

The following information is provided by the NCAA:

A Guide for the College-Bound Student Athlete

NCAA Division I Recruiting

You become a "prospective student-athlete" when you start ninth-grade classes. Before the ninth grade, you become a prospective student-athlete if a college gives you (or your relatives or friends) any financial aid or other benefits that the college does not provide to prospective students generally.

You become a "recruited prospective student-athlete" at a particular college if any coach or representative of the college's athletics interests (booster or representative) approaches you (or any member of your family) about enrolling and participating in athletics at that college. Activities by coaches or boosters that cause you to become a recruited prospective student-athlete are:

Providing you with an official visit;

Placing more than one telephone call to you or any other member of your family; or

Visiting you or any other member of your family anywhere other than the college campus.

In addition to general recruiting regulations, no alumni, boosters or representatives of a college's athletics interests can be involved in your recruiting. There can be no phone calls or letters from boosters.

The restriction doesn't apply to recruiting by alumni or representatives as part of a college's regular admissions program for all prospective students, including non-athletes.

You (or your family) may not receive any benefit, inducement or arrangement such as cash, clothing, cars, improper expenses, transportation, gifts or loans to encourage you to sign a National Letter of Intent or attend an NCAA college.

Letters from coaches, faculty members and students (but not boosters) aren't permitted until September 1 at the beginning of your junior year.

Telephone Calls (Division I)

In all sports other than football and basketball, phone calls from faculty members and coaches (but not boosters) are not permitted until July 1 after completion of your junior year. After this, in sports other than football, a college coach or faculty member is limited to one telephone call per week to you (or your parents or legal guardians), except that unlimited calls to you (or your parents or legal guardians) may be made under the following circumstances:

During the five days immediately before your official visit by the college you will be visiting;

On the day of a coach's off-campus contact with you by that coach; and

On the initial date for signing the National Letter of Intent in your sport through two days after the initial signing date.

In Divisions I-A and I-AA football, an institution's coaches may telephone you once during the month of May of your junior year in high school and then not again until September 1 of your senior year in high school. Also, an institution's football coaches can telephone you as often as they wish during the period 48 hours before and 48 hours after 7 a.m. on the initial signing date for the National Letter of Intent and during a contact period. Outside of a contact period, a football coach may only telephone you once per week.

In Division I men's basketball, an institution's coaches may telephone a prospect one time during March of the prospect's junior year in high school. In addition, an institution's coaches may telephone a prospect one time on or after June 21. Finally, only three telephone calls to a prospect may be made during the

month of July following the prospect's junior year in high school, with no more than one telephone call per week.

In Division I women's basketball, an institution's coaches may telephone a prospect on or after June 21 of the prospect's junior year in high school. In addition, only three telephone calls may be made to a prospect during the month of July after the prospect's junior year in high school, with no more than one telephone call per week.

In Division I ice hockey, an institution's coaches may telephone a prospect who is a resident of a foreign country once during the month of July following the completion of the prospect's sophomore year in high school.

You (or your parents) may telephone a coach at your expense as often as you wish.

Coaches also may accept collect calls from you and may use a toll-free (1-800) number to receive telephone calls from you on or after July 1 after completion of your junior year.

Enrolled student-athletes may not make recruiting telephone calls to you. Enrolled students (non-athletes) may telephone you as part of a college's regular admissions program directed at all prospective students. Enrolled students (including student-athletes) may receive telephone calls at your expense on or after July 1 after completion of your junior year.

Contacts (Division I)

A college coach may contact you in person off the college campus only on or after July 1 after completion of your junior year. Any face-to-face meeting between a college coach and you or your parents, during which any of you say more than "hello" is a contact. Also, any face-to-face meeting that is prearranged or that occurs at your high school or competition or practice site is a contact, regardless of the conversation. These contacts are not permissible "bumps."

Currently in all sports other than football and basketball, have seven recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations) during the academic year, and not more than three of the seven opportunities may be in-person, off-campus contacts. However, a college coach may visit your high school only with the approval of your high-school principal.

Division I football coaches may contact you off the college campus six times. However, no more than one contact per week may occur during a contact period, regardless of where the contact occurs. Also, a college football coach may visit your high school (with the approval of your high-school principal) only once a week during a contact period.

In Division I basketball, coaches have five recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations) during the academic year and not more than three of the seven opportunities may be in-person, off-campus contacts. In addition, a college basketball coach may visit your high school (with the approval of your high-school principal) only once a week during a contact period.

In Division I men's basketball, coaches may make one contact with a prospect during April of the prospect's junior year in high school.

Evaluations (Division I)

An evaluation is any off-campus activity used to assess your academic qualifications or athletics ability, including a visit to your high school (during which no contact occurs) or watching you practice or compete at any site. Currently in all sports other than football and basketball, institutions have seven permissible recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations) during the academic year, and not more than three of the seven opportunities may be in-person, off-campus contacts. Basketball coaches have five "recruiting opportunities" to utilize on you during any year. In using those five opportunities, a basketball coach may use any combination of contacts and/or evaluations that equal five; however, not more than three of the opportunities may be contacts. Football coaches may not evaluate you more than three times each year (April 15 through April 14 of the following academic year). In football, only one evaluation may be used

during the fall evaluation period and only two evaluations may be used during the spring evaluation period (April 15 through May 31). In all sports, competition on consecutive days within a tournament (and normally at the same site) or that involves a tier of a tournament (e.g., regional) counts as a single evaluation. In addition, once you sign a National Letter of Intent, you may be evaluated an unlimited number of times by a college coach from the college with which you have signed.

In football, basketball, softball, women's volleyball and men's lacrosse, there are certain periods (see www.ncaa.org/membership/membership_svcs.html) when a coach may contact you off the college campus and/or attend your practices and games to evaluate your athletics ability. In all other sports, contacts and evaluations may occur anytime except during a dead period.

Official Visits (Division I)

In all sports other than Division I men's basketball, you can have one expense-paid (official) visit to a particular campus beginning on the opening day of classes of your senior year. In Division I men's basketball, you may have official visits beginning on January 1 of your junior year in high school. You may receive no more than five such visits. This restriction applies even if you are being recruited in more than one sport. You can't have an official visit unless you have given the college your high-school (or college) academic transcript and a score from a PSAT, an SAT, a PACT Plus or an ACT taken on a national test date under national testing conditions. Your academic transcript may be a photocopy of your official high-school (or college) transcript. [Note: In this instance, the Division I school may use the services of the Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse to validate your credentials.]

During your official visit (which may not exceed 48 hours), you may receive round-trip transportation between your home (or high school) and the campus, and you (and your parents) may receive meals, lodging and complimentary admissions to campus athletics events. A coach may only accompany you on your official visit when the transportation occurs by automobile and all transportation occurs within the 48-hour period. Meals provided to you (and/or your parents) on an official visit may be provided either on or off the institution's campus.

The complimentary admissions you receive may provide you seating only in the facility's general seating area. You may not be given special seating (e.g., press box, bench area). In addition, a student host may help you (and your family) become acquainted with campus life. The host may spend \$30 per day to cover all costs of entertaining you (and your parents, legal guardians or spouse); however, the money can't be used to purchase souvenirs such as T-shirts or other college mementos. Additionally, during a campus visit, the school may provide you with a student-athlete handbook.

Printed Materials (Division I)

A Division I college that is recruiting you may provide to you only the following printed materials on or after September 1 of your junior year:

- Official academic, admissions and student services publications and videotapes published by the college;

- General correspondence, including letters and college note cards (attachments to correspondence may include materials printed on plain white paper with black ink);

- Game programs (a college may only give you a program on an official or unofficial visit; colleges may not mail you a program);

- A media guide or recruiting brochure (but not both) in each sport;

- Any necessary pre-enrollment information about orientation, conditioning, academics, practice activities, as long as you have signed a National Letter of Intent or have been accepted for enrollment;

- One student-athlete handbook. (A college may only give you a handbook on an official or unofficial visit. Effective August 1, 1997, a college may mail you a handbook once you've signed a National

Letter of Intent or been accepted for enrollment.)

One wallet-size playing schedule card in each sport.

In addition, a Division I college may show you a highlight film/videotape, but may not send it to or leave it with you or your coach.

Finally, a Division I college also may provide you a questionnaire, camp brochure and educational information published by the NCAA (such as this guide) at any time.

NCAA Division III Recruiting

You become a "prospective student-athlete" when you start ninth-grade classes. Before the ninth grade, you become a prospective student-athlete if a college gives you (or your relatives or friends) any financial aid or other benefits that the college does not provide to prospective students generally.

You become a "recruited prospective student-athlete" at a particular college if any coach or representative of the college's athletics interests (booster or representative) approaches you (or any member of your family) about enrolling and participating in athletics at that college. Activities by coaches or boosters that cause you to become a recruited prospective student-athlete are:

Providing you with an official visit;

Placing more than one telephone call to you or any other member of your family; or

Visiting you or any other member of your family anywhere other than the college campus.

In addition, you (or your family) may not receive any benefit, inducement or arrangement such as cash, clothing, cars, improper expenses, transportation, gifts or loans to encourage you to attend any NCAA school.

An athletics department staff member, alumni or representative of a college's athletics interests (boosters or representatives) may contact you in person off the college campus after your junior year of high school. There is no limit on the number of contacts or the period when they may occur. You may not try out for a Division III college's athletics team. A tryout is any physical activity (e.g., practice session or test) conducted by or arranged on behalf of a college, at which you display your ability.

You can visit a college campus any time at your own expense. On such a visit, you may receive three complimentary admissions to a game on that campus; a tour of off-campus practice and competition sites in your sport and other college facilities within 30 miles of the campus; a meal in the college's on-campus student dining facilities; and housing, if it is available to all visiting prospective students.

Official Visits (Division III)

During your senior year, you can make one expense-paid (official) visit to a particular campus; however, there is no limit on the number of campuses that you may visit if you initially enroll in a Division III college.

During your official visit (which may not exceed 48 hours), you may receive round-trip transportation between your home (or high school) and the campus, and you (and your parents) may receive meals, lodging and complimentary admissions to campus athletics events. All meals provided to you (and/or your parents) on an official visit must occur in an on-campus dining facility that the college's students normally use. If dining facilities are closed, the college is permitted to take you off-campus for meals. In addition, a student host may help you (and your family) become acquainted with campus life. The host may spend \$20 per day to cover all costs of entertaining you (and your parents, legal guardians or spouse); however, the money can't be used to purchase college souvenirs such as T-shirts or other college mementos.

Finally, a Division III college is permitted to provide you and your high-school and/or two-year college coach any official academic, admissions, athletics and student-services publications published by the college and other general information available to all students.

NCAA Division I Academic Eligibility Requirements

If you're first entering a Division I college on or after August 1, 1996, in order to be classified a "qualifier," you're required to:

Graduate from high school;

Successfully complete a core curriculum of at least 13 academic course units as follows:

English ... 4 years

Mathematics (two years of mathematics courses at the level of Algebra I or above) ... 2 years

Natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course, if offered by the high school) ... 2 years

Additional courses in English, mathematics, or natural or physical science ... 1 year

Social science ... 2 years

Additional academic courses [in any of the above areas or foreign language, computer science*, philosophy or nondoctrinal religion (e.g., comparative religion) courses] ... 2 years

Have a core-course grade-point average (based on a maximum of 4.000) and a combined score on the SAT verbal and math sections or a sum score on the ACT based on the qualifier index scale.

**Note: For students first entering NCAA institutions on or after August 1, 2005, computer science courses cannot be used to meet initial-eligibility requirements.*

Division I Qualifier Index	
Core GPA	ACT* sum of scores
2.500 & above	68
2.475	69
2.450	70
2.425	70
2.400	71
2.375	72
2.350	73
2.325	74
2.300	75
2.275	76
2.250	77
2.225	78
2.200	79
2.175	80
2.150	80
2.125	81
2.100	82
2.075	83
2.050	84
2.025	85
2.000	86
* Previously, ACT score was calculated by averaging four scores. New standards are based on sum of scores.	
** For SAT tests taken on or after April 1, 1995.	

A "**nonqualifier**" is a student who has not graduated from high school or who has presented neither the core-curriculum grade-point average and SAT/ACT scores required for a qualifier.

A nonqualifier shall not be eligible for regular-season competition or practice during the first academic year in residence and then has three seasons of competition remaining. A nonqualifier during the first academic year in residence shall be eligible for nonathletics institutional financial aid that is not from an athletics source and is based on financial need only.

A nonqualifier may earn a fourth year of competition, provided that at the beginning of the fifth academic year following the student-athlete's initial, full-time collegiate enrollment, the student-athlete has received a baccalaureate degree.

A student with a diagnosed disability who was not a qualifier may earn a fourth season of competition, provided the student-athlete has satisfied specified procedures and has completed at least 75 percent of his or her degree program at the beginning of the fifth academic year after the student-athlete's full-time collegiate enrollment.

NCAA Division III Academic Eligibility Requirements

These requirements currently do not apply to Division III colleges, where eligibility for financial aid, practice and competition is governed by institutional, conference and other NCAA regulations.

Waiver of Bylaw 14.3 Requirements

Waivers of the initial-eligibility requirements may be granted based on evidence that demonstrates circumstances in which your overall academic record warrants a waiver. All requests for such a waiver must be initiated through an NCAA school that officially has accepted you for enrollment as a regular student or if acceptance is contingent on a favorable subcommittee decision. You should contact the school recruiting you for more information about this waiver process.

NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

A central clearinghouse will certify your athletics eligibility for **Divisions I and II (Division III is not governed by the NCAA Clearinghouse)**. Here is some important information that will assist you.

Certification

If you intend to participate in Division I or II athletics as a freshman, you must register and be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

Clearinghouse Registration Materials

www.ncaa.org/library/general/cbsa/2002-03/index.html

Registration Process

In order to be registered with the clearinghouse, you must complete the registration process found at **www.ncaaclearinghouse.net**. You may also complete the student-release form and mail or fax the top (white) copy of the form to the clearinghouse along with the \$30 registration fee. Give the yellow and pink copies of the form to a high-school official, who then sends the yellow copy, along with an official copy of your high-school transcript, to the clearinghouse. Your high school should keep the pink copy for its files. After graduation and before the school closes for the summer, your school also must send the clearinghouse a copy of your final transcript that confirms graduation from high school.

For students completing the Web SRF: Students completing the online Web application should print a copy of their completed registration form (see instructions on the SRF submission screen). By printing your registration form you will receive two copies -- Copy #1 and Copy #2. Give both Copy #1 and Copy #2 to a high-school official, who then sends Copy #1, along with an official copy of your high-school transcript, to the clearinghouse. Your high school should keep Copy #2 in its files. After graduation and before your school closes for the summer, the high school must send the clearinghouse a copy of your final transcript that confirms graduation and contains final grades and credits along with your Copy #2 registration copy.

Fee Waivers

High-school counselors may waive the clearinghouse fee if you have previously qualified for and received a waiver of the ACT or SAT fee. Fee-waiver information is specified on the student-release form.

Information will be posted at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net to alert students when this option will also be available online.

List of NCAA Approved Core Courses (Formerly Form 48-H)

The list of NCAA approved core courses (formerly Form 48-H) identifies courses that may be used in meeting NCAA core-course requirements.

Be sure that all courses you are taking for core-course purposes are listed on your high school's list of NCAA approved core courses (formerly Form 48-H).

Foreign Students: If you have completed secondary school studies outside the United States, go to the clearinghouse Web site and register online. Go to the Foreign Student selection under Prospective Student-Athletes; be sure you have a valid Visa or MasterCard for the \$30.00 registration fee. Alternatively, you may contact the clearinghouse for a paper application.

Questions and Answers about the Clearinghouse

Q: Why do I need to register and be certified?

If you intend to participate in Division I or II athletics as a freshman in college, you must be registered with and be certified as eligible by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Please note that initial-eligibility certification pertains only to whether you meet the NCAA requirements for participation as a freshman in Division I or II athletics and has no bearing on your admission to a particular Division I or II institution.

Q: When should I register?

You should apply for certification after your junior year in high school if you are sure you wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics as a freshman at a Division I or II institution. If you fail to submit all required documents, your incomplete file will be discarded after three years, requiring you to pay a new fee if certification is requested after that time.

Q: Is there a deadline to register?

There is no deadline to register with the clearinghouse; however, you must be certified before receiving an athletics scholarship, practicing and competing at a Division I or II institution.

Q: How do I register?

Students have two options for registering with the clearinghouse. You may complete your registration online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net or by completing and mailing the Student Release Form to the address included on the form.

Q: What if I have attended more than one high school?

If you have attended multiple high schools since ninth grade, you must have an official transcript from each school. These transcripts can either come from each school or the high school from which you are graduating. The transcripts must come by mail directly from the high school (not from you). You should give the pink and yellow copies of the student-release form to the counselor at the high school from which you will be graduating. You may also need to make copies of this form and send them to the counselors at the other schools that you have attended. Faxed transcripts are not acceptable under any circumstances.

Q: What if I've been "home-schooled"?

If you've been "home-schooled" during all of Grades 9 through 12, you do not have to register with the clearinghouse. Your certification status will be determined through an initial-eligibility waiver. If you attended a "traditional" school for some portion of Grades 9 through 12, you are required to register with the clearinghouse.

Q: Are standardized test scores required?

Qualifying test scores are required for participation at both Division I and Division II colleges. If you intend to participate at either a Division I or II school, the test scores may be taken from your official high-school transcript or be sent to the clearinghouse directly from the testing agency.

Q: How can I arrange for my scores to be sent directly from the testing agency?

When you register to take the ACT or the SAT, you can mark code 9999 so that the clearinghouse will be one of the institutions receiving your scores; or alternatively, you can submit a request (and fee) for an "Additional Score Report" to the appropriate testing agency by indicating code 9999 on your request form.

Q: What will the clearinghouse provide to the colleges that are recruiting me?

The clearinghouse will send your eligibility status to any Division I or II college that requests it. Please note that the clearinghouse will not send your eligibility information at your request; rather, the college must make the request for that information. Additionally, if no member institution requests your eligibility status, a final certification decision may not be processed.