NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY
For College-Bound Student-Athletes

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AGENDA

» NCAA Eligibility Center.
» Registration.
» Core Courses.
» Standards.
  o Division I.
  o Division II.
» Distance or E-Learning.
» Sports Participation.
» Recruiting.
» Resources.
» Who are we? A unit within the NCAA.

» What do we provide? Certification of college-bound student-athletes for collegiate competition.

» What do we review?
  o Academic requirements.
  o Amateurism requirements.
## OUR THREE DIVISIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Number of Schools*</th>
<th>Percentage of NCAA Student-Athletes</th>
<th>Athletics Scholarships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Division I | 350                | 32%                                 | Multyear, cost-of-
|            |                    |                                     | attendance athletics |
|            |                    |                                     | scholarships available |
|            |                    |                                     | 57% of athletes        |
|            |                    |                                     | receive athletics aid  |
| Division II| 300                | 28%                                 | Partial athletics     |
|            |                    |                                     | scholarship model      |
|            |                    |                                     | 60% of athletes        |
|            |                    |                                     | receive athletics aid  |
| Division III| 432                 | 40%                                 | No athletics           |
|            |                    |                                     | scholarships           |
|            |                    |                                     | 80% of athletes        |
|            |                    |                                     | receive nonathletics   |
|            |                    |                                     | aid                    |

*Numbers are from 2020-21. This does not include reclassifying, provisional or exploratory schools.
NCAA REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

WANT TO PLAY COLLEGE SPORTS?
Creating an account is the first step to becoming an NCAA student-athlete

NOT SURE WHICH DIVISION YOUR SCHOOL IS IN?
Learn more or search NCAA schools.
NCAA REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
Three Account Types

1. Free Profile Page Account
2. Amateurism-Only Certification Account
3. Academic and Amateurism Certification Account
FREE PROFILE PAGE ACCOUNT
Account Type #1

The right place to start for most students!
» Not sure in which division you plan to compete.
» Domestic students planning to compete at a Division III school.
» Registering in an NCAA-certified nonscholastic basketball event (BBCS, ECAG, AAU).

No registration fee.

Transition to the right Certification account at any time.
ACADEMIC AND AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION ACCOUNT

Account Type #3

Required to compete at a Division I or II school.

Registration fee:

» **Domestic students**: $100.

» **International students**: $160.

Required to:

» Go on an **official visit**.

» Sign an **NLI** with a Division I or II school.
REMEMBER

» If you have an Eligibility Center Certification account check to see if you meet fee waiver criteria.
WHAT IS AN IRL?

» **Institutional request list.**
  
  o A list of college-bound student-athletes an NCAA school is interested in recruiting.

» You **must** be on an NCAA school’s IRL to receive an Eligibility Center certification, which qualifies you to receive athletics aid, practice and compete in college.
WHAT IS AN NCAA ID?

» Used by NCAA coaches to add you to their school’s institutional request list for recruiting purposes.

- Where? Your NCAA ID is in the top-right corner of your Eligibility Center account.
- In addition to your password, you need your NCAA ID when calling the Eligibility Center with questions.

Your Name

NCAA ID: 1234567890
Grad: MM/YYYY | Enroll: MM/YYYY
» Check for open tasks.
» Update graduation or enrollment dates, if needed.

» Check transcript receipt.
» Edit account, schools or sports information.
CORE COURSES
WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

» Four-year college preparatory course in one of these subject areas:

- ENGLISH
- MATH (Algebra I or higher)
- SCIENCE
- SOCIAL SCIENCE
- WORLD LANGUAGE
- NONDOCTRINAL RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY

» Taught by qualified instructor.

» Taught at or above your high school’s regular academic level.

» On your official transcript with course title, grade and credit and receives credit toward your high school graduation.

» On your high school’s list of NCAA-approved core courses.
EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

How to plan your high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement:

4 x 4 = 16

9th GRADE
(1) English
(1) Math
(1) Science
(1) Social Science and/or additional
4 CORE COURSES

10th GRADE
(1) English
(1) Math
(1) Science
(1) Social Science and/or additional
4 CORE COURSES

11th GRADE
(1) English
(1) Math
(1) Science
(1) Social Science and/or additional
4 CORE COURSES

12th GRADE
(1) English
(1) Math
(1) Science
(1) Social Science and/or additional
4 CORE COURSES
DIVISION I: CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION

When you enter ninth grade, you have four years (eight semesters) to complete your core-course requirement.

You must graduate on time, with your class.
DIVISION I: ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

» Four possible academic certification outcomes for student-athletes:
  o Early Academic Qualifier.
  o Qualifier.
  o Academic Redshirt.
  o Nonqualifier.
Division I: Early Academic Qualifier

Division I early academic qualifier status is based on the student’s pre-seventh semester academic record.

- Complete 14 core-course units in the required subject areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA $\geq 3.0$ in the required subject areas.

» Athletics Aid.
» Practice.
» Compete.
DIVISION I: QUALIFIER

Meet core-course progression before the seventh semester. **Note:** Students certified based solely on international credentials are exempt from core-course progression.

- Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.3 in the required subject areas.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

- Athletics Aid.
- Practice.
- Compete.
DIVISION I: QUALIFIER
Subject Area Breakdown

- **ENGLISH**
  - 4 Years

- **MATH** (Algebra I or higher)
  - 3 Years

- **SCIENCE** (Including one year of lab, if offered)
  - 2 Years

- **ADDITIONAL** (English, math or science)
  - 1 Year

- **SOCIAL SCIENCE**
  - 2 Years

- **ADDITIONAL COURSES** (Any area listed world language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)
  - 4 Years
First Year
Athletics Aid.

First Term
Practice.

DIVISION I:
ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

1. Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.

2. Earn a core-course GPA $\geq 2.0$ in the required subject areas.

3. Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.
In January 2023, NCAA Divisions I and II adopted legislation to remove standardized test scores from initial-eligibility requirements.

Check with the NCAA school you plan to attend regarding whether standardized test scores are necessary for admission or scholarship requirements.
DIVISION II: ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

» Three possible academic certification outcomes for student-athletes:
  o Early Academic Qualifier.
  o Qualifier.
  o Partial Qualifier.
DIVISION II: EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

Division II early academic qualifier status is based on the student’s pre-seventh semester academic record.

- Complete 14 core-course units in the required subject areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.5 in the required subject areas.
DIVISION II: QUALIFIER

- Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA $\geq 2.2$ in the required subject areas.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

» Athletics Aid.
» Practice.
» Compete.
DIVISION II: QUALIFIER

Subject Area Breakdown

- **ENGLISH**: 3 Years
- **MATH (Algebra I or higher)**: 2 Years
- **SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)**: 2 Years
- **ADDITIONAL (English, math or science)**: 3 Years
- **SOCIAL SCIENCE**: 2 Years
- **ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed world language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)**: 4 Years
DIVISION II: PARTIAL QUALIFIER

College-bound student-athletes that do not meet Division II qualifier standards will be deemed a partial qualifier.

Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.
STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES
GPA and Core-Course Requirements Remain

» In January 2023, NCAA Divisions I and II adopted legislation to remove standardized test scores from initial-eligibility requirements.

» Check with the NCAA school you plan to attend regarding whether standardized test scores are necessary for admission or scholarship requirements.
You must apply and be accepted to your NCAA school before you can compete on campus.

- NCAA certification does NOT include acceptance to the NCAA school recruiting you.

Ask your NCAA school for more information about cost of attendance and financial aid.
DIVISION III

» Each Division III school determines its own eligibility for:
  o Academic requirements.
  o Admissions.
  o Financial aid.

» **International student-athletes** who plan to compete at a Division III school must complete an Amateurism-Only Certification account.

» Domestic student-athletes who plan to compete at a Division III school may register for a free Profile Page account, but it is not required.
DISTANCE OR E-LEARNING

» The Eligibility Center will not require a separate review of distance or e-learning programs used during the spring 2020, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic calendars in response to closures due to COVID-19.
SPORTS PARTICIPATION

When you register for a Certification account, you must:

» Select the sport(s) you would like to play in college.

» Update your information frequently if you play for multiple teams or attend events outside the traditional high school setting.

» Request your final amateurism certification before you enroll full time at an NCAA school.
NCAA student-athletes now have opportunity to benefit from their name, image and likeness.

» All three divisions have adopted a uniform, interim policy suspending NIL rules for all incoming and current student-athletes in all sports.

» For more NIL resources.

- Visit ncaa.org/nil.
- Contact your NCAA school’s compliance office.
- Follow the Eligibility Center on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.
REMEMBER

If you have questions, contact the Eligibility Center. Your actions may impact your future NCAA eligibility.

» College-bound student-athlete support line.
  o 877-262-1492.
    > Monday-Friday.
    > 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time.
RECRUITING CALENDARS

NCAA member schools limit recruiting to certain periods during the year.

» Recruiting calendars promote the well-being of college-bound student-athletes and ensure fairness among schools by defining certain periods during the year in which recruiting may or may not occur in a particular sport.

  o Contact period.
  o Quiet period.
  o Dead period.
### RECRUITING CALENDARS

#### FOOTBALL, DIVISION I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECRUITING METHOD</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruiting Materials and Electronic Correspondence</td>
<td>You may receive brochures for camps, questionnaires, NCAA materials and nonathletics recruiting publications at any time. A coach may begin sending you recruiting materials and electronic correspondence Sept. 1 of your junior/11th year of high school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Calls to a Coach</td>
<td>You or your family may call a coach at any time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Calls From a Coach</td>
<td>A coach may call you one time between April 15 and May 31 during your junior/11th year of high school. Beginning Sept. 1 of your senior/12th year, a coach may call you one time per week outside a contact period and make unlimited calls during a contact period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Campus Contact</td>
<td>A college coach may have contact with you or your family off the college's campus beginning July 1 following the end of your junior/11th year of high school or opening day of classes of your senior/12th year (whichever comes first).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unofficial Visit</td>
<td>You and your family may visit a college at your own expense at any time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Visit</td>
<td>A college may pay for you and two family members to visit campus beginning April 1 of your junior/11th year of high school through the Sunday before the last Wednesday in June. After this date, a college may provide you the expense-paid visit after Sept. 1 of your senior/12th year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

» To learn more about recruiting calendars, visit [on.ncaa.com/RecruitCal](http://on.ncaa.com/RecruitCal).
UNOFFICIAL VS OFFICIAL VISITS

Unofficial Visits

Any visit to a college campus paid by you or your family members.

» Take as many unofficial visits as you like after the first permissible date in each sport.

» Be mindful of recruiting shutdowns and dead periods when scheduling unofficial visits.

You may receive:

» Complimentary admission.

  o This includes three tickets for a home Division I athletics contest or five tickets for a home Division II athletics contest.

**Note:** You cannot talk with a coach during an unofficial visit during your sport’s dead period.
UNOFFICIAL VS OFFICIAL VISITS

Official Visits

Before a Division I or II official visit you must:
» Send the NCAA school a high school transcript.
» Register for a Certification account with the Eligibility Center.

During an official visit, NCAA schools can:
» Pay for transportation to and from the college.
  o This includes up to two family members in Division I basketball and FBS football.
» Provide lodging and meals.
  o This includes reasonable entertainment expenses.

Note: You cannot take an official visit during your sport’s dead period.
Only about 2% of high school-athletes are awarded athletics scholarships to compete in college.

» Expectations.
  o Annual scholarships.
  o Renewal.

» Academic scholarships.
» Athletics scholarships.
QUESTIONS TO ASK

» What is the cost of attendance?
  o Financial aid.
    > Will I receive a full or partial scholarship?
    > If I'm injured and can no longer compete, will my scholarship remain?
  o On-campus housing.

» What degree programs are offered?

» What is the NCAA school’s graduation rate?

» Where do you stand from a recruiting standpoint?
  o #1 vs #5 vs standby.
  o NLI.
  o Redshirt expectations.

» What is the coaching philosophy and style?
NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

» By signing a NLI, you are agreeing to attend a Division I or II school for one academic year.

» NLIs are voluntary and ends the recruiting process.

» NCAA schools agree to provide athletics financial aid to you for a minimum of one academic year.
  o You must be admitted to the school.
  o You must be eligible for financial aid under NCAA rules.

» For more information, visit nationalletter.org.
RESOURCES
» Review the COVID-19 FAQ.
» Visit eligibilitycenter.org.
» Download our resources:
  o Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
  o Initial-Eligibility flyer.
  o DI Academic Requirements.
  o DII Academic Requirements.
  o DIII Amateurism.
SOCIAL MEDIA
Follow the NCAA Eligibility Center

Twitter
@NCAAECC

Instagram
@PLAYCOLLEGESPORTS

Facebook
@NCAAECC
THANK YOU FOR JOINING!

Contact the Eligibility Center

» College-bound student-athlete support line.
  o 877-262-1492.
    > Monday-Friday.
    > 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time.
HOW DID WE DO?
Scan the QR Code Below

Take a Short Survey
CONTACT THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

College-bound student-athlete support line: 877-262-1492
Monday-Friday · 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time

@ncaaec   @playcollegesports   @ncaaec

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