













Our Three Divisions

The NCAA's three divisions were created in 1973 to align like-minded campuses in the areas of fairness, competition and opportunity.

| DIVISION |  DIVISION I |  DIVISION II <i>MAKE IT YOURS</i> |  DIVISION III <i>DISCOVER DEVELOP DEDICATE</i> |
|--|--|---|--|
| ACTIVE SCHOOLS* | 361 (33%) | 292 (27%) | 422 (39%) |
| MEDIAN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT | 8,000 | 2,100 | 1,700 |
| STUDENTS WHO ARE ATHLETES | 1 in 22  | 1 in 7  | 1 in 5  |
| AVERAGE NUMBER OF TEAMS PER SCHOOL | 19 | 17 | 19 |
| PERCENTAGE OF NCAA STUDENT-ATHLETES IN EACH DIVISION |  37% |  24% |  38% |
| ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS | Multiyear, cost-of-attendance athletics scholarships available. 57% of athletes receive athletics aid. | Partial athletics scholarship model. 62% of athletes receive athletics aid. | No athletics scholarships. 80% of athletes receive nonathletics aid. |
| DID YOU KNOW? |  Division I schools award over \$3 billion in athletics scholarships. |  Division II is the only division with schools in Alaska, Puerto Rico and Canada. |  Division III's largest school has 28,974 undergraduates. <i>The smallest? 339.</i> |

*The number of schools for each division is current as of the 2025-26 academic year. All other figures are based on 2024-25 data. Percentages shown for schools and student-athletes represent numbers at active NCAA schools, so they do not add up to 100%.

How Is Each Division Governed?

NCAA schools develop and approve legislation for their own divisions. Groups of presidents and chancellors lead each division in the form of committees with regularly scheduled meetings. For more information, visit on.ncaa.com/governance.

What Are the Eligibility Requirements in Each Division?

Division I and II schools require students' initial **academic** and **athletics eligibility** to be certified by the Eligibility Center. While Division III schools set their own academic standards on campus, the Eligibility Center certifies the amateur status of Division III **international student-athletes** (first-year enrollees and transfers). All other Division III student-athletes are certified on campus.

