Thank you for joining us!
We will be starting promptly at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

NAVIGATING INITIAL ELIGIBILITY DURING COVID-19

- Participants Are Automatically Muted
- Participant Video Cannot Be Seen
- Click the Q&A Button to Ask Your Questions
- Subscribe to the HS Newsletter
NAVIGATING INITIAL ELIGIBILITY DURING COVID-19
For Student-Athletes Graduating Early

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AGENDA

▷ Important Terms.
▷ Registration.
▷ Alternative Standards.
▷ COVID-19 Automatic Waiver Criteria.
▷ Midyear Graduate Reminders.
▷ Resources.
IMPORTANT TERMS
A student-athlete that graduates high school early and enrolls at the college of their choosing for the winter term or second semester.
Each NCAA college or university determines what “full-time status” means. Typically, a full-time student is enrolled in at least 12 credit hours in a term.
TWO ACCOUNT TYPES

- Register for a Profile Page or Certification account at eligibilitycenter.org.
PROFILE PAGE ACCOUNT

Students interested in a Division III school or are not sure in which division they want to compete.

There is no registration fee to create a Profile Page account.

Transition to a Certification account at any time your students wish to pursue a Division I or II path.
Students must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to compete at a Division I or II school.

The registration fee for domestic students is $90. The fee for international students is $150.

Before students take official visits or sign an NLI, they must have a complete Certification account.
Student-Athlete

- On an IRL?
- Signing an NLI?
- Taking an official visit?

Certification Account

- Academic Certification
- Amateurism Certification
Students must be activated on an NCAA Division I or II school’s institution request list to get a certification.

What is an IRL?
Review their Dashboard for open tasks.

Edit their account, schools or sports information.

View their receipt of transcripts on file.

Update their graduation or enrollment dates if needed.
Students enrolling in their first Division I or DII school at midyear should select Winter/Spring 2021 as their enrollment period within their Eligibility Center account.
SPORTS PARTICIPATION

- When students register for a Certification account, they must:
  - Select the sport(s) they would like to play in college.
  - Update their information frequently if they play for multiple teams or attend events outside the traditional high school setting.
DIVISION III

Each Division III college or university determines its own eligibility for:

- Admission.
- Financial aid.
- Practice and competition.

The NCAA EC does not perform certifications for Division III college-bound student-athletes.

Division III student-athletes may register for a free Profile Page, but it is not required.
COVID-19
ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS
NCAA Eligibility Center COVID-19 Response FAQs
For Students Initially Enrolling Full Time in the 2021-22 Academic Year

Given the continuing impact of COVID-19 on the educational environment, the NCAA Eligibility Center has partnered with the NCAA membership to identify the following changes to the initial-eligibility certification process for students who initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution during the 2021-22 academic year. The Eligibility Center will continue to monitor the environment and make necessary adjustments to prioritize health, safety and fairness for all prospective student-athletes.

FAQ Topics—Quick Links

- Academic Evaluations
- Auto Waiver Criteria—2021-22 Enrollment
- Prior Classes
- Submission of Academic Documents
- Subsequent Classes
- Timing

COVID-19 Automatic Waiver Criteria for 2021-22 Enrollment

Q1: Given the unique circumstances due to COVID-19, will there be any flexibility in the initial-eligibility standard for students who initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution during 2021-22?

A1: Yes. Students who initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution during 2021-22 will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver in the academic certification process that provides the highest level of relief for which they are eligible, per the criteria below:
Meet core-course progression before starting the 7th 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.
DIVISION I QUALIFIER 2021-22

SUBJECT AREAS

- ENGLISH
  - 4 Years

- MATH (Algebra I or higher)
  - 3 Years

- NATURAL/PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)
  - 2 Years

- ADDITIONAL
  - (English, math or natural/physical science)
  - 1 Year

- SOCIAL SCIENCE
  - 2 Years

- ADDITIONAL COURSES
  - (Any area listed foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)
  - 4 Years

Athletics Aid
Practice
Compete
Standardized test scores are excluded from NCAA initial-eligibility criteria for students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during the 2021-22 academic year.

*Note*: Colleges and/or scholarship programs may still require test scores.
The COVID-19 Auto Waiver has already been applied to student-athletes’ accounts enrolling 2021-22 enrollment.
Student accounts will show “Final Nonqualifier” with “COVID-19 Automatic Waiver Approved” in the Academic Status field, as shown in the example student account below:
WHAT IF YOUR STUDENT DOES NOT MEET THE COVID-19 AUTO WAIVER CRITERIA?
WHAT IF YOUR STUDENT DOES NOT MEET THE COVID-19 AUTO WAIVER CRITERIA?

- To receive a partially-approved waiver, your student must present:
  - 10 core-course units prior to the start of the seventh semester.
  - At least a 2.0 GPA in those courses.

- A partially-approved waiver provides the benefits of Academic Redshirt (DI) and Partial Qualifier (DII) status at the time of final certification.
WHAT IF NEITHER SET OF COVID-19 AUTOMATIC WAIVER CRITERIA IS MET?

- Continue to work toward meeting legislated Division I or II initial-eligibility requirements.
- Submit all transcripts, test scores and proof of graduation to their Eligibility Center account.
- Work with their college/university compliance office.
MIDYEAR GRADUATE REMINDERS
COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

- Student-athletes must apply and be accepted to their NCAA Division I or II school before they can compete on campus.
  - SAT/ACT may be required.

- Student-athletes should ask their NCAA school for more information about cost of attendance and financial aid.
  - FAFSA forms can be completed at fafsa.gov.
PROACTIVE REMINDERS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Certification Accounts Only:
- Enrollment period.
- Request final amateurism.
- SAT/ACT scores.

Counselors Reminders:
- Final transcript.
- Proof of graduation.
Students enrolling in their first Division I or DII school at midyear should select Winter/Spring 2021 as their enrollment period within their Eligibility Center account.
AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION

Request final amateurism certification in their NCAA Certification account at eligibilitycenter.org.

- Starting October 1 (Winter/Spring).
- Starting April 1 (Fall).
WHAT IS AMATEURISM?

A series of questions within your student’s Eligibility Center account about sports participation.

- Used to determine your student-athlete’s amateur status.

An amateur student-athlete does NOT:

- Have a written or verbal agreement with an agent.
- Receive prize money above their actual and necessary expenses.
AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION

In general, amateurism requirements do not allow:

- Contracts with professional teams.
- Salary for participating in athletics.
- Prize money above actual and necessary expenses.
- Play with professionals.
- Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team.
- Benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
- Agreement to be represented by an agent.
- Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition.
Sport-specific amateurism resources are available:

- Basics of Amateurism.
- Division I Hockey-Specific.
- Individual Sports-Specific.
- Skiing-Specific.
- Soccer-Specific.
- Tennis-Specific.
- Tips for Recruiting/Scouting Services.
If your students have questions, encourage them to contact us before acting. Their actions may impact their future NCAA eligibility.
Visit the High School Portal to upload final transcripts with proof of graduation to your student’s Eligibility Center account.
If no proof of graduation is available, a letter may be submitted from your school. This letter must:

- Be on official school letterhead and signed by a school administrator with an academic title.
- Explicitly state the date on which the student met the school’s graduation requirements.
- Be submitted for only one specific student.
  - Student's name and NCAA ID number should be included in the letter.

Letters should be emailed to ec-processing@ncaa.org or faxed to (317) 968-5100.
PROACTIVE REMINDERS FOR COUNSELORS

- Visit the High School Portal to keep your core courses updated.
For students with documented education-impacting disabilities, resources and considerations are available.
Review our COVID-19 FAQ.

Visit our websites:
- ncaa.org/playcollegesports.
- eligibilitycenter.org.

Visit nationalletter.org to learn about the NLI.

Download our resources:
- Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
- Initial-Eligibility Brochure.
- DI Academic Requirements.
- DII Academic Requirements.
SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow the EC on Instagram

Follow the EC on Twitter

Like the EC on Facebook
“What if I still have questions?”

- High school admin, please call 877-622-2321.
- Students and parents, please call: 877-262-1492.

Ask the EC
Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern.

- High school admin: 877-622-2321.
- Students and parents: 877-262-1492.