

2008-09
Guide for the



Eligibility
Center

College-Bound Student-Athlete

FOLLOW THE BASE PATH TO SUCCESS — AS A STUDENT-ATHLETE





Eligibility
Center



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NOTICE

The information contained in this publication is provided as a service to prospective student-athletes and does not constitute binding advice on compliance with NCAA rules and bylaws.

We try to provide quality information, but because this document is provided in an updated electronic form online that is subject to change as needed, we make no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information contained in this publication.

For more information, see NCAA.org.

The NCAA and NCAA Eligibility Center

How to Use this Guide...

The Guide addresses issues for three important groups of readers:

- High school students who hope to participate in college athletics at an NCAA college or university;
- Parents and legal guardians; and
- High school counselors and athletics administrators.

What is the NCAA?

The NCAA, or National Collegiate Athletic Association, was established in 1906 and serves as the athletics governing body for more than 1,280 colleges, universities, conferences and organizations. The national office is in Indianapolis, but the member colleges and universities develop the rules and guidelines for athletics eligibility and athletics competition for each of the three NCAA divisions. The NCAA is committed to the student-athlete and to governing competition in a fair, safe, inclusive and sportsmanlike manner.

The NCAA membership includes:

- 331 active Division I members;
- 291 active Division II members; and
- 429 active Division III members.

One of the differences among the three divisions is that colleges and universities in Divisions I and II may offer athletics scholarships, while Division III colleges and universities may not.

What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?

The NCAA Eligibility Center will certify the academic and amateur credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics.

To assist with this process, the Eligibility Center staff is eager to foster a cooperative environment of education and partnership with high schools, high school coaches and college-bound student-athletes. Ultimately, the individual student-athlete is responsible for achieving and protecting his or her eligibility status.

How to find answers to your questions

The answers to most questions can be found in this guide or by:

- Accessing the Eligibility Center's resource page on our Web site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net, then click on "Prospective Student-Athletes" and then "Information and Resources for Prospective Student-Athletes."
- Contacting the Eligibility Center at the phone number on this page.

In addition, if you are sending transcripts or additional information to the Eligibility Center or have questions, please use the following contact information.

Eligibility Center Contact Information

NCAA Eligibility Center:

Certification Processing
P.O. Box 7136
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7136

Package or overnight delivery:

1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Web address:

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

Eligibility Center customer service

Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

U.S. callers (toll free): 877/262-1492

International callers: 317/223-0700

Fax: 317/968-5100

When to call the NCAA

Please contact the NCAA when you have questions like these:

- What are the rules and regulations related to initial eligibility?
- What are the rules and regulations related to amateurism?
- What are the regulations about transferring from one college to another?
- What are the rules about athletics scholarships and how can they be reduced or canceled?
- I have an education-impacting disability. Are there any other requirements for me?

NCAA

P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

317/917-6222 (customer service Monday – Friday, noon – 4 p.m. Eastern time)

Dear College-Bound Student-Athlete,

We designed this guide to help you and your family understand the National Collegiate Athletic Association rules for progressing from being a high school athlete to a student-athlete in college.

As you engage in college sports, you'll be inspired to develop an attitude of determination, teamwork, persistence and self-discipline. You will increase your appreciation of life-long education. Work closely with your high school counselors, recruiters and college admissions officers to prepare for your next important step as a collegiate student-athlete.

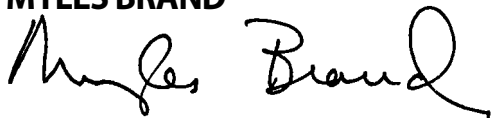
It's never too early to begin evaluating your wide range of college choices. Get all the information you need on how to choose a college wisely. NCAA institutions range from small schools to large universities, with varying commitments to financial aid and to athletics. The Association's members total more than 1,000 schools, and they are divided into three divisions.

You may qualify – by both your interest and your athletics performance – to become one of more than 400,000 students, out of 15 million enrolled nationally in America's colleges and universities, who combine education and athletics. Your likelihood of ultimate recruitment into professional leagues is small so, for almost all of you, your years as a student-athlete in college will be preparation for life. As our public service announcements say, "Almost all student-athletes are going pro in something other than sports."

Remember, good athletics is about winning at competition in games. Good academics combined with athletics is about winning in life. So, keep education as your top priority. This new phase of your life can be a wonderful experience that will result in a lifetime of friendships, memories and happiness. Without question, obtaining your college degree is absolutely crucial – to you, to your family and to us.

We wish you every success, on the field of play and in the classroom. Student-athletes are at the center of our Association.

MYLES BRAND



NCAA President



Your Eligibility and You

Academic-Eligibility Requirements

Division I

If you want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 16 core courses:
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
 - 1 extra year of English, math, or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core-course grade-point average and test score sliding scale (for example, a 2.400 core-course grade-point average needs an 860 SAT).

Requirement to graduate with your high school class

You must graduate from high school on schedule (in eight semesters) with your incoming ninth-grade class. If you graduate from high school in eight semesters with your class, you may use **one** core course completed in the year after graduation (summer or academic year) to meet NCAA Division I eligibility requirements.

You may complete the core course at a location other than the high school from which you graduated and may initially enroll full time at a collegiate institution at any time after completion of the core course.

Division I Qualifier

Being a qualifier entitles you to:

- Practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college; and
- Play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

Division I Core GPA and Test Score Sliding Scale

Core GPA	SAT	ACT
3.550 & above	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	59
2.700	730	60
2.675	740-750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840-850	70
2.425	860	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	80
2.125	960	81
2.100	970	82
2.075	980	83
2.050	990	84
2.025	1000	85
2.000	1010	86

Division I Nonqualifier

As a nonqualifier, you will not be able to:

- Practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college; or
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college, although you may receive need-based financial aid.

You may be able to play only three seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year (to earn a fourth season you must complete at least 80 percent of your degree requirements before beginning your fifth year of college).

Division II

2008 - 2013

If you enroll in a Division II college and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 14 core courses:
 - 3 years of English
 - 2 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
 - 2 additional years of English, math, or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 3 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a 2.000 grade-point average or better in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

2013 and Later

If you enroll in a Division II college on or after August 1, 2013, and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 16 core courses:
 - 3 years of English
 - 2 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
 - 3 additional years of English, math, or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 4 years of additional core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a 2.000 grade-point average or better in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

Division II Qualifier

Being a qualifier entitles you to:

- Practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college; and
- Play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

Division II Partial Qualifier

You will be considered a partial qualifier if you do not meet all of the academic requirements listed above, but you have graduated from high school **and** meet one of the following:

- The combined SAT score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68; or
- Completion of the 14 core courses with a 2.000 core-course grade-point average.

As a partial qualifier, you:

- Can practice with your team at its home facility during your first year of college;
- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college;
- Cannot compete during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

Division II Nonqualifier

You will be considered a nonqualifier if you did not graduate from high school, or, if you graduated and are missing both the core-course grade-point average or minimum number of core courses and the required ACT or SAT scores.

As a nonqualifier, you:

- Cannot practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Cannot receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college, although you may receive need-based financial aid; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

Division III

Division III does not use the Eligibility Center. Contact your Division III college or university regarding its policies on admission, financial aid, practice and competition.

Remember

Meeting the NCAA academic rules does not guarantee your admission into a college. You must apply for admission.

Core Courses, Grade-Point Average, Tests and Special Conditions

What Is A Core Course?

A core course must:

- Be an academic course in one or a combination of these areas: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy;
- Be four-year college preparatory;
- Be at or above your high school's regular academic level (no remedial, special education or compensatory courses); and
- Be completed not later than the high school graduation date of your class [as determined by the first year of enrollment in high school (ninth grade) or the international equivalent].

Not all classes you take to meet high school graduation requirements may be used as core courses. Courses completed through credit-by-exam will not be used.

Check your high school's list of approved core courses at the Eligibility Center Web site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net or ask your high school guidance counselor.

Keep Track Of Your Courses, Units and Credits

By logging onto www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and clicking "General Information," you will find the Divisions I and II worksheets, which will help you keep track of your completed core courses, units, grades and credits you received for them, plus your ongoing grade-point average. Generally, you will receive the same credit at the Eligibility Center as you received from your high school. Examples are provided in the English and math sections of both worksheets:

- 1 trimester unit = 0.33 units**
- 1 semester unit = 0.50 units**
- 1 year = 1.0 unit**

Grade-Point Average

How Your Core-Course Grade-Point Average is Calculated

The Eligibility Center will calculate the grade-point average of your core courses on a 4.000 scale. The best grades from your NCAA core courses will be used. Grades from additional core courses you took will be used only if they improve your grade-point average.

To determine your points earned for each course, multiply the points for the grade by the amount of credit earned. Use the following scale unless your high school has a different scale on file with the Eligibility Center:

A – 4 points	C – 2 points
B – 3 points	D – 1 point

Remember: The Eligibility Center does not use plus or minus grades when figuring your core-course grade-point average. For example, grades of B+, B and B- will each be worth 3 quality points.

Special High School Grades and Grade-Point Average

If your high school uses numeric grades (such as 92 or 93), those grades will be changed to your high school's letter grades (such as A or B). See your high school's grading scale by pulling up your school's list of approved core courses at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

If your high school normally "weights" honors or advanced courses, these weighted courses may improve your core-course grade-point average. Your high school must notify the Eligibility Center of such weighting. To see if your high school has a weighted scale that is being used for calculating your core-course grade-point average, visit www.ncaaclearinghouse.net for an explanation of how these grade weights are handled.

Examples of total quality point calculation:

- An A grade (4 points) for a trimester course (0.33 units):
 $4 \text{ points} \times 0.33 \text{ units} = 1.32 \text{ total quality points}$
- An A grade (4 points) for a semester course (0.50 units):
 $4 \text{ points} \times 0.50 \text{ units} = 2.00 \text{ total quality points}$
- An A grade (4 points) for a full-year course (1.00 units):
 $4 \text{ points} \times 1.00 \text{ units} = 4.00 \text{ quality points}$

Calculate Your Overall Grade-Point Average

To calculate your estimated core-course grade-point average, divide the total number of points for all of your core courses by the total number of core-course units you have completed.

Note: Your calculation helps you keep track of your grade-point average. Should you have any questions, contact your high school guidance counselor.

ACT and SAT Tests

Test-Score Requirements

You must achieve the required score on the SAT or ACT before your full-time collegiate enrollment. You must do this whether you are a citizen of the United States or of a foreign country. You must take the national test given on one or more of the dates shown below.

IMPORTANT CHANGE:

All SAT and ACT scores **must** be reported to the Eligibility Center **directly** from the testing agency. Test scores will **not** be accepted if reported on a high school transcript.

When registering for the SAT or ACT, input the Eligibility Center code of **9999** to make sure the score is reported directly to the Eligibility Center.

National Testing Dates

SAT

October 4, 2008
November 1, 2008
December 6, 2008
January 24, 2009
March 14, 2009
May 2, 2009
June 6, 2009

ACT

September 13, 2008
October 25, 2008
December 13, 2008
February 7, 2009
April 4, 2009
June 13, 2009

Taking Tests More than Once

You may take the SAT or the ACT more than one time. If you take either test more than once, you may use your best subscore from different tests to meet the minimum test-score requirements. Here is an example:

	Math	Verbal/Critical Reading	Total Score
SAT (10/08)	350	470	820
SAT (12/08)	420	440	860
Scores used	420	470	890

Your test score will continue to be calculated using the math and verbal/critical reading subsections of the SAT and the math, science, English and reading subsections of the ACT. **The writing component of the ACT or SAT will not be used to determine your qualifier status.**





Students With Education-Impacting Disabilities: Special Conditions

A student with an education-impacting disability must meet the same requirements as all other students, but is provided certain accommodations to help meet these requirements. **If you are a student with a diagnosed education-impacting disability, you will need to let the Eligibility Center know about your education-impacting disability only if you plan on using core courses after your eighth semester of high school and you plan on attending an NCAA Division I college or university.**

To Document Your Education-Impacting Disability

Send the following documentation to:

NCAA Eligibility Center

P.O. Box 7110

Indianapolis, IN 46207-7110

- Copy of your professional diagnosis; and
- Copy of your IEP, ITP, 504 plan or statement of accommodations. (One of the above documents should be dated within the last three years.)

Note: Please include home address, telephone number, social security number and the year of your high school graduation.

Core Courses

If you are a high school student with an education-impacting disability and have received help (for example, taken special classes or received extra time for tests) because of that education-impacting disability, you are eligible for the following:

- You may use a course that your high school has designed for students with education-impacting disabilities, if it appears on your high school's list of approved core courses.
- You may take core courses any time before your enrollment as a full-time student in college, even during the summer after your last high school year. Remember, for Division I, you must document your education-impacting disability with the NCAA to receive this accommodation.

Nonstandard Tests

If you have an education-impacting disability, you may also take a nonstandard test to satisfy test-score requirements. Follow these guidelines:

- Register for nonstandard testing as described by ACT or SAT, submitting a properly documented and confirmed diagnosis.
- Follow procedures governed by ACT or SAT. (The test may not be administered by a member of your high school athletics department or any NCAA school's athletics department.)
- If you take a nonstandard ACT or SAT, you may take the test on a date other than a national testing date, but you still must achieve the required test score.
- Your high school counselor can help you register to take a nonstandard test.

The GED

The General Education Development (GED) test may, under certain conditions, satisfy the graduation requirement, but it will not satisfy core-course grade-point average or test-score requirements. Contact the NCAA for information about GED submission.

Home School

Home-schooled students who plan to enroll in a Division I or II college must register with the Eligibility Center and must meet the same requirements as all other students.

Your Amateurism and You

If you want to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics, you must also be certified as an amateur student-athlete. The Eligibility Center will determine the amateurism eligibility of all freshman and transfer college-bound student-athletes for initial participation at an NCAA Division I or II member institution. In Division III, certification of an individual's amateurism status is completed by each institution, not the Eligibility Center.

When you register with the Eligibility Center, you will be asked questions about your athletics participation. The information you will provide will be reviewed and a determination will be made as to whether your amateurism status should be certified or if a penalty should be assessed before certification. If a penalty is assessed, you will have an opportunity to appeal the decision.

The following precollegiate enrollment activities will be reviewed:

1. Contracts with a professional team.
2. Salary for participating in athletics.
3. Prize money.
4. Play with professionals.
5. Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team.
6. Benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
7. Agreement to be represented by an agent.
8. Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition.

Additional information regarding NCAA amateurism rules is available on the Eligibility Center's Web site by logging on to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net, then clicking on "General Information" and then "Information and Resources for Prospective Student-Athletes."



Definition of a Professional Team.

In Divisions I and II, a team is considered professional if it declares itself to be professional or provides any player more than actual and necessary expenses for participation on the team.

Actual and necessary expenses are limited to the following:

- (a) Meals and lodging directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for competition;
- (b) Transportation (i.e., expenses to and from practice and competition, cost of transportation between home and the training/practice site at the beginning and end of the season);
- (c) Apparel, equipment and supplies related to participation on the team;
- (d) Coaching and instruction, use of facilities and entry fees;
- (e) Health insurance, medical treatment and physical therapy; and
- (f) Other reasonable expenses (e.g., laundry money).

Definition of Organized Competition.

In Division I, athletics competition is considered organized if any one of the following conditions exists:

- (a) Competition is scheduled and publicized in advance;
- (b) Official score is kept;
- (c) Individual or team standings are maintained;
- (d) Official timer or game officials are used;
- (e) Admission is charged;
- (f) Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;
- (g) Team uniforms are used;
- (h) A team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

In Division II, athletics competition is considered organized if any one of the following criteria is met:

- (a) Any team or individual competition or training in which payment (including expenses) is provided to any participant;
- (b) Any competition as a result of signing a contract for athletics participation;
- (c) Any competition as a result of involvement in a professional draft;
- (d) Any competition funded by a professional sports organization;
- (e) Any competition funded by a representative of an institution's athletics interest that is not an open event;
- (f) Any practice with a professional athletics team (excluding a 48-hour tryout);
- (g) Any competition or training with a team that declares itself to be professional; or
- (h) Any competition or training with a team that provides compensation to any of the participants (including actual and necessary expenses).



OVERVIEW OF NCAA DIVISIONS I AND II PRE-ENROLLMENT AMATEURISM BYLAWS

	Permissible in Division I? (Student-athletes first enrolling on or after August 1, 2002)	Permissible in Division II? (Student-athletes first enrolling on or after August 1, 2001)
Enters into a Contract with a Professional Team	No	Yes
Accepts Prize Money	Yes. If it is an open event, and does not exceed actual and necessary expenses.	Yes
Enters Draft	Yes	Yes
Accepts Salary	No	Yes
Receives Expenses from a Professional Team	No	Yes
Competes on a Team with Professionals	No	Yes
Tryouts with a Professional Team Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment	Yes. May receive actual and necessary expenses for one visit (up to 48 hours) from each professional team. Self-financed tryouts may be for more than 48 hours.	Yes
Receives Benefits from an Agent	No	No
Enters into Agreement with an Agent (oral or written)	No	No
Delays Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment and Participates in Organized Competition [If you are charged with season(s) of competition under this rule, you will also have to serve an academic year in residence at the NCAA institution.]	<p>Tennis and Swimming & Diving: Have one year after high school graduation to enroll full time in a collegiate institution or will lose one season of intercollegiate competition for each calendar year during which you continue to participate in organized competition.</p> <p>All Other Sports: Any participation in organized sports competition during each 12-month period after your 21st birthday and before initial full-time enrollment in a collegiate institution shall count as one year of varsity competition.</p>	<p>All Sports: Must enroll at the next opportunity (excluding summer) immediately after the date that your high school class normally graduates (or the international equivalent) or you will use a season of intercollegiate competition for each calendar year or sports season (subsequent to that date) in which you have participated in organized competition.</p>

The chart above summarizes the Divisions I and II pre-enrollment amateurism rules.

Division I Worksheet

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine your official status after you graduate. Remember to check your high school's list of approved courses for the classes you have taken. Use the following scale: A = 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point.

English (4 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: English 9	.5		A		$(.5 \times 4) = 2$
Total English Units					Total Quality Points

Mathematics (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: Algebra 1	1.0		B		$(1.0 \times 3) = 3$
Total Mathematics Units					Total Quality Points

Natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Natural/Physical Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional year in English, mathematics or natural/physical science (1 year required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Units					Total Quality Points

Social science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Social Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional academic courses (4 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Academic Units					Total Quality Points

Core-Course GPA (16 required)

Total Quality Points	Total Number of Credits	Core-Course GPA (Total Quality Points/Total Credits)

Division II Worksheet

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine your official status after you graduate. Remember to check your high school's list of approved courses for the classes you have taken. Use the following scale: A = 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point.

English (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: English 9	.5		A		$(.5 \times 4) = 2$
Total English Units					Total Quality Points

Mathematics (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Example: Algebra 1	1.0		B		$(1.0 \times 3) = 3$
Total Mathematics Units					Total Quality Points

Natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Natural/Physical Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional years in English, mathematics or natural/physical science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Units					Total Quality Points

Social science (2 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Social Science Units					Total Quality Points

Additional academic courses (3 years required)

Course Title	Credit	X	Grade	=	Quality Points (multiply credit by grade)
Total Additional Academic Units					Total Quality Points

Core-Course GPA (14 required)

Steps to Achieving Your Eligibility

Freshmen and Sophomores

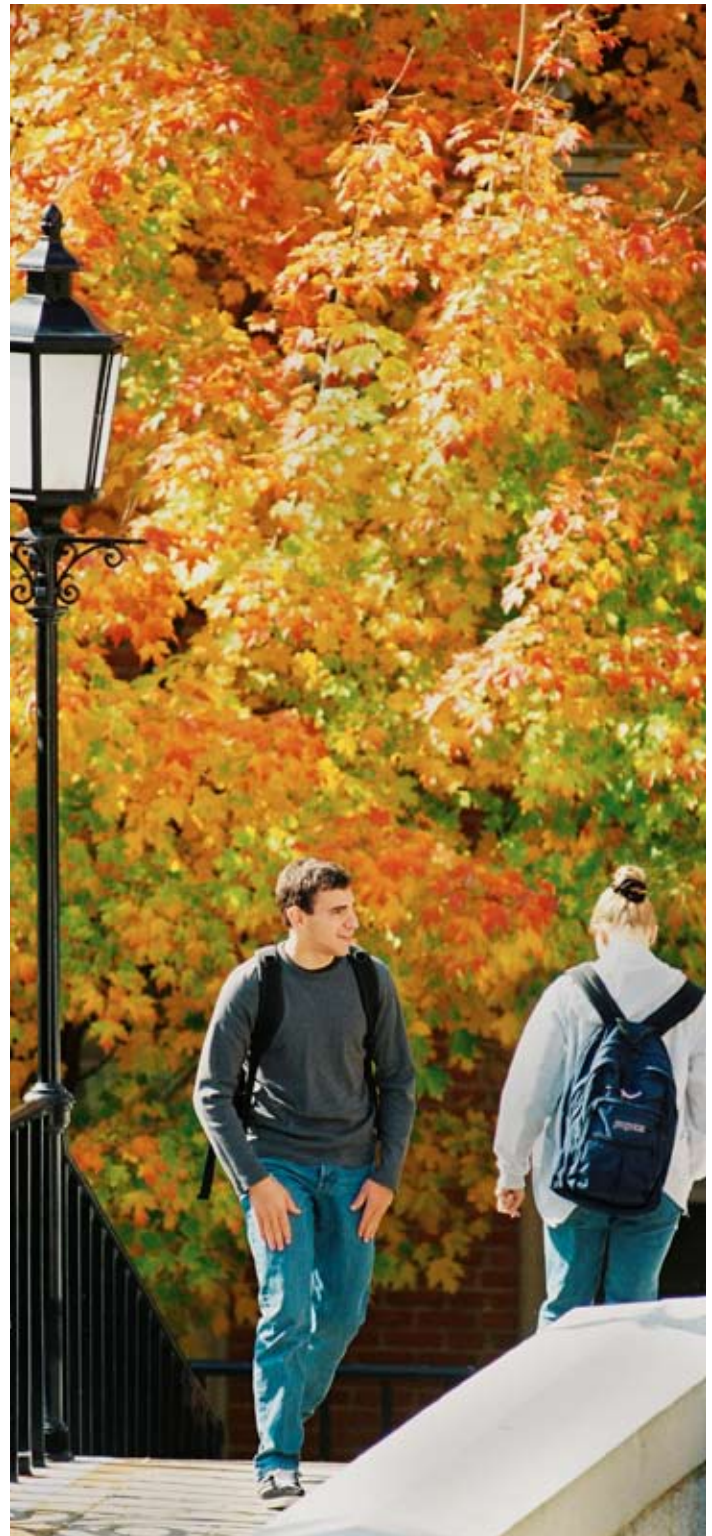
- Start planning now!
- Work hard to get the best grades possible.
- Take classes that match your school's NCAA list of approved core courses.
- You can receive your school's NCAA list of approved core courses at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

Juniors

- At the beginning of your junior year, register at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and complete the amateurism questionnaire.
- Register to take the ACT, SAT or both and use the Eligibility Center code (**9999**) as a score recipient.
- Double check to make sure the courses you have taken match your school's NCAA list of approved core courses.
- Ask your guidance counselor to send an official transcript to the Eligibility Center after completing your junior year. (The Eligibility Center does NOT accept faxed transcripts or test scores.)
- Prior to registration for classes for your senior year, check with your guidance counselor to determine the amount of core courses that you need to complete your senior year.

Seniors

- Take the SAT and/or ACT again. The Eligibility Center will use the best scores from each section of the ACT or SAT to determine your best cumulative score.
- Continue to take college-prep courses.
- Check the courses you have taken to match your school's NCAA list of approved core courses.
- Review your amateurism questionnaire responses and request final amateurism certification on or after April 1 (for fall enrollees) or October 1 (for spring enrollees).
- Continue to work hard to get the best grades possible.
- Graduate on time (in eight academic semesters). If you fall behind, use summer school sessions prior to graduation to catch up.
- After graduation, ask your guidance counselor to send your final transcript with proof of graduation.



Eligibility Center Registration

Complete the Student Release Form

To register with the Eligibility Center, you must complete the Student Release Form and amateurism questionnaire online at the beginning of your junior year and send the Eligibility Center the registration fee (\$60 for domestic and \$85 for international students).

Online registration: The only method is to register online. Go online to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. Select **Prospective Student-Athletes** and then register as a U.S. or international student. Complete the Student Release Form online and include your credit or debit card information to pay the fee. Then follow instructions to complete the transaction.

Print both Copy 1 and Copy 2 of the Transcript Release Form. Sign the Transcript Release Forms and give both to your high school guidance counselor.

When completing the Student Release Form sections, please follow the step-by-step instructions outlined below.

Section I: Student Information

Enter all information accurately, including your Social Security Number (SSN) and date of birth. This information must exactly match other data the Eligibility Center receives for you (such as high school transcripts and requests from colleges seeking your eligibility status). Be sure you provide an e-mail address that will be active even after you complete high school.

Section II: High School You Now Attend

Enter the name, address and code number of the high school you now attend, along with your expected date of high school graduation. Get your high school code from your counselor or use the code look-up at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. Click on **Prospective Student-Athletes**, then **List of Approved Core Courses** on the left-hand side.



Section III: Schools You Previously Attended

If you have attended more than one school (including summer school) during grades nine, 10, 11 or 12, complete Section III. List all schools you previously attended, starting with the most recent. Make sure to include all schools, whether or not you received grades or credits. If you attended ninth grade in a junior high school located in the same school system in which you later attended high school, do not list the ninth-grade school.

Special instructions: If you need to enter more than six high schools, contact the Eligibility Center at 877/262-1492. Or, once you've registered with the Eligibility Center, select **Prospective Student-Athletes**, then **Registered Student Login**, then add information for the additional schools on your record.

Section IV: Selected Anticipated Enrollment Period and Sports You Plan on Participating In

Please select the semester and year that you expect to first attend a Division I or II institution.

Please then select from the drop-down list the sport or sports in which you plan to compete in college.

Section V: Eligibility Center Communication Method

The Eligibility Center will communicate with you by e-mail. This will include most correspondence and certification reports. **E-mail correspondence will require that you have submitted a valid e-mail address in Section I of your Student Release Form.**

You may update your e-mail address at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

Section VI: Personal Identification Number (PIN)

Create a Personal Identification Number (PIN) of four digits (numbers between 0 and 9) that you can easily remember. Do not choose a PIN that might be easily guessed (such as your birthday or street address). Record your PIN in the space provided below and keep it in a safe place.

PIN

If you have forgotten your PIN, log on to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and go to Prospective Student-Athletes to request your PIN to be sent to you via e-mail.

Check your file status. Once you have submitted your Student Release Form and PIN, you may check your status by:

- Visiting www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. On the home page, click on **Prospective Student-Athletes**, then **Registered Student Login** (enter your SSN or clearinghouse ID and PIN).

Section VII: Pay Your Fee (or Submit a Fee Waiver)

Your form will be eligible for processing only with payment of an application fee of \$60 for U.S. students or \$85 for international students (or submission of a fee waiver if you have been granted a waiver). You must pay by debit, credit card or e-check.

You are eligible for a waiver of the registration fee only if you have already received a waiver of the ACT or SAT fee. Your Student Release Form fee waiver section must then be completed by an authorized high school official and include the school seal. Your waiver may also be submitted online by an authorized high school official. If you have not yet been granted a fee waiver by ACT or SAT, you are not yet eligible for a waiver of the registration fee.

Section VIII: Authorization Signature

Carefully examine the entire Student Release Form to make sure you have completed it correctly, included your fee payment authorization and signed it. If you are younger than 18 years old, your parent or legal guardian also must sign.

You will be asked to verify your signature by checking a box to certify your identity. A similar check box and name field is also included for your parent or guardian, who must provide a signature if you are younger than 18.

Transcript Release Form Completion by Your High School

Your high school will complete your registration by sending Copy 1, along with your high school transcript, to the Eligibility Center. After graduation, but before your high school closes for the summer, your high school must send Copy 2 to the Eligibility Center, along with a copy of your final transcript confirming your high school graduation.

Fee-Waiver Eligibility

ACT

In order to be eligible for an ACT fee waiver, a student must meet one of these indicators of economic need:

- Family receives public assistance;
- Student is a ward of the state;
- Student resides in foster home;
- Student participates in free or reduced-price lunch program at school;
- Student participates in federally funded TRIO Program such as Upward Bound; or
- Family income is at or below the 2008-09 Bureau of Labor Statistics Low Standard Budget.

SAT

You are eligible for consideration for an SAT fee waiver if you are:

- An American citizen or a foreign national taking the SAT in the United States, Puerto Rico or U.S. territories; or
- An American citizen living outside the United States; and you meet the financial eligibility guidelines for fee waivers, such as participating in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch/National School Lunch Program at your school. Your guidance counselor will share any additional eligibility guidelines with you.

If you are a home-schooled student in the United States, Puerto Rico or U.S. territories who cannot afford to pay the test fees, you must provide proof of eligibility to your local high school or agency fee-waiver administrator/counselor. Only a school or agency counselor can provide you with the fee-waiver card for the appropriate test.



Recruiting Regulations

Introduction

College coaches must follow the rules outlined in this section. You are expected to follow these rules as well.

Recruiting Terms

Contact. A contact occurs any time a coach has any face-to-face contact with you or your parents off the college's campus and says more than hello. A contact also occurs if a coach has any contact with you or your parents at your high school or any location where you are competing or practicing.

Contact period. During this time, a college coach may have in-person contact with you and/or your parents on or off the college's campus. The coach may also watch you play or visit your high school. You and your parents may visit a college campus and the coach may write and telephone you during this period.

Dead period. A college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents on or off campus at any time during a dead period. The coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

Evaluation. An evaluation is an activity by a coach to evaluate your academic or athletics ability. This would include visiting your high school or watching you practice or compete.

Evaluation period. During this time, a college coach may watch you play or visit your high school, but cannot have any in-person conversations with you or your parents off the college's campus. You and your parents can visit a college campus during this period. A coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

Official visit. Any visit to a college campus by you and your parents paid for by the college. The college may pay all or some of the following expenses:

- Your transportation to and from the college;
- Room and meals (three per day) while you are visiting the college; and
- Reasonable entertainment expenses, including three complimentary admissions to a home athletics contest.

Before a college may invite you on an official visit, you will have to provide the college with a copy of your high school transcript (Division I only) and SAT, ACT or PLAN score and register with the Eligibility Center.

Prospective student-athlete. You become a "prospective student-athlete" when:

- You start ninth-grade classes; or
- Before your ninth-grade year, a college gives you, your relatives or your friends any financial aid or other benefits that the college does not provide to students generally.

Quiet period. During this time, a college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents off the college's campus. The coach may not watch you play or visit your high school during this period. You and your parents may visit a college campus during this time. A coach may write or telephone you or your parents during this time.

Unofficial visit. Any visit by you and your parents to a college campus paid for by you or your parents. The only expense you may receive from the college is three complimentary admissions to a home athletics contest. You may make as many unofficial visits as you like and may take those visits at any time. The only time you cannot talk with a coach during an unofficial visit is during a dead period.

Verbal commitment. This phrase is used to describe a college-bound student-athlete's commitment to a school before he or she signs (or is able to sign) a National Letter of Intent. A college-bound student-athlete can announce a verbal commitment at any time. While verbal commitments have become very popular for both college-bound student-athletes and coaches, this "commitment" is NOT binding on either the college-bound student-athlete or the institution. Only the signing of the National Letter of Intent accompanied by a financial aid agreement is binding on both parties.

Recruiting Calendars

To see recruiting calendars for all sports, go to NCAA.org.

National Letter of Intent

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) is a voluntary program administered by the Eligibility Center. By signing an NLI, your son or daughter agrees to attend the institution for one academic year. In exchange, that institution must provide athletics financial aid for one academic year.

Restrictions are contained in the NLI itself. Read them carefully. These restrictions may affect your son's or daughter's eligibility.

If you have questions about the National Letter of Intent, visit the Web site at www.national-letter.org or call 877/262-1492.

Summary of Recruiting Rules for Each Sport—Division I

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
SOPHOMORE YEAR	Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires.
	Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coach at your expense. College may accept collect calls from you at end of your sophomore year. College coach cannot call you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. Women's Ice Hockey—If you are an international prospect, a college coach may call you once in July after sophomore year.
	Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed.
	Official visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed.
	Unofficial visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.
	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
JUNIOR YEAR	Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed. You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving September 1 of junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving September 1 of junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving September 1 of junior year. Men's Ice Hockey—You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year.
	Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
	College coaches may call you	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once per month beginning June 15, before your junior year, through July 31 after your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once per month in April, May and June 1-20. Once between June 21 and June 30 after your junior year. Three times in July after your junior year (max. of one call per week). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once from April 15 to May 31 of your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once per week starting July 1 after your junior year. Men's Ice Hockey— Once per month beginning June 15, before your junior year, through July 31 after your junior year.
	Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed starting July 1 after your junior year. For gymnastics—allowed after July 15 after your junior year.
	Official visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed.
Unofficial visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits. 	

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
SENIOR YEAR	Recruiting materials	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed.
	Telephone calls	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
	College coaches may call you	• Twice per week beginning August 1.	• Once per week beginning August 1.	• Once per week beginning September 1.	• Once per week beginning July 1. • Men's Ice Hockey— Once per week beginning August 1.
	Off-campus contact	• Allowed beginning September 9.	• Allowed beginning September 16.	• Allowed beginning November 30.	• Allowed.
	Official visit	• Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.	• Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.	• Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.	• Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.
	Unofficial visit	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.
	Evaluation and contacts	• Up to seven times during your senior year.	• Up to five times during your senior year.	• Up to six times during your senior year.	• Up to seven times during your senior year.
How often can a coach see me or talk to me off the college's campus?	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians not more than three times during your senior year.	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians not more than three times during your senior year.	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus), six times. • One evaluation during September, October and November.	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians not more than three times during your senior year.	

Summary of Recruiting Rules—Divisions II and III

	DIVISION II	DIVISION III
Recruiting materials	• A coach may begin sending you printed recruiting materials September 1 of your junior year in high school.	• You may receive printed materials any time.
Telephone calls	• A college coach may call you once per week beginning June 15 between your junior and senior year. • You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• No limit on number of calls or when they can be made by the college coach. • You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
Off-campus contact	• A college coach can have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 after your junior year. • A college coach is limited to three in-person contacts off campus.	• A college coach may begin to have contact with you and your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus after your junior year.
Unofficial visits	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time.
Official visits	• You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. • You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Divisions I and II colleges.	• You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. • You may make only one official visit per college.

LIST OF NCAA-SPONSORED SPORTS

Fall Sports

Cross Country (W)
Cross Country (M)
Field Hockey (W)
Football (M)
Soccer (W)
Soccer (M)
Volleyball (W)
Water Polo (M)

Winter Sports

Basketball (W)
Basketball (M)
Bowling (W)
Fencing (M&W)
Gymnastics (W)
Gymnastics (M)
Ice Hockey (W)
Ice Hockey (M)
Rifle (M&W)
Skiing (M&W)
Swimming and Diving (W)
Swimming and Diving (M)
Indoor Track and Field (W)
Indoor Track and Field (M)
Wrestling (M)

Spring Sports

Baseball (M)
Golf (W)
Golf (M)
Lacrosse (W)
Lacrosse (M)
Rowing (W)
Softball (W)
Tennis (W)
Tennis (M)
Outdoor Track and Field (W)
Outdoor Track and Field (M)
Volleyball (M)
Water Polo (W)

The NCAA salutes
400,000
student-athletes
participating in
23 sports
at more than 1,000
member institutions



NCAA 68150-09/09

NCAA Eligibility Center
Certification Processing
P.O. Box 7136
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7136

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

877/262-1492

Customer Service Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Eastern time
317/223-0700 (international callers)

317/968-5100 (fax)

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