298 active Division II members; and
- 440 active Division III members.

One of the differences among the three divisions is that colleges and universities in Divisions I and II may offer *athletics scholarships*, while Division III colleges and universities do not.

For more information about the NCAA or its members, please visit [NCAA.org](http://NCAA.org).

## What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?

The NCAA Eligibility Center certifies the initial academic eligibility and amateur status of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics.

To assist with this process, the NCAA Eligibility Center staff is eager to foster a cooperative environment of education and partnership with high schools, high school coaches and college-bound student-athletes. Ultimately, the individual student-athlete is responsible for achieving and protecting his or her eligibility status.

## How to find answers to your questions

The answers to most questions can be found in this Guide or by:

- Accessing the NCAA Eligibility Center's resource page on its website at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org), clicking on "Resources" and then selecting the type of student you are (U.S., International or home school). You can then navigate through the resources to find helpful information.
- Contacting the NCAA Eligibility Center at the phone number on this page.
- Accessing [www.NCAA.org/student-athletes/future](http://www.NCAA.org/student-athletes/future) for additional resources.

In addition, if you are sending transcripts or additional information to the NCAA Eligibility Center or have questions, please use the following contact information.

## NCAA Eligibility Center Contact Information

### NCAA Eligibility Center:

Certification Processing  
P.O. Box 7136  
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7136

### Package or overnight delivery:

Certification Processing  
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

### Web address:

[www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)  
[www.2point3.org](http://www.2point3.org)



### NCAA Eligibility Center customer service:

U.S. callers (toll free):	877/262-1492
International callers:	317/917-6222
Fax:	317/968-5100





**Dear College-Bound Student-Athlete:**

**This Guide is designed to educate you, your family and high school administrators regarding the initial-eligibility process for NCAA Divisions I and II colleges and universities. We encourage you to take an active role in this process, which determines your eligibility to receive an athletics scholarship, practice and compete in the initial year of full-time enrollment. If you are interested in Division III, please visit [www.ncaa.org/d3](http://www.ncaa.org/d3) or contact the athletics office at the respective college or university for information regarding initial-eligibility requirements.**

**More than 1,000 NCAA schools offer a variety of academic and athletics programs, so it is never too early to start doing your homework. Work closely with your high school counselors, coaches, parents/guardians and mentors as you transition to college, which can be a wonderful experience academically and athletically.**

**As the “front porch” of the NCAA, the NCAA Eligibility Center strives to make your registration and certification experience positive and beneficial. Please note the following helpful tips:**

- 1. Visit [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) to learn more about opportunities available at NCAA schools.**
- 2. Know current and future academic requirements for Division I (2016) and Division II (2018).**
- 3. Complete NCAA-approved core courses throughout high school. Your high school counselor can help.**
- 4. Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center during your sophomore year if you are interested in Division I or II athletics participation.**
- 5. After six semesters, send official transcripts from all high schools attended to the NCAA Eligibility Center.**

**If you have questions, please contact the NCAA customer service staff at 877/262-1492.**

**Sincerely,**

**NCAA Eligibility Center**

# Steps to Achieving Your Eligibility

## Freshman and Sophomores

- Start planning now!
- Work hard to earn the best grades possible.
- Most high schools have a List of NCAA Courses. Take classes that match your high school's List of NCAA Courses. The NCAA Eligibility Center will use only approved core courses to certify your initial academic eligibility.
- You can access and print your high school's List of NCAA Courses at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Click the NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete link to enter and then navigate to the "Resources" tab and select "U.S. Students" where you will find the link for the List of NCAA Courses.
- At the beginning of your sophomore year, complete your online registration at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).
- If you fall behind, do not take short cuts to recover credits. Classes you take must be four-year college preparatory and meet NCAA requirements to be used for initial academic eligibility.

## Juniors

- Register to take the ACT, SAT or both and use the NCAA Eligibility Center code "9999" as a score recipient to send your official score(s) directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Continue to take college preparatory courses. Double check to make sure the courses you have taken match your school's List of NCAA Courses.
- Ask your high school counselor to send an official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center after completing your junior year. If you have attended more than one high school, the NCAA Eligibility Center will need official transcripts from *all* high schools attended. **The NCAA Eligibility Center does NOT accept faxed or emailed transcripts/test scores.** However, the NCAA Eligibility Center accepts transcripts electronically through Parchment, Scrip Safe, ConnectEDU, National Transcript Center/Pearson Edustructure, USMO ET and Xap.
- Before registering for classes for your senior year, check with your high school counselor to determine the number of core courses you need to complete during your senior year.

## Seniors

- Take the ACT and/or SAT again, if necessary. The NCAA Eligibility Center will use the best scores from each section of the ACT or SAT to determine your best cumulative score.
- Continue to take college-preparatory courses.
- Check the courses you have taken to match your school's List of NCAA Courses.
- Review your amateurism responses and request final amateurism certification on or after April 1 (for fall enrollees) or October 1 (for spring enrollees).
- Continue to work hard to earn the best grades possible.
- Graduate on time with your graduating class (eight semesters after starting year nine).
- After graduation, ask your high school counselor to send your final official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center with proof of graduation. The NCAA Eligibility Center accepts transcripts electronically through Parchment, Scrip Safe, ConnectEDU, National Transcript Center/Pearson Edustructure, USMO ET and Xap.
- Certifications will only be performed for student-athletes placed on an NCAA Division I or II institution's request list.



# NCAA Eligibility Center Registration

## Online Registration

The NCAA Eligibility Center has designed a website with you, the student-athlete, in mind. This is where you will find the tools and information you need to begin your college experience as a student-athlete.

To register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) and click the link to enter as an NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete. To create an account, either click on the "New Account" button at the top right corner of the screen or the cell phone on the left side of the screen.

**Note:** *If you fail to submit all documents required or an NCAA school does not request your eligibility status, your incomplete file will be discarded after five years and a new fee will be required if certification is requested after that time.*

## Account Creation

Provide a valid email address to create an account and begin the registration process. Be sure you provide an email address that will be active even after you complete high school.

## About Me

In this section, enter some quick facts about your name, address, date of birth and gender.

## My Coursework

Enter the name and location of the high school you currently attend. If you have attended more than one school (including summer school) during grades nine, 10, 11 or 12, you will need to have that information ready as well. List all schools you previously attended. Make sure to include **all schools**, regardless of whether you received grades or credits. If you attended ninth grade at a junior high school located in the same school system in which you later attended high school, do not list the ninth-grade school. **You must also include information about whether you took any nontraditional courses, including online or credit recovery.**

## My Sport

Select the sport(s) you plan to participate in at an NCAA Division I or II college or university. The NCAA Eligibility Center will also ask about the nonscholastic and/or club teams you have been on and events you have participated in during your high school career.

## Payment

Your account will be eligible for processing once the registration fee has been paid (or submission of a fee waiver if you have been granted a waiver). You must pay online by debit, credit card or e-check. *Effective September 1, 2014, the registration fee will increase to \$75 for U.S., U.S. Territories and Canadian students (U.S. Territories include American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands); and \$130 for all other international students.*

You are eligible for a waiver of the registration fee only if you have already received a waiver of the SAT or ACT fee (this is not the same as a U.S. state voucher). You must have an authorized high school official submit your fee waiver documentation online after you have completed your registration. **If you have not yet been granted a fee waiver by SAT or ACT, you are not yet eligible for a waiver of the NCAA Eligibility Center registration fee.**

# Fee-Waiver Eligibility

As mentioned in the previous section, you are eligible for a waiver of the registration fee only if you have already received a waiver of the SAT or ACT fee (this is not the same as a U.S. state voucher). You must have an authorized high school official submit your fee waiver documentation online after you have completed your registration. **If you have not yet been granted a fee waiver by SAT or ACT, you are not yet eligible for a waiver of the registration fee.**

Below are the ACT and SAT fee-waiver eligibility requirements.

## ACT

In order to be eligible for an ACT fee waiver, a student must meet one or more of these indicators of economic need:

- Family receives low-income public assistance;
- Student is a ward of the state;
- Student resides in a foster home;
- Student is homeless;
- Student participates in free or reduced-price lunch program at school;
- Student participates in federally funded TRIO Program such as Upward Bound; or
- Family income is at or below the Bureau of Labor Statistics Low Standard Budget.

## SAT

You are eligible for consideration for an SAT fee waiver if you are:

A United States citizen or a foreign national taking the SAT in the United States, Puerto Rico or U.S. territories and meets one or more of the following requirements:

- Is enrolled in a program for the economically disadvantaged (e.g., AVID or a TRIO program such as Upward Bound);
- Family's annual income falls within the levels listed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for free or reduced-price lunches;
- Family receives public assistance;
- Family lives in federally subsidized public housing; or
- Is a resident in a foster home.

**Note:** *If you are a home schooled student in the United States, Puerto Rico or U.S. territories who cannot afford to pay the test fees, you must provide proof of eligibility to your local high school or agency fee-waiver administrator/counselor. Only a school or agency counselor can provide you with the fee-waiver card for the appropriate test.*

**International students (students living outside of the United States, Puerto Rico or U.S. territories) are not eligible for a fee waiver.**

# Division I Academic Eligibility Requirements

If you want to be eligible to receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice and compete during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete 16 core courses in the following distribution:
  - 4 years of English;
  - 3 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher);
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school);
  - 1 extra year of English, math, or natural or physical science;
  - 2 years of social science; and
  - 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy);

**Note:** *Courses with similar content may be deemed duplicative and thus may not be used for initial academic eligibility.*

- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core-course grade-point average on the sliding scale (e.g., a 2.400 core-course grade-point average requires a minimum 860 combined SAT score) or a 71 ACT sum score.

## Time Limitation on Core Courses

- You must complete the 16 core-course requirement within four consecutive academic years (i.e., eight semesters) from the start of ninth grade.
- Students graduating early (in less than eight semesters) must still meet core-course requirements.
- If you graduate on time from high school within four consecutive academic years (i.e., eight semesters) from the start of ninth grade:
  - Prior to full-time collegiate enrollment, you may use **one** additional core-course unit completed within one year from the date of on-time graduation.
    - o You may complete the core course at a location other than the high school from which you graduated; however, check to make sure the courses are approved on the school's List of NCAA Courses.
    - o You will be required to provide an official transcript from the school with grade and credit for the additional core course.

## Division I Qualifier

Being a qualifier enables you to be eligible to:

- Practice and compete for your college or university during your first year of full-time enrollment;
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment; and
- Play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your academic eligibility from year to year.

## Division I Nonqualifier

As a nonqualifier, you will *NOT* be eligible to:

- Practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of full-time enrollment; or
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment, although you may receive need-based financial aid.

## Division I Nonqualifier (cont.)

You may not participate in more than three seasons of competition in your sport. To earn a fourth season, you must complete at least 80 percent of your degree requirements before beginning your fifth year of college.

## Students Enrolling on or After August 1, 2016

The initial-eligibility requirements for NCAA Division I college-bound student-athletes are changing. *Note: College-bound student-athletes first entering a Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2016, will need to meet new academic requirements in order to receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice or compete during their first year of full-time enrollment.*

There will be three possible initial-eligibility outcomes:

- **Qualifier:** May receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice and compete in the first year of full-time enrollment at the Division I college or university.
- **Academic Redshirt:** May receive athletics aid (scholarship) in the first year of full-time enrollment and may practice in the first regular academic term (semester or quarter) but may not compete in the first year of enrollment. The student-athlete must successfully complete nine semester hours or eight quarter hours in the initial term at his/her college or university to continue to practice in the next term.
- **Nonqualifier:** Cannot receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice or compete in the first year of full-time enrollment.

Here are the new requirements:

*(For college-bound student-athletes first entering a Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2016.)*

### Qualifier must:

- Complete 16 core courses (same distribution as current requirements);
  - Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the start of the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
  - Seven of the 10 core courses must be English, math or natural or physical science.
- Have a minimum core-course grade-point average of 2.300;
  - Grades earned in the 10 courses required before the seventh semester, including seven in English, math or natural or physical science, are "locked in" for purposes of core-course grade-point average calculation.
  - A repeat of any of the "locked in" courses will not be used to improve the grade-point average if the repeat occurs after the seventh semester begins.
- Meet the sliding scale of core-course grade-point average (minimum 2.300) and SAT/ACT sum score; and
- Graduate from high school.

### Academic Redshirt must:

- Complete the 16 core-course requirement;
- Meet the sliding scale of core-course grade-point average (minimum of 2.000) and SAT/ACT sum score; and
- Graduate from high school.

Courses, including repeats, may be completed at any time during the first eight semesters of high school (no grades or credits are "locked in").

**Nonqualifier:** Does not meet qualifier or academic redshirt requirements.



### NCAA Division I Sliding Scale

*Use for Division I prior to August 1, 2016*

Core GPA	SAT	ACT
3.550 & above	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	59
2.700	730	60
2.675	740-750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840-850	70
2.425	860	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	80
2.125	960	81
2.100	970	82
2.075	980	83
2.050	990	84
2.025	1000	85
2.000	1010	86

### NCAA Division I Sliding Scale

*Use for Division I beginning August 1, 2016*

Core GPA	SAT	ACT
3.550 & above	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	60
2.700	740	61
2.675	750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840	70
2.425	850	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.299	910	76
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	81
2.125	970	82
2.100	980	83
2.075	990	84
2.050	1000	85
2.025	1010	86
2.000	1020	86

**ACADEMIC REDSHIRT**

**Note:** To compete in Division I, students enrolling on or after August 1, 2016, must earn a minimum 2.300 GPA in 16 core courses, 10 of which must be completed before the start of the seventh semester (seven of those courses must be in English, math, or natural or physical science, and all 10 courses are "locked in" for purposes of GPA calculation), and must earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core-course GPA on the sliding scale above.

# Division II Academic Eligibility Requirements

Any core courses used toward your initial eligibility must be completed prior to full-time collegiate enrollment. To be eligible to receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice and compete during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete 16 core courses in the following distribution:
  - 3 years of English;
  - 2 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher);
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school);
  - 3 additional years of English, math, or natural or physical science;
  - 2 years of social science; and
  - 4 years of additional core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy);
- Earn a minimum 2.000 core-course grade-point average or better in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT sum score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68. For individuals enrolling at a college or university in Puerto Rico, earn a combined Prueba de Aptitud Academica score of 730.

## Division II Qualifier

Being a qualifier enables you to:

- Practice and compete for your college or university during your first year of full-time enrollment;
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment; and
- Play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your academic eligibility from year to year.

## Division II Partial Qualifier

You will be considered a partial qualifier if you do not meet all qualifier requirements listed above, but you have graduated from high school **and** meet one of the following:

- Combined SAT sum score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68; or
- Completion of the 16 core courses with a 2.000 core-course grade-point average.

As a partial qualifier, you:

- Can practice with your team at its home facility during your first year of full-time enrollment;
- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment;
- Cannot compete during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your academic eligibility from year to year.

## Division II Nonqualifier

You will be considered a nonqualifier if you do not meet qualifier or partial-qualifier requirements.

As a nonqualifier, you:

- Cannot practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of full-time enrollment;
- Cannot receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment, although you may receive need-based financial aid; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your academic eligibility from year to year.

## Students Enrolling on or After August 1, 2018

*College-bound student-athletes first entering a Division II college or university on or after August 1, 2018, will need to meet new academic requirements in order to receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice or compete during their first year of full-time enrollment.*

Here are the new requirements:

*(For college-bound student-athletes first entering a Division II college or university on or after August 1, 2018.)*

### Qualifier must:

- Complete 16 core courses (same distribution as current requirements);
- Meet the sliding scale of core-course grade-point average (minimum 2.200) and SAT/ACT sum score; and
- Graduate from high school.

### Partial Qualifier must:

- Complete the 16 core-course requirement;
- Meet the sliding scale of core-course grade-point average (minimum of 2.000) and SAT/ACT sum score; and
- Graduate from high school.

Courses, including repeats, may be completed at any time during the first eight semesters of high school (**no grades or credits are "locked in"**).

**Nonqualifier:** Does not meet qualifier or partial qualifier requirements.



## DIVISION II COMPETITION SLIDING SCALE

*Use for Division II beginning August 1, 2018*

Core GPA	SAT	
	Verbal + Math ONLY	ACT
3.300 & above	400	37
3.275	410	38
3.250	420	39
3.225	430	40
3.200	440	41
3.175	450	41
3.150	460	42
3.125	470	42
3.100	480	43
3.075	490	44
3.050	500	44
3.025	510	45
3.000	520	46
2.975	530	46
2.950	540	47
2.925	550	47
2.900	560	48
2.875	570	49
2.850	580	49
2.825	590	50
2.800	600	50
2.775	610	51
2.750	620	52
2.725	630	52
2.700	640	53
2.675	650	53
2.650	660	54
2.625	670	55
2.600	680	56
2.575	690	56
2.550	700	57
2.525	710	58
2.500	720	59
2.475	730	60
2.450	740	61
2.425	750	61
2.400	760	62
2.375	770	63
2.350	780	64
2.325	790	65
2.300	800	66
2.275	810	67
2.250	820	68
2.225	830	69
2.200	840 & above	70 & above

## DIVISION II PARTIAL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE

*Use for Division II beginning August 1, 2018*

Core GPA	SAT	
	Verbal + Math ONLY	ACT
3.050 & above	400	37
3.025	410	38
3.000	420	39
2.975	430	40
2.950	440	41
2.925	450	41
2.900	460	42
2.875	470	42
2.850	480	43
2.825	490	44
2.800	500	44
2.775	510	45
2.750	520	46
2.725	530	46
2.700	540	47
2.675	550	47
2.650	560	48
2.625	570	49
2.600	580	49
2.575	590	50
2.550	600	50
2.525	610	51
2.500	620	52
2.475	630	52
2.450	640	53
2.425	650	53
2.400	660	54
2.375	670	55
2.350	680	56
2.325	690	56
2.300	700	57
2.275	710	58
2.250	720	59
2.225	730	60
2.200	740	61
2.175	750	61
2.150	760	62
2.125	770	63
2.100	780	64
2.075	790	65
2.050	800	66
2.025	810	67
2.000	820 & above	68 & above

## Early Academic Qualifiers

High academic achieving students who meet specific criteria after six semesters, may be deemed an early academic qualifier for Division I and/or II. Students' accounts will be automatically updated with this status if the criteria are met.

Being an early academic qualifier enables you to:

- Practice and compete for your college or university during your first year of full-time enrollment;
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment; and
- Play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your academic eligibility from year to year.

A final high school transcript is required to be submitted to the NCAA Eligibility Center after high school graduation.

## Division III Academic Eligibility Requirements

Division III is the Association's largest membership division, with more than 180,000 student-athletes and 450 member schools. Division III colleges and universities develop student-athlete potential through a holistic, comprehensive educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics, and the opportunity to pursue other interests and passions on campus, in the community and beyond. Division III rules minimizes potential conflicts between athletics and academics and focus on regional in-season and conference play. While Division III student-athletes do not receive athletics aid, 75 percent of all Division III student-athletes receive some form of merit or need-based financial aid, with institutional gift aid averaging \$13,500. Division III has the highest Academic Success Rate (ASR), a measure of graduate success, at a rate just below 90 percent.

Division III college-bound student-athletes are not certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center because Division III colleges and universities each set their own admissions standards. However, there are still some important things you need to know. If you are interested in Division III, please visit [www.ncaa.org/d3](http://www.ncaa.org/d3) or contact the Division III college or university of interest regarding policies on admission, financial aid and athletics eligibility.

### Remember

Meeting the NCAA academic requirements does not guarantee your admission into college. You must apply for college admission.



# Are You Prepared?

## What is a Core Course?

A core course must:

- Be an academic course in one or a combination of these areas: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy;
- Be four-year college preparatory; and
- Be taught at or above your high school's regular academic level (no remedial courses, those taught at a slower pace or those that cover less content).

**Not all classes you take to meet high school graduation requirements may be used as core courses. Also, courses completed through credit-by-exam will not be used.**

A high school course (e.g., Algebra 1, Spanish 1) taken prior to the start of ninth grade may be used if the course is on the student's high school transcript with a grade and credit and if the course is on the high school's List of NCAA Courses.

Check your high school's List of NCAA Courses located on the Resources page of the NCAA Eligibility Center website at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) or ask your high school counselor.

### Keep Track Of Your Courses, Units and Credits

On pages 15 and 16 of this Guide, you will find the Divisions I and II worksheets, which will help you keep track of your completed core courses, units, grades and credits received, plus your ongoing core-course grade-point average. Generally, you will receive the same credit from the NCAA Eligibility Center as you received from your high school. Examples are provided in the English and math sections of both worksheets:

**1 trimester unit = 0.34 units**

**1 semester unit = 0.50 units**

**1 year = 1.0 unit**

## Nontraditional Courses

### What are Nontraditional Courses?

Nontraditional courses are those taught through the Internet, distance learning, independent study, individualized instruction, correspondence, computer software programs or other similar means.

There are many types of nontraditional educational programs available to high school students. When considering an online, distance learning, correspondence or even a credit recovery program, there are several things to consider. However, the following requirements must be met to use nontraditional courses for initial-eligibility purposes:

- All nontraditional courses must include ongoing access between the instructor and student, as well as regular interaction for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance. This may include, for example, exchanging emails between



the student and teacher, online chats, phone calls, feedback on assignments, and the opportunity for the teacher to engage the student in individual instruction.

- All nontraditional courses must have a defined time period for completion. For example, it should be clear whether the course is meant to be taken for an entire semester or during a more condensed time period, (e.g., six weeks).
- **Nontraditional courses should be clearly identified as such on the high school transcript.**
- NCAA rules require that all core courses are academic four-year college preparatory courses. Also, courses that are taught through distance learning, online, credit recovery, etc., need to be comparable in length, content and rigor to courses taught in a traditional classroom setting.

**Note:** Continually update the academic information in your NCAA Eligibility Center account, including after you register, to accurately reflect all academic programs (e.g., computer-based instruction, alternative school, evening school, adult school, courses taught via the Internet, distance learning, independent study, individualized instruction, correspondence) you have taken in high school.

### A Note on Credit Recovery Courses

Many high schools offer credit recovery or credit retrieval programs for students to receive credit for a course they previously failed. Some students take credit recovery to improve grades for courses that they took previously or to take courses for the first time to catch up. If your high school offers credit recovery, students need to make sure the following conditions are met:

- The credit recovery course must meet the NCAA legislated definition of a core course (including the nontraditional definition). This means that there must be required access and interaction between the student and the teacher for the purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance. There must also be a defined time period for completion of the course.
- The credit recovery course must be comparable to the regular course in length, content and rigor. There are many examples in which the course the student failed was a rigorous, college-preparatory course, and the credit recovery course is taught at a lower level and lacks adequate rigor.

- The school must follow its credit recovery policies, whether or not the student is an athlete. The NCAA Eligibility Center may request the policy if necessary.
- The credit recovery course should be clearly identified as such on the high school transcript.

## Core-Course Grade-Point Average

### Calculation

The NCAA Eligibility Center will calculate the grade-point average of your core courses on a 4.000 scale. The best grades from classes taken on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used. Grades from additional core courses will be used only if they improve your grade-point average.

To determine your quality points earned for each course, multiply the quality points for the grade by the amount of credit earned. Use the following scale:

<b>A – 4 points</b>	<b>C – 2 points</b>
<b>B – 3 points</b>	<b>D – 1 point</b>

#### Remember

The NCAA Eligibility Center does not use plus or minus grades when figuring your core-course grade-point average. For example, grades of B+, B and B- will each be worth 3 quality points.

#### Examples of total quality point calculation:

- An A grade (4 points) for a trimester course (0.34 units):  
4 points x 0.34 units = 1.36 total quality points
- An A grade (4 points) for a semester course (0.50 units):  
4 points x 0.50 units = 2.00 total quality points
- An A grade (4 points) for a full-year course (1.00 units):  
4 points x 1.00 units = 4.00 quality points

#### Special High School Grades and Grade-Point Average

If your high school uses numeric grades (e.g., 92 or 93), those grades will be changed to letter grades (e.g., A or B). See your high school's grading scale by pulling up your school's List of NCAA Courses at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).

If your high school normally “weights” honors or advanced courses, these weighted courses may improve your core-course grade-point average. Your high school must notify the NCAA Eligibility Center of such weighting. To see if your high school has a weighted scale that is being used for calculating your core-course grade-point average, visit [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) for an explanation of how these grade weights are handled. Enter the site as an NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete, click the “Resources” tab at the top, then click “U.S. Students” and navigate to the List of NCAA Courses link. You will then be able to search for your school's information.

#### Calculate Your Core-Course Grade-Point Average

To calculate your estimated core-course grade-point average, divide the total number of quality points for all of your core courses by the total number of core-course units you have completed.



**Note:** Your calculation helps you keep track of your core-course grade-point average. You can use the Divisions I and II Worksheets (pages 15 -16 of this Guide) to help you calculate your core-course grade-point average.

# Division I Worksheet

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine your academic status after you graduate. Remember to check your high school's List of NCAA Courses for the classes you have taken. Use the following scale:

A = 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point.

## English (4 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: English 9	.5		A		(.5 x 4) = 2
<b>Total English Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

## Mathematics (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: Algebra 1	1.0		B		(1.0 x 3) = 3
<b>Total Mathematics Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

## Natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Natural/Physical Science Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

## Additional year in English, mathematics or natural/physical science (1 year required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Additional Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

## Social science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Social Science Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

## Additional academic courses (4 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Additional Academic Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

**Core-Course GPA** (16 required) Beginning August 1, 2016, 10 core courses to be completed prior to the seventh semester and seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science. These courses are "locked in" to the core-course calculation for competition purposes; however, grades and credits may be earned at any time for academic redshirt purposes.

**Total Quality Points**      **Total Number of Credits**      **Core-Course GPA (Total Quality Points/Total Credits)**

# Division II Worksheet

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine your academic status after you graduate. Remember to check your high school's List of NCAA Courses for the classes you have taken. Use the following scale:

A = 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point.

### English (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: English 9	.5		A		$(.5 \times 4) = 2$
<b>Total English Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

### Mathematics (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: Algebra 1	1.0		B		$(1.0 \times 3) = 3$
<b>Total Mathematics Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

### Natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Natural/Physical Science Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

### Additional years in English, math or natural/physical science (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Additional Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

### Social science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Social Science Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

### Additional academic courses (4 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
<b>Total Additional Academic Units</b>					<b>Total Quality Points</b>

### Core-Course GPA (16 required)

<b>Total Quality Points</b>	<b>Total Number of Credits</b>	<b>Core-Course GPA (Total Quality Points/Total Credits)</b>
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## Test-Score Requirements

### SAT and ACT Requirements

You must achieve the required score on the SAT or ACT before full-time collegiate enrollment. You must do this whether you are a citizen of the United States or an international country. Also, state-administered ACT exams will be accepted by the NCAA Eligibility Center. You may take the national test given on one or more of the dates shown below.

**Note:** An inquiry may be submitted to the testing agency if there is an inconsistency between your academic record and your standardized examination score (e.g., core grade-point average versus ACT or SAT score) or multiple standardized examination scores (e.g., ACT versus SAT).

#### Remember

All SAT and ACT scores **must** be reported to the NCAA Eligibility Center **directly** from the testing agency. Test scores reported on a high school transcript will **not** be accepted.

When registering for the SAT or ACT, input the NCAA Eligibility Center code of **9999** to make sure the score is reported directly from the testing agency to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

### Prueba de Aptitud Académica (Division II)

If you enroll in a Division II college or university located in Puerto Rico, you may use a minimum combined score on the Prueba de Aptitud Académica verbal and math reasoning sections of 730 to satisfy the test-score requirement.

#### National Testing Dates

SAT	ACT
October 11, 2014	September 13, 2014
November 8, 2014	October 25, 2014
December 6, 2014	December 13, 2014
January 24, 2015	February 7, 2015
March 14, 2015	April 18, 2015
May 2, 2015	June 13, 2015
June 6, 2015	

### Taking Tests More than Once

You may take the ACT or the SAT an unlimited number of times prior to full-time collegiate enrollment. If you take either test more than once, you may use your best subscore from different tests to meet the minimum test-score requirements.

Here is an example of a student taking the SAT in October 2013 and December 2013:

	Math	Verbal/Critical Reading	Total Score
SAT (10/13)	350	<b>470</b>	820
SAT (12/13)	<b>420</b>	440	860
Scores used	<b>420</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>890</b>

Your test score will continue to be calculated using the math and verbal/critical reading subsections of the SAT and the math, science, English and reading subsections of the ACT. **The writing component of the SAT or ACT will not be used to determine your eligibility status.**

## Transcripts

You should request for your high school counselor to send an official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center after completing your junior year. If you have attended more than one high school or took courses from more than one program, the NCAA Eligibility Center needs an official transcript from **all** high school(s) or program(s) attended. The NCAA Eligibility Center does not accept grades from one high school or program transcribed on another high school's transcript.

Sending transcripts through the mail can take additional time, whereas, e-transcripts are processed within 24-48 hours of receipt, which is more efficient for you.

**Please note that the NCAA Eligibility Center does not accept faxed or emailed transcripts; however, it does accept e-transcripts from the following providers:**

- Parchment;
- Scrip Safe;
- ConnectEDU;
- National Transcript Center/Pearson Edustructure;
- USMO ET; and
- XAP.



# Students with Documented Education-Impacting Disabilities

For academic eligibility purposes, the NCAA defines a disability as a current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and requires accommodation. A student with an education-impacting disability (EID) must meet the same requirements as all other students, but may be provided certain accommodations to help meet those requirements. If you are a student with a diagnosed EID, you can choose to let the NCAA Eligibility Center know about your EID only if you plan on using additional core courses after high school graduation (and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment) and you plan on attending an NCAA Division I college or university. It is important to note that a student with a documented EID must still meet all NCAA initial-eligibility requirements to receive athletics aid, practice and compete in the initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at an NCAA Division I or II institution.

For **Division I** initial-eligibility purposes, based on the approval of the disability documentation submitted, you may use up to three additional core-course units completed after high school graduation and prior to full-time collegiate enrollment, provided you graduate on time within four consecutive academic years (eight semesters) with your class (as determined by the start of ninth grade).

**Division II** student-athletes may use unlimited core courses completed after the start of grade nine and prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

**Divisions I and II** student-athletes with an EID may:

- Use courses for students with EIDs that are designated on the high school's approved List of NCAA Courses.
- Take an ACT or SAT with accommodations to satisfy test-score requirements.

## Documenting Your EID

In order to access the additional three core-course accommodation for Division I listed above, you must submit the following documentation by mail, fax or email using the contact information on the next page.

- Current, signed documentation of your diagnosis (including test data) and/or recommendations from the treating professional (e.g., medical doctor, clinical psychologist or other qualified individual); and
- Current copy of your Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. If the high school did not provide an IEP or 504 Plan, the high school must submit documentation describing the accommodations that were available for you or an explanation as to why accommodations were not provided.

**Note:** Students should complete their NCAA Eligibility Center registration prior to submitting their EID documentation. Please include your NCAA ID number, home address, telephone number, and high school graduation year on the EID cover sheet.

**NCAA Eligibility Center**  
**EID Services**  
**P.O. Box 7110**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46207-7110**

Fax: 317/968-5100  
Email: [ec-processing@ncaa.org](mailto:ec-processing@ncaa.org)

If approved, you will be notified in writing and will be provided with additional information regarding what accommodations are available.

Please note that NCAA academic requirements are the same for all students, including students with a documented EID. For additional information, including a cover sheet and the "Buckley Statement", which you may wish to complete to allow the NCAA Eligibility Center to speak to others about your EID status, please access the "Frequently Asked Questions for Students with Education-Impacting Disabilities" page at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Enter the site as an NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete, click the "Resources" tab at the top and then "U.S. Students." Navigate to the FAQs section.

## SAT/ACT Exam with Accommodations

If you have a documented EID, you may also request to take an SAT or ACT exam with accommodations to satisfy test-score requirements. Follow these guidelines:

- Register for accommodations per the directions described by SAT or ACT.
- Follow procedures governed by SAT or ACT. The test may not be administered by a member of your high school athletics department or any NCAA school's athletics department.
- If you take an SAT or ACT exam with accommodations, you may take the test on a date other than a national testing date, but you still must achieve the required test score.
- Your high school counselor can help you register to take an SAT or ACT exam with accommodations.

## The GED

The General Educational Development (GED) test may, under certain conditions, satisfy the graduation requirement, but **it will not satisfy core-course grade-point average, core curriculum or test-score requirements.** Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center for information about GED submission.

## Home School Students

Home schooled students who plan to enroll in an NCAA Division I or II college or university must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and meet the same requirements as all other students. Go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) and click the link for "NCAA College-Bound Student-Athletes" to enter. Students can then register or navigate to the "Resources" tab for additional home school student resources (i.e., Home School Checklist, Home School Transcript Example, and Core-Course Worksheets).

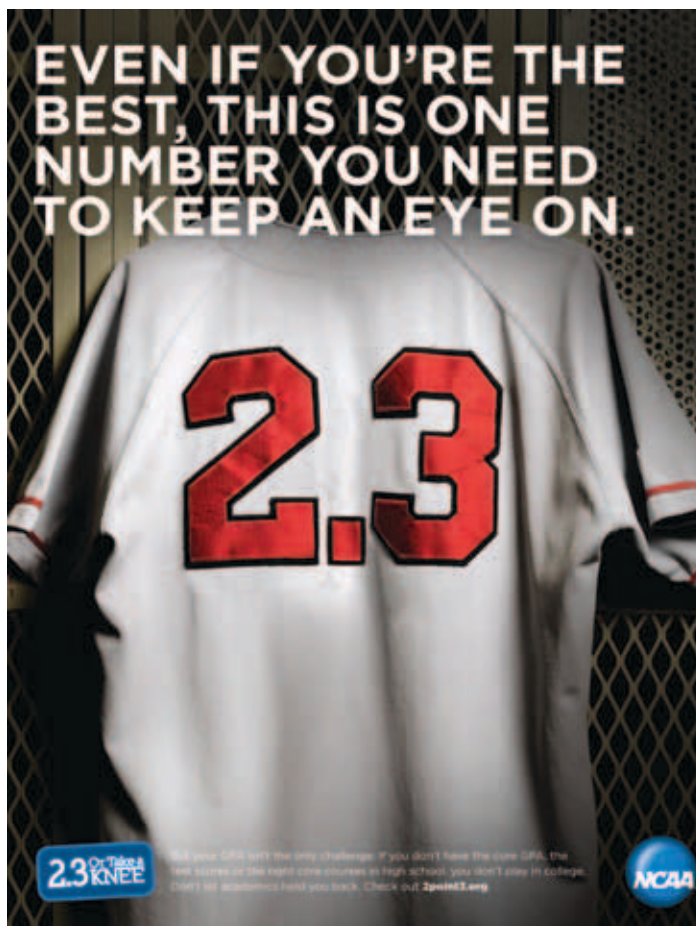


## International Students

If you are an International college-bound student-athlete or if you have attended secondary school outside of the United States, please refer to the Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility, located in the “International Students” section on the Resources page of the NCAA Eligibility Center’s website, [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).

All documents sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center become the property of the NCAA Eligibility Center and cannot be photocopied or returned. In special circumstances, when your country’s school or Ministry of Education issues only one set of official leaving exam results, transcript(s) or credential(s) after departure and will never provide additional copies, the NCAA Eligibility Center will return that set to you, *only* if you include a pre-paid, self-stamped, pre-addressed envelope accompanying your documents.

If no pre-paid, self-stamped, pre-addressed envelope accompanying the document(s) is included, or if the envelope is not pre-paid or pre-stamped, does not include a return address or a legitimate address and is thus incomplete, the document(s) will become the property of the NCAA Eligibility Center and will not be returned or photocopied.



**EVEN IF YOU'RE THE BEST, THIS IS ONE NUMBER YOU NEED TO KEEP AN EYE ON.**

**2.3**

2.3 Or There's a Knee  
All your GPA isn't the only challenge. If you don't have the core GPA, the best scores or the right core courses in high school, you don't play in college. Don't let academics hold you back. Check out [2point3.org](http://2point3.org)

NCAA



# Amateurism Eligibility Requirements

If you want to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics, you must also be certified as an amateur student-athlete. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine the amateurism eligibility of all student-athletes for initial participation at an NCAA Division I or II college or university. In Division III, certification of an individual's amateurism status is completed by each college or university, not the NCAA Eligibility Center.

When you register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, you will be asked questions about your athletics participation. The information you provide, along with any additional information acquired by the NCAA Eligibility Center staff outside of the registration process, will be reviewed and a determination will be made for your amateurism status. If any conditions are imposed on your participation during the amateurism certification process, the NCAA Division I or II college or university at which you intend to participate will have an opportunity to appeal the decision on your behalf.

The following pre-NCAA enrollment activities may be reviewed:

1. Contracts with a professional team.
2. Salary for participating in athletics.
3. Prize money.
4. Play with professionals.
5. Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team.
6. Benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
7. Agreement to be represented by an agent.
8. Participation in organized competition.
9. Financial assistance based on athletics skills or participation.

Additional information regarding NCAA amateurism rules is available on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website by logging on to the NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete section at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org), then clicking on the "Resources" tab at the top of the page.



## Definition of a Professional Team

In Divisions I and II, a team is considered professional if it declares itself to be professional or provides any player more than actual and necessary expenses for participation on the team.

### Actual and necessary expenses are limited to the following:

- (a) Meals and lodging directly tied to competition and practice directly related to the competition;
- (b) Transportation (e.g., expenses to and from practice and competition, cost of transportation from home to training/practice site at the beginning of the season and from training/practice site to home at the end of the season);
- (c) Apparel, equipment and supplies related to competition and practice directly related to the competition;
- (d) Coaching and instruction, use of facilities and entry fees;
- (e) Health/medical insurance, medical treatment and physical therapy (directly associated with an individual's participation on a team or in an event); and
- (f) Other reasonable expenses (e.g., laundry money).

## Definition of an Agent

In Divisions I and II, an agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly represents you for the purposes of marketing your athletics ability or reputation for financial gain; or attempts to benefits from you enrolling in a particular college or university or from your expected earnings as a professional athlete.

## Delays Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment and Participates in Organized Competition

After your expected date of high school graduation (based on ninth-grade enrollment), you have a certain amount of time (grace period) to enroll full time at a college or university. If you do not enroll at the first opportunity following your grace period, you will use one season of competition for each calendar year during which you continue to compete in organized competition. Please see the chart on the next page for specific time frames per sport in Divisions I and II.

## Definition of Organized Competition

In **Division I**, athletics competition is considered organized if any one of the following conditions exists (*used during delayed enrollment evaluations*):

- (a) Competition is scheduled and publicized in advance;
- (b) Official score is kept;
- (c) Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained;
- (d) Official timer or game officials are used;
- (e) Admission is charged;
- (f) Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;
- (g) Team uniforms are used;
- (h) An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

In **Division II**, athletics competition is considered organized if any one of the following conditions exist (*used during delayed enrollment evaluations*):

- (a) Competition is scheduled in advance;
- (b) Official score is kept;
- (c) Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained;
- (d) Official timer or game officials are used;
- (e) Admission is charged;
- (f) Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;
- (g) Team uniforms are used;
- (h) An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.



## OVERVIEW OF NCAA DIVISIONS I AND II PRE-ENROLLMENT AMATEURISM BYLAWS

Prior to initial full-time enrollment at a college or university, may a college-bound student-athlete...	Permissible in Division I?	Permissible in Division II?
<b>try out with a professional team?</b>	<p><b>Men's Ice Hockey and Skiing:</b> Yes. May receive actual and necessary expenses for one visit (up to 48 hours) from each professional team. Self-financed tryouts may be for more than 48 hours.</p> <p><b>All Other Sports:</b> Yes. May not be compensated above actual and necessary expenses.</p>	Yes
<b>enter into a professional draft?</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>accept prize money?</b>	<p><b>Tennis:</b> Yes. If it does not exceed \$10,000 per calendar year and comes from the sponsor of the event. Once the \$10,000 limit is reached, additional prize money may not exceed actual and necessary expenses and the expenses are provided by the sponsor of the event or, the team in which the individual represents.</p> <p><b>All Other Sports:</b> Yes. If it does not exceed actual and necessary expenses and comes from an amateur team or sponsor of the event.</p>	Yes
<b>receive benefits from an agent?</b>	No	No
<b>enter into an agreement with an agent (oral or written)?</b>	No	No
<p><b>delay full-time collegiate enrollment and participate in organized competition?</b></p> <p>[If you are charged with season(s) of competition under this rule, you will also have to serve an academic year in residence at the NCAA college or university.]</p>	<p><b>Tennis:</b> Must enroll full time at a college or university during the first regular academic term, which occurs following the six-month period after high school graduation.</p> <p><b>Men's Ice Hockey and Skiing:</b> Any participation in organized competition during each 12-month period after your 21st birthday and before initial full-time enrollment in a college or university shall count as one year of varsity competition (no academic year-in-residence requirement).</p> <p><b>All Other Sports:</b> Must enroll full time at a college or university during the first regular academic term, which occurs following the one-year period after high school graduation or will lose one season of intercollegiate competition for each calendar year during which you continue to participate in organized competition.</p>	<p><b>All Sports:</b> Must enroll full time at a college or university during the first regular academic term, which occurs following the one-year period after high school graduation or will lose one season of intercollegiate competition for each calendar year during which you continue to participate in organized competition.</p>

The chart above summarizes the Divisions I and II pre-enrollment amateurism rules.

## LIST OF NCAA-SPONSORED SPORTS

Fall Sports	Winter Sports		Spring Sports		Emerging Sports
Cross Country (W)	Basketball (M)	Basketball (W)	Baseball (M)	Softball (W)	Equestrian (W)
Cross Country (M)	Fencing (M)	Fencing (W)	Golf (M)	Golf (W)	Rugby (W)
Field Hockey (W)	Gymnastics (M)	Gymnastics (W)	Lacrosse (M)	Lacrosse (W)	Sand Volleyball (W)
Football (M)	Ice Hockey (M)	Ice Hockey (W)	Outdoor Track and Field (M)	Outdoor Track and Field (W)	
Soccer (W)	Indoor Track and Field (M)	Indoor Track and Field (W)	Tennis (M)	Tennis (W)	
Soccer (M)	Rifle (M)	Rifle (W)	Rowing (W)	Volleyball (M)	
Volleyball (W)	Skiing (M)	Skiing (W)	Water Polo (W)		
Water Polo (M)	Swimming and Diving (M)	Swimming and Diving (W)			
	Bowling (W)	Wrestling (M)			



# Recruiting Regulations

## Introduction

College coaches must follow the rules outlined in this section. You are expected to follow these rules as well.

## Recruiting Terms

**Contact.** A contact occurs any time a coach has any face-to-face contact with you or your parents off the college's campus and says more than hello. A contact also occurs if a coach has any contact with you or your parents at your high school or any location where you are competing or practicing.

**Contact period.** During this time, a college coach may have in-person contact with you and/or your parents on or off the college's campus. The coach may also watch you play or visit your high school. You and your parents may visit a college campus and the coach may write and telephone you during this period.

**Dead period.** A college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents on or off campus at any time during a dead period. The coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

**Evaluation.** An evaluation is an activity by a coach to evaluate your academic or athletics ability. This would include visiting your high school or watching you practice or compete.

**Evaluation period.** During this time, a college coach may watch you play or visit your high school, but cannot have any in-person conversations with you or your parents off the college's campus. You and your parents can visit a college campus during this period. A coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

**Official visit.** Any visit to a college campus by you and your parents paid for by the college. The college may pay all or some of the following expenses:

- Your transportation to and from the college;
- Room and meals (three per day) while you are visiting the college; and
- Reasonable entertainment expenses, including three complimentary admissions to a home athletics contest.

Before a college may invite you on an official visit, you will have to provide the college with a copy of your high school transcript (Division I only) and ACT, SAT or PLAN score and register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

**Prospective student-athlete.** You become a "prospective student-athlete" when:

- You start ninth-grade classes; or
- Before your ninth-grade year, a college gives you, your relatives or your friends any financial assistance or other benefits that the college does not provide to students generally.

**Quiet period.** During this time, a college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents off the college's campus. The coach may not watch you play or visit your high school during this period. You and your parents may visit a college campus during this time. A coach may write or telephone you or your parents during this time.

**Unofficial visit.** Any visit by you and your parents to a college campus paid for by you or your parents. The only expense you may receive from the college is three complimentary admissions to a home athletics contest. You may make as many unofficial visits as you like and may take those visits at any time. The only time you cannot talk with a coach during an unofficial visit is during a dead period.

**Verbal commitment.** This phrase is used to describe a college-bound student-athlete's commitment to a school before he or she signs (or is able to sign) a National Letter of Intent. A college-bound student-athlete can announce a verbal commitment at any time. While verbal commitments have become very popular for both college-bound student-athletes and coaches, this "commitment" is NOT binding on either the college-bound student-athlete or the college or university. Only the signing of the National Letter of Intent accompanied by a financial aid agreement is binding on both parties.

## Recruiting Calendars

To see a summary of recruiting calendars for all sports, see pages 24-27 of this Guide. You can also log on to [NCAA.org](http://NCAA.org) and search for 'recruiting calendar' in the search field.

## National Letter of Intent

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) is a voluntary program governed by the Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) and administered by the NCAA. By signing an NLI, the college-bound student-athlete agrees to attend the college or university for one academic year. In exchange, that college or university must provide athletics financial aid for one academic year.

Restrictions are contained in the NLI itself. Read them carefully. These restrictions may affect your eligibility.

If you have questions about the NLI, visit the website at [www.national-letter.org](http://www.national-letter.org) or call 317/223-0706.



## Summary of Recruiting Rules for Each Sport—Division I

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
SOPHOMORE YEAR	Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletics recruiting publications.</li> <li>You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletics recruiting publications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletics recruiting publications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletics recruiting publications.</li> <li>Men's Ice Hockey—You may begin receiving recruiting materials January 1 of your sophomore year.</li> </ul>
	Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense only.</li> <li>College coach can make unlimited calls beginning June 15 after your sophomore year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense only.</li> <li>College coach cannot call you.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense only.</li> <li>College coach cannot call you.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense only.</li> <li>College coach cannot call you.</li> <li>Women's Ice Hockey—A college coach may call international college-bound student-athletes once on or after July 7 through July 31 after sophomore year.</li> <li>Men's Ice Hockey—May not be made before January 1 of sophomore year.</li> </ul>
	Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> <li>Men's Ice Hockey—May not be made before June 15 after sophomore year.</li> </ul>
	Official visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>
	Unofficial visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>





## Summary of Recruiting Rules for Each Sport—Division I

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
JUNIOR YEAR	<b>Recruiting materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed.</li> <li>You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year.</li> <li>Men's Ice Hockey—You may begin receiving recruiting materials January 1 after your sophomore year.</li> </ul>
	<b>Telephone calls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</li> </ul>
	<b>College coaches may call you</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unlimited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unlimited beginning September 1 of your junior year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One call from April 15 to May 31 of your junior year. Additional calls may not be made before September 1 of the senior year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May not be made before September 1 at the beginning of the junior year.</li> <li>Swimming &amp; Diving, Cross Country, Track &amp; Field, Baseball, Men's Lacrosse, Women's Lacrosse, Women's Sand Volleyball, Softball and Women's Volleyball—May not be made before July 1 following completion of junior year, or the opening day of classes of the senior year, whichever is earlier.</li> <li>Women's Ice Hockey—Once per week beginning July 7 after your junior year.</li> </ul>
	<b>Off-campus contact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed beginning opening day of classes. Contacts other than April period may only occur at your school. Contacts in April may occur at your school or residence.</li> <li>No contact on the day of a competition.</li> <li>Contacts may not occur during the time of day when classes are in session.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed September 1 at the beginning of your junior year.</li> <li>No contact on the day of a competition.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed starting July 1 after your junior year.</li> <li>Women's Gymnastics—Allowed beginning July 15 after your junior year.</li> <li>Women's Ice Hockey—Allowed beginning July 7 after your junior year.</li> </ul>
	<b>Official visit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed January 1 of your junior year.</li> <li>You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowed April of your junior year beginning Thursday following the Women's Final Four.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None allowed.</li> </ul>
	<b>Unofficial visit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>

## Summary of Recruiting Rules for Each Sport—Division I

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
SENIOR YEAR	Recruiting materials	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed.
	Telephone calls	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
	College coaches may call you	• Unlimited.	• Unlimited.	• Once per week beginning September 1. • Unlimited calls after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR after the college receives a financial deposit from you. • Unlimited during contact period.	• Women's Ice Hockey—Once per week beginning July 7 after your junior year. • Unlimited calls after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR after the college receives a financial deposit from you.
	Off-campus contact	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed beginning July 1 prior to senior year.	• Allowed.
	Official visit	• You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.	• You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.	• Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.	• Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.
	Unofficial visit	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.
	Evaluation and contacts	• Up to seven times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR after the college receives a financial deposit from you.	• Up to seven times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR after the college receives a financial deposit from you.	• Up to six times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR after the college receives a financial deposit from you.	• Up to seven times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR after the college receives a financial deposit from you.
	How often can a coach see me or talk to me off the college's campus?	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus) seven times.	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus) seven times.	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus) six times. • One evaluation during September, October and November. • Two evaluations—April 15 through May 31 (once to evaluate athletics ability and once to evaluate academic qualifications).	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians not more than three times during your senior year.



## Summary of Recruiting Rules—Divisions II and III

	DIVISION II	DIVISION III
<b>Recruiting materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials, and nonathletics recruiting publications at any time.</li> <li>A coach may begin sending you printed recruiting materials June 15 before your junior year in high school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may receive printed materials any time.</li> </ul>
<b>Telephone calls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No limit on number of calls by college coach beginning June 15 before your junior year.</li> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No limit on number of calls or when they can be made by the college coach.</li> <li>You may make calls to the coach at your expense.</li> </ul>
<b>Off-campus contact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A college coach can have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 before your junior year.</li> <li>No limit on number of contacts off campus.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A college coach may begin to have contact with you and your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus after your junior year.</li> </ul>
<b>Unofficial visits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time, except during a dead period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time.</li> </ul>
<b>Official visits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year.</li> <li>You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year.</li> <li>You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division III colleges.</li> </ul>

## Athletically Related Financial Aid

Athletics scholarships are awarded by NCAA Divisions I and II colleges and universities. Division III colleges and universities do not award financial aid based on athletics ability, but you may be eligible to receive academic scholarships or need-based financial aid. It is important to understand several points about athletics scholarships.

***Note:** The information below is a list of questions and answers about athletics scholarships but does not include all Divisions I and II financial aid rules. Contact your college or university to get more detailed information about NCAA financial aid (scholarship) rules.*

- Does the NCAA award athletics scholarships?** No. Individual colleges and universities award athletics scholarships, not the NCAA. Divisions I and II schools offer athletics scholarships. Division III colleges and universities offer academic scholarships and need-based financial aid only. NCAA colleges and universities provide more than \$1.5 billion in athletics scholarships annually.
- Is an athletics scholarship guaranteed for four years?** At a minimum, an athletics scholarship must be a one academic year agreement. **In Division I, colleges and universities are permitted to offer multi-year scholarships.** Athletics scholarships may be renewed and the college or university must notify the student-athlete in writing by July 1 whether the athletics scholarship will be renewed for the next academic year. Individual colleges and universities have appeal policies for scholarships that are reduced or not renewed.
- What do athletics scholarships cover?** Divisions I and II athletics scholarships are awarded in a variety of amounts. Colleges and universities are permitted to provide a student-athlete with tuition and fees, room, board and required course-related books.
- Can student-athletes receive other, non-athletics financial aid?** Yes. Thousands of student-athletes benefit from academic scholarships and need-based aid, such as federal Pell Grants. In addition, in Division I, there is money available from the NCAA's own Student Assistance Fund. Sometimes student-athletes cannot accept certain types of aid because of NCAA amateurism or financial aid requirements. You must report all scholarships you receive to your college financial aid office. Student-athletes and parents with questions on additional financial aid should check with the athletics department of the college or university or the college or university's financial aid office.
- Do many high school athletes earn athletics scholarships?** No, very few in fact. According to recent statistics, about two percent of high school athletes are awarded athletics scholarships to compete in college. This small number means high school student-athletes and their parents need to have realistic expectations about receiving an athletics scholarship to play sports in college. Academic, not athletics, achievement is the most reliable path to success in life.



The NCAA salutes  
more than

**450,000**

student-athletes  
participating in

**23 sports**

at nearly **1,100**

colleges/universities

NCAA Eligibility Center  
Certification Processing  
P.O. Box 7136  
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7136

[www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)  
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Eligibility  
Center