NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY
For College-Bound Student-Athletes
AGENDA

» NCAA Eligibility Center.
» Choosing an NCAA School.
» Registration is Required.
» Core Courses.
» Certification Outcomes.
  o Division I.
  o Division II.
» Recruiting.
» Resources.
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

» 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.
# NCAA Three Divisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
<th>Median Undergraduate Enrollment</th>
<th>Students Who Are Athletes</th>
<th>Average Number of Teams per School</th>
<th>Percentage of NCAA Student-Athletes in Each Division</th>
<th>Athletics Scholarships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Division I</td>
<td>351 (33%)</td>
<td>8,449</td>
<td>1 in 22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>Multiyear, cost-of-attendance scholarships available. 58% of athletes receive athletics aid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division II</td>
<td>296 (27%)</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>1 in 9</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Partial athletics scholarship model. 67% of athletes receive athletics aid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division III</td>
<td>433 (40%)</td>
<td>1,655</td>
<td>1 in 6</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>No athletics scholarships. 80% of athletes receive nonathletics aid.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# NCAA Sports

## Fall Sports
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEN:</th>
<th>WOMEN:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Field Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Polo</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Winter Sports
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEN:</th>
<th>WOMEN:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>Bowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Fencing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Track and Field</td>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rifle</td>
<td>Indoor Track and Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skiing</td>
<td>Rifle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming and Diving</td>
<td>Skiing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Swimming and Diving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Spring Sports
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEN:</th>
<th>WOMEN:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Beach Volleyball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse</td>
<td>Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Track and Field</td>
<td>Lacrosse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Outdoor Track and Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Rowing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Emerging Sports
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOMEN:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acrobatics and Tumbling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equestrian (Divisions I and II only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rugby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stunt (Division II only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triathlon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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CHOOSING AN NCAA SCHOOL

» Use this interactive map to locate NCAA schools you’re interested in attending.
THREE REQUIREMENTS TO PLAY COLLEGE SPORTS

1. High School Graduation
2. NCAA Initial Eligibility
3. College Admission
COLLEGE ADMISSION

» Apply and be accepted to the NCAA school before you can compete.
  o NCAA certification does **NOT** include acceptance to the NCAA school recruiting you.

» Ask college admission about:
  o Cost of attendance.
  o Financial aid.
  o Standardized test scores.
    > May be required for college admission or scholarships.
    > **NOT** required for NCAA certification.

o For more questions to ask, visit [on.ncaa.com/ChoosingCollege](http://on.ncaa.com/ChoosingCollege).
SCHOLARSHIPS BY SPORT

Only about 2% of high school-athletes are awarded athletics scholarships to compete in college.

» Academic scholarships.
» Athletics scholarships.
» Expectations.
  o Annual scholarships.
  o Full scholarships.
  o Partial scholarships.
  o Scholarship renewals.
KEEP YOUR CERTIFICATION ON TRACK

1. Register
   - Free Profile Page

2. Plan to Take Core Courses

3. Transition
   - Certification Account

4. Get Recruited
   - Research Schools You’re Interested In

5. Ask Your High School
   - To Upload Transcripts

6. Check-In
   - 10/7 Requirement

7. Ask Your High School
   - To Upload Transcripts

8. Apply to NCAA Schools
   - Get Accepted

9. Sign National Letter of Intent
   - (Optional)

10. Request Final Amateurism

11. Graduate High School

12. Ask Your High School
    - To Upload Transcripts

13. Ask Your High School
    - To Upload Proof of Grad

14. Be Certified
    - By the NCAA EC
WANT TO PLAY COLLEGE SPORTS?
Creating an account is the first step toward becoming an NCAA student-athlete

REGISTER

NOT SURE WHICH DIVISION YOUR SCHOOL IS IN?
Learn more or search NCAA schools.

NCAA REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
Register Before Freshman Year
NCAA REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
Three Account Types

1. Free Profile Page Account
2. Academic and Amateurism Certification Account
3. Amateurism-Only 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 #2

Required to compete at a Division I or II school.

» Go on official visits.
» Sign a National Letter of Intent.
» Receive an athletics scholarship.

Registration fee:

» Domestic students: $100.
» International students: $160.
Required for all international student-athletes planning to compete at a Division III school.

Registration fee:
» $70.

Student-athletes transferring from a two-year school to an NCAA Division I or II school who did not require an Eligibility Center academic certification.
REMEMBER

» If you have an Eligibility Center certification account check to see if you meet fee waiver criteria.
CORE COURSES
WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

» Meets all requirements for an NCAA-approved core course.

» Find your high school’s list of NCAA-approved core courses.
DIVISION I: 16 CORE-COURSE UNITS

Complete 16 core-course units in eight academic semesters.

- ENGLISH
- MATH (Algebra I or higher)
- SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)
- EXTRA (English, math or science)
- SOCIAL SCIENCE
- OTHER (Any area listed or courses listed in additional discipline (world language, comparative religion or philosophy))

4 years 3 years 2 years
1 year 2 years 4 years
DIVISION I:  
CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION

Complete 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, including seven in English, math or science, before the start of the seventh semester.

Once you begin your seventh semester, any course that is needed to meet the 10/7 requirement cannot be replaced or repeated.
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 other
4 CORE COURSES

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

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

12th GRADE
(1) English
(1) Math
(1) Science
(1) Social Science and/or other
4 CORE COURSES
CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES
Divisions I and II
Division I
CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES
1. Early Academic Qualifier.
2. Qualifier.
3. Academic Redshirt.
DIVISION I: QUALIFIER

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

**Note:** Students certified based solely on international credentials are exempt from core-course progression.
First Year
Athletics Aid.

First Term
Practice.

DIVISION I: ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

- Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA $\geq 2.0$ in the required subject areas.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.
DIVISION I: NONQUALIFIER

Nonqualifiers are not eligible to receive athletics aid, practice or compete their first year at an NCAA Division I school.

» Athletics Aid
» Practice
» Compete
Division II
CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES
1. Early Academic Qualifier.
2. Qualifier.
3. Partial Qualifier.
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.
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.
DIVISION III

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

» International student-athletes who plan to compete at a Division III school must complete an NCAA Eligibility Center 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.
ARE YOU BEING RECRUITED?

» You’re being recruited if a college coach:

- Calls
- Texts
- Emails
- Messages via Social Media
- Visits Your High School
- Pays Expenses to Visit Campus
- Issues National Letter of Intent
- Writes Offer of Financial Aid

» Recruiting can begin as early as freshman year.
  o In most cases, recruiting starts before junior year.
INSTITUTIONAL REQUEST LIST

» An **IRL** is a list of college-bound student-athletes an NCAA school is interested in recruiting.

 o **You must** be on an NCAA school’s IRL to receive an Eligibility Center certification.

 > Receive athletics aid.
 > Practice.
 > Compete.
RECRUITING CALENDARS

NCAA Division I and II recruiting calendars promote your well-being and ensure fairness among schools by defining certain periods during the year in which recruiting may or may not occur in a particular sport.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division, Sport and Grade Level Determines Recruiting Activities*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact Period</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College coaches may call, write, text or email you and your family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College coaches may watch you compete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College coaches may visit your high school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College coaches may have face-to-face contact with you and your family.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To view your division- and sport-specific recruiting calendar visit [on.ncaa.com/RecruitCal](http://on.ncaa.com/RecruitCal).
OFFICIAL VS UNOFFICIAL VISITS

OFFICIAL VISITS

Official visits are any visit to a college campus paid for by the NCAA school you’re visiting. Before a Division I or II official visit, you must:

- Register for a Certification Account
- Be on an IRL
- Send Your High School Transcripts

UNOFFICIAL VISITS

Unofficial visits are any visit to a college campus paid by you or your family members.
## OFFICIAL VS UNOFFICIAL VISITS

### What can an NCAA school pay for during an official visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division I</th>
<th>Division II</th>
<th>Division III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation to and from the NCAA school you’re visiting for you (and up to two family members).</td>
<td>Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you’re visiting.</td>
<td>Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you’re visiting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your lodging.</td>
<td>Your lodging.</td>
<td>Your lodging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to three meals per day for you and up to four family members.</td>
<td>Your meals.</td>
<td>Up to three on-campus meals per day for you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to $60 per recruited student-athlete and up to four family members accompanying you, including five tickets to a home sports event).</td>
<td>Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to $30 per recruited student-athlete and any family member accompanying you, including five tickets to a home sports event).</td>
<td>Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to $40 per recruited student-athlete and any family member accompanying you, including tickets to home sports events).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What can an NCAA school pay for during an unofficial visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division I</th>
<th>Division II</th>
<th>Division III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complimentary admission (including three tickets for a home athletics contest).</td>
<td>Complimentary admission (including five tickets for a home athletics contest).</td>
<td>Complimentary admission (including tickets for you and those accompanying you).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
QUESTIONS TO ASK NCAA COACHES

» Additional team responsibilities.
» Athletic training and medical expenses.
» Coaching philosophy and style.
» Degree completion support.
» Injuries and rehabilitation.
» Mental health resources.
» Playing time.
  o Am I a top seed, five seed or standby recruit?
  o Are there any redshirt expectations?
» Scholarship renewals.
  o Will I receive a full or partial scholarship?
  o If I’m injured will my scholarship remain?
» Team time demands.
RECRUITING BEST PRACTICES

» Talk with your support system about what level of competition they think you should aim for.

» Check your email often for open Eligibility Center tasks.

» Use this interactive map to locate NCAA schools you’re interested in attending.
  
  o Research admission requirements to NCAA schools you’re interested in attending.

» Research your division- and sport-specific recruiting periods.
RECRUITING BEST PRACTICES

» Consider elite travel teams and camps.
» Email college coaches during your sport’s contact period to share your achievements and your interest.
  o Include your name, position and **NCAA ID**.

Your Name  
**NCAA ID: 1234567890**
Grad: MM/YYYY | Enroll: SEASON YYYY

» Take official and unofficial visits to NCAA schools.
  o Review school websites and take virtual campus tours to learn more about NCAA schools.
» Conduct yourself in a positive manner in class, practices and games, at home, in your community and online.
NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS

» NCAA student-athletes can benefit from their NIL.

» For more resources:
  o Visit ncaa.org/nil.
  o Contact your state’s High School Athletic Association for current legislation.
  o Contact your future NCAA school’s compliance office.
  o Follow the Eligibility Center on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.
NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT

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

» NLI is voluntary and ends the recruiting process.

» Athletics financial aid is provided for a minimum of one academic year.
  o You must be admitted to the NCAA school.
  o You must be eligible for financial aid under NCAA rules.

» For more NLI information, visit nationalletter.org.
TRANSFER STUDENTS

» Understand the transfer rules, options and potential consequences before choosing to transfer.

» Depending on your college experience, you may be able to compete as soon as you transfer, or you might have to be enrolled for one academic year at your new school before competing.

» Resources:
  o Guide for Two-Year Transfers.
  o Guide for Four-Year Transfers.
  o For more transfer information, visit on.ncaa.com/Transfer.
RESOURCES

» **Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.**

» **Initial-Eligibility Flyer.**

» **Home School Students.**

» **International Students.**

» **Education Impacting Disabilities.**

» Register at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).

Registration Checklist
QUESTIONS?

Take a Short Survey on How We Did Today
SOCIAL MEDIA
Follow the NCAA Eligibility Center

Twitter
@ncaaec

Instagram
@playcollegesports

Facebook
@ncaaec

YouTube
@ncaaec
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.