

What is the NCAA Clearinghouse?

As high school athletes look to play sports at the next level, confusion easily arises regarding the NCAA Clearinghouse. It is essential though that all prospective athletes understand the process in order to be deemed eligible to participate. **Registration with the Clearinghouse is required for those wishing to play at the Division I and II level.**

What does being eligible mean? Upon graduation, an athlete that has completed the required core courses, obtained the minimum grade point average, and achieved the necessary standardized tests scores will be declared eligible. Thereby, he will be permitted to participate in DI and DII athletics beginning in his freshman year. Athletes who wish to play at the Division III level are not required to register with the Clearinghouse but must be sure to meet the eligibility requirements set by the specific institution and its athletic conference. To find out these eligibility requirements contact the admissions office at each individual school.

The Clearinghouse was established with players, parents and coaches in mind. It offers players and parents the opportunity to monitor the process to be sure that athletes are on the right track to being cleared. In addition, the Clearinghouse provides college coaches with access to the academic progress of all future athletes.

Athletes are advised to begin the Clearinghouse process in the beginning of their junior year. At that time, athletes must arrange to meet with a guidance counselor at your high school in order to review the Clearinghouse process. If you are a senior and have not already begun the Clearinghouse process, don't panic, there is still time. Set up to meet with your guidance counselor in the next few days and get started with the Clearinghouse process.

The Clearinghouse has placed all of the forms and registration information you need online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. From this web site you will be able to complete the Student Release Form (SRF). This SRF does two things:

- It authorizes each high school you have attended to send the Clearinghouse your transcript, test scores, proof of graduation and other necessary academic information.
- It authorizes the Clearinghouse to send your academic information to all colleges that request your eligibility status.

To fill out the form, go to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and select "Prospective Student-Athletes" and click on Domestic Student Release Form or Foreign Student Release Form (depending on your location). Complete the Student Release Form online, and include your credit or debit card information to pay the fee. Then follow instruction to complete the transaction. Print out a copy of your completed registration form and both Copy 1 and Copy 2 of the transcript release form. Sign the transcript release forms and give both to your high school guidance counselor.

One transcript release form will be mailed along with your transcript to the Clearinghouse, and the other will be kept on file. After graduation, make sure that your guidance counselor forwards an updated copy of your transcript to the Clearinghouse.

It is also essential that you submit your SAT/ACT scores to the clearinghouse. Do so by marking code 9999 on the registration form as one of the ways you wish to receive your scores or by requesting an additional score report.

Parents and players must take an active role in following up with your guidance counselor in order to be certain that all updated, relevant information is sent to the Clearinghouse. **Remember that athletes will not be cleared or eligible to play at the collegiate level until they have graduated.**

For more information, please go to the NCAA Clearinghouse web site: www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. You can also call the Clearinghouse at 877.262.1492.

It is also important that you review the Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete. This can be found through the NCAA Clearinghouse web page or directly by going to the following web site: http://www.ncaa.org/library/general/cbsa/2006-07/2006-07_cbsa.pdf