



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

For International Student-Athletes

This document contains important information about initial-eligibility standards for international student-athletes. For more information about international academic standards visit ncaa.org/international.

1. **Why do I need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center?**

If you want to compete in NCAA sports, you need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org. Plan to register before your freshman year of high school (or year nine of secondary school). If you are currently enrolled (or have previously been enrolled) as a full-time student at a university outside of the United States and its territories, you will be considered a transfer student-athlete during the process to enroll at an NCAA college or university. Visit ncaa.org/transfer for more information regarding transfer eligibility.

2. **How do I register with the NCAA Eligibility Center?**

Choose from our three account types to get started:

Profile Page Account: If you are not sure in which division you want to compete, or are a domestic student-athlete who plans to compete at a **Division III school**, create a free Profile Page account. If at any time you wish to pursue a Division I or II path, you'll be able to **transition** to the right **Certification account**. All **international student-athletes** who plan to compete at a Division III school should start with an Amateurism-Only Certification account.

Academic and Amateurism Certification Account: You must receive an academic and amateurism certification from the Eligibility Center to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school. Before you can go on official visits or sign a Division I or II **National Letter of Intent**, you must have completed the Academic and Amateurism Certification account registration (including payment or **fee waiver**). For the Academic and Amateurism Certification account, the fee for international students is \$160.

Amateurism-Only Certification Account: **International student-athletes** (first-year students and transfers) must have their amateurism status certified by the Eligibility Center in order to compete at an NCAA Division III school. You must have completed the Amateurism-Only Certification account registration (including payment or **fee waiver**) to be eligible to practice or compete at a Division III school.

This account may also be right for domestic student-athletes transferring from a two-year school to an NCAA Division I or II school who have not previously been certified by the Eligibility Center. These students should speak with the compliance staff at the NCAA school they plan to attend to determine which account type is required.

Note: For Certification accounts, please allow between 30 and 45 minutes to complete. If you need to exit and come back at a later time, you can save and exit once your account is created.

3. **What are the initial-eligibility requirements for international student-athletes?**

There are different initial-eligibility requirements for NCAA Division I, II and III colleges and universities. For Divisions I and II, an international college-bound student-athlete must meet minimum academic standards to be eligible for practice, competition and athletically related financial aid in their first year. For more information, visit ncaa.org/international.

While Division III schools set their own admissions and academic requirements, [international student-athletes](#) (first-year students and transfers) who initially enroll full time at a Division III school on or after Aug. 1, 2023, are required to complete an Amateurism-Only Certification account. Contact the Division III school you plan to attend for more information about its academic requirements.

4. **What academic documents are required for an international student-athlete?**

Please note that there are several academic documents required to receive an academic certification decision following registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center. The Eligibility Center must receive all required academic documents before an academic certification evaluation may begin for a Division I or II college or university. Please do not send any academic documents until after you have created the right certification account with the Eligibility Center. [Click here](#) for more information on how to submit your documents.

» International college-bound student-athletes must submit the following documents:

- Your academic records for years nine and up, in your native language and translated to English;
- Proof of graduation, including certificates, diplomas or final leaving exams; and

Failure to include any of these items may delay review of your records. In certain situations, the Eligibility Center may ask for additional academic documentation to clarify that your academic information is complete, valid and accurate. For more information, contact the Eligibility Center at ncaa.org/contactinternational.

Academic records include documents such as transcripts or yearly grade reports and mark sheets or official leaving exam results.

The translator must provide a letter including the following information:

- » Appropriate stamps or seals explaining his or her qualifications as a translator.
- » The translator's full name, mailing address, phone number, email or other means by which the authenticity of the translation can be verified.
- » A professor of the language at the NCAA school recruiting you may provide a line-by-line English translation, with a signed cover letter stating the professor's role at the school, on school letterhead.

If your secondary school can give you multiple certified copies of your academic documents but does not provide a translation service, you should:

- » Ask your school to submit your academic documents to the Eligibility Center.
- » Ask your school to provide you with copies of your academic documents.
- » Have your academic documents translated by a certified translator.

Ask the translator to send the original translated documents to the Eligibility Center or take the certified translations to your school and have your school submit the translations to the Eligibility Center.

5. **What is proof of graduation?**

You must submit proof of graduation showing you completed upper secondary or pre - university schooling. Proof of graduation may be called a final diploma, a leaving exam, a maturity certificate, a record of learning, a higher certificate or something else but it must include the official name or type of diploma and the date issued.

If your proof of graduation includes a leaving certificate, maturity exam, record of learning, higher certificates or exam certificates, you must submit these as well. Exam results must be exam-board-issued results. A list provided by your school or a computer printout from an exam officer is not acceptable.

For a list of acceptable forms of proof of high school graduation from your country, see the current [Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#).

6. **How do I contact the Eligibility Center's international academic certification staff?**

The Eligibility Center can be contacted through the International Contact Form at ncaa.org/international.

The Eligibility Center office is open Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. U.S. Eastern time. Mail documents to the NCAA Eligibility Center at:

Mail

NCAA Eligibility Center
Attn: International Certification Processing
P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, IN 46207 USA

Overnight/Express Mail

NCAA Eligibility Center
Attn: International Certification Processing
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202 USA

International Resources

- » [Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#).
- » [Country-Specific Webpages](#).
- » [International Initial-Eligibility Flyer](#).
- » [How to Submit International Documentation](#).
- » [International Contact Form](#).