



QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN RECRUITING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT-ATHLETES

For Coaches

Purpose

This document contains important questions to ask when recruiting international student-athletes. For more information about international academic standards, please visit ncaa.org/international.

1. Has the prospective student-athlete created a Certification account with the NCAA Eligibility Center?

Both Certification and Profile Page accounts provide students with an NCAA ID. However, only Certification accounts are viewable and eligible for certification review by the Eligibility Center. If a student created a Profile Page account but wants to play Division I or II sports, they must [transition their Profile Page](#) account to a Certification account.

2. When did the student initially enroll in year nine of school?

This is not the equivalent of ninth grade, but rather year nine of education in that student's country. Make sure that, when the student begins registering with the Eligibility Center, they are accurately recording when year nine occurred and at which school. Visit our [NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#) for background information on over 170 countries, including academic calendar years, what year nine is typically referred to as, and the length of education.

3. Has the student attended school in more than one country?

Students who have attended secondary school in more than one country may have missed, skipped or repeated portions of schooling that could impact the outcome of their academic and amateurism evaluations. You can review each country's academic guidelines on our [country-specific webpages](#).

4. Has the student ever repeated a term or year of school since their initial start of year nine?

Repetition of one or more academic terms or years may result in an unanticipated academic or amateurism decision. It is important for you and your institution to determine if the student had repeated one or more academic terms and investigate with your compliance staff the basis for the repeated academic term(s).

5. Did the student stop their schooling at any point after the initial start of year nine, other than normal school breaks (school closing for all students at designated times)?

For the same reasons as questions 3 and 4, it is important to know if a student discontinued their schooling for any period of time. In Division I, this can affect the core-course time limitation. For Division II, it can affect the expected date of high school graduation.

6. Has the student ever taken longer than the normal calendar school year (normal for the country the student is in) to finish a school year?

For example, did the student take two years to complete year 11? This could impact the outcome of their academic and amateurism evaluations, resulting in delayed enrollment issues and delayed coursework completion outside of the core-course time limitation.

Important Note

Answering “yes” to questions 3-6 could be a reason for concern. This is all information you will want to provide to your compliance officer and have them contact the NCAA Eligibility Center’s international staff to discuss what impact, if any, the above information may have on the prospective student-athlete’s initial eligibility and what additional tasks may need to be assigned to the student’s NCAA Eligibility Center account. (As a reminder, only compliance officers or designated university staff may call the NCAA Eligibility Center to discuss a prospective student-athlete. Please make sure all questions are directed through the compliance office.)

