

# Introduction to College Sports Recruitment and Eligibility

Michelle Bowman  
Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance  
Butler University (NCAA DI)

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Zoom



# Agenda

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- Role of Compliance Officers
- Recruiting
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  - How Do You Get Recruited?
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- Tips from Compliance Officer
- Resources
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# Background

- Aug 2010 – June 2013 – Valparaiso University (NCAA DI)
- July 2013 – Aug 2017 – Utah State University (NCAA DI)
- Aug 2017- March 2022 – Ball State University (NCAA DI)
- April 2022 – Present – Butler University (NCAA DI)

# Role of Compliance Officers

- Help recruits, student-athletes, coaches, and staff manage NCAA (or NAIA, etc.) rules.
- Customer service-based position.
- Role at Butler:
  - NCAA rules officer;
  - Athletic Dept liaison with Financial Aid, Admissions, and Registrar's office;
  - Meetings, phone calls/zooms with recruits, parents, HS guidance counselors, etc.

# Recruiting

- NCAA DI, DII, DIII, NAIA, Junior College recruiting rules are all different.
- Each DI sport has a general timeline of when specific types of recruiting activities can take place.
- Most DI sports have a recruiting calendar that dictate what sort of recruiting activities they can do during specific periods during the year.

<b>Division, Sport and Grade Level Determines Recruiting Activities*</b>			
<b>Contact Period</b>	<b>Evaluation Period</b>	<b>Quiet Period</b>	<b>Dead Period</b>
College coaches may call, write, text or email you and your family.	College coaches may call, write, text or email you and your family.	College coaches may call, write, text or email you and your family.	College coaches may call, write, text or email you and your family.
College coaches may watch you compete.	College coaches may watch you compete.	College coaches may not watch you compete.	College coaches may not watch you compete.
College coaches may visit your high school.	College coaches may visit your high school.	College coaches may not visit your high school.	College coaches may not visit your high school.
College coaches may have face-to-face contact with you and your family.	College coaches may not have face-to-face contact with you or your family off the college's campus.	College coaches may only have face-to-face contact with you and your family on the college's campus.	College coaches may not have face-to-face contact with you or your family.

Screenshot from page 29 of Guide for College Bound Student-Athletes.

# Types of Recruiting Activities

- **Contacts** – in-person face to face meeting with a college coach off-campus.
- **Evaluation** – college coaches are observing practice. Can also meet with HS coaches, guidance counselors. No in-person contact with recruit or family.
- **Visits** – Unofficial and Official.
- **Phone Calls** – including Zoom/FaceTime.
- **Private Electronic Correspondence** – AKA email, texting, social media direct messaging, other private send to recipient messages.
- **Verbal Offer** – communication about athletic scholarship offer. Not written.
- **Written Offer** – written offer of athletic scholarship. Can be in email, text, letter, or athletic scholarship signing packet.

# How Do You Get Recruited?

- Suggestions **from a Compliance officer:**
  - Be an active participant in the process. Do your own research.
    - What kind of school do you want to attend? What level (DI, D2, D3, etc.) do you want?
  - Talk to your CHS coaches about playing sports in college. HS and club coaches are good resources for college coaches during the recruiting process.
  - Max Preps/Hudl pages are common. Social media might be helpful.
  - Complete recruiting questionnaires that may be available on specific school's athletics team pages.
    - Ex: [Ball State Football Recruiting Questionnaire \(link\)](#); [Indiana State Volleyball Recruiting Questionnaire \(link\)](#); [IU Track and Field Recruiting Questionnaire \(link\)](#)
  - Email/DM coaches but understand that they may not be able to respond to you immediately or with any substance. DI rules (at least) dictate how old recruits must be for coaches to send private messages.
  - Attend camps hosted by colleges. Timing of camps varies by sport and by division.
  - Participating on club teams may help with exposure. May depend on sport.

# Recruiting Visits – Unofficial Visits (UV)

- Unofficial Visit – visit to a college campus by student or family members. Unofficial visits include interaction with athletics staff/coaches or arranged by athletics.
  - DI – can take as many unofficial visits as want after first permissible date for sport. Recruiting calendar limitations may apply (recruiting shutdown or dead period).
- Colleges are not paying for visit expenses (food, transportation, lodging, entertainment, etc..) during an unofficial visit.

<b>What can an NCAA school pay for during an unofficial visit?</b>		
<b>Division I</b>	<b>Division II</b>	<b>Division III</b>
Complimentary admission (including three tickets for a home athletics contest).	Complimentary admission (including five tickets for a home athletics contest).	Complimentary admission (including tickets for you and those accompanying you).

Screenshot from page 30 of Guide for College Bound Student-Athlete



# Recruiting Visits – Official Visits (OV)

- Official Visit – any visit to college campus where some or all expenses are paid by NCAA school student and family are visiting. Schools, typically, can only provide 1 OV to a recruit.
  - No obligation for schools to pay for 100% of visit expenses. Coaches/schools must make budgetary decisions on what they can afford to pay for OVs.
  - DI – can't take an OV during sport's recruiting shutdown or dead period.
  - DII – can't take an OV during sport's dead period.
  - DIII – can be offered an OV after Jan 1 of your junior year of high school.

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

<b>Division I</b>	<b>Division II</b>	<b>Division III</b>
Transportation to and from the NCAA school you're visiting for you (and up to two family members).	Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you're visiting.	Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you're visiting.
Your lodging.	Your lodging.	Your lodging.
Up to three meals per day for you and up to four family members.	Your meals.	Up to three on-campus meals per day for you.
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).	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).	Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to \$40 per recruited student-athlete and any family member accompanying you, including tickets to home sports events).

Screenshot from page 30 of Guide for College Bound Student-Athlete

# Purpose of Visits

- Learn about the school from an academic perspective.
  - Get a feel for the school. Do you want large or small class sizes? Do you want mostly in-person classes or have some online options? Are you interested in a specific major? What are the admissions requirements for university and/or specific programs?
- See/Do the things that will help make your college choice.
  - College coaches want to know what your interests are. If there's something specific you want to see, speak up!
  - Examples: Meet with rep from a specific degree program. See the locker room and weight room. Tour dorms. Meet with athletic dept administrator(s). Learn about academic services provided to student-athletes. Observe pre-game process (meal, shootaround/warmups, etc..).
- Get a feel for the team.
  - It's common for UV and OV to include free time with current student-athletes. Recruits and current student-athletes can exchange contact info and remain in touch if they want. Coaches cannot direct current student-athletes to recruit on behalf of coaches.

# “Offers” - Athletic Scholarship or Walk-on

- Understand what is being offered.
  - Is it an athletics scholarship offer? What expenses does it cover?
  - Duration: 1 year or multi-year? (DII may not be able to provide multi-year scholarship awards)
  - Is it a non-scholarship/walk on roster spot? What does that mean for the specific team?
  - **Compliance Officer Notes:**
    - Coaches should not be offering academic aid. Although that may be built into overall aid package.
    - Coaches should not be guaranteeing admission to the university or specific program.
- DI rules
  - Verbal athletics scholarship offers – some sports have a timeline in which coaches are allowed to provide a verbal (not written) offer to a recruit.
  - Written athletics scholarship offers – no earlier than Aug 1 of SR year of HS. This applies to email/text confirmation of athletic scholarships.
  - National Letter of Intent – no earlier than the first day of the sport’s signing period. Fall signing period starts November 8, 2023.
  - Athletic scholarship agreements – separate from NLI. Usually included in NLI signing packet.

# Initial Eligibility – NCAA Standards

## • NCAA DI

- 16 credits of core courses
  - 4 credits – English
  - 3 credits – Math
  - 2 credits – Science
  - 1 credits – Additional Eng/Math/Sci
  - 2 credits – Social Science
  - 4 credits – Additional cores (core subjects, foreign language, comparative religion, philosophy)
- Meet 10/7 Rule
  - Complete 10 credits before start 7<sup>th</sup> semester (SR year).
  - 7 of 10 credits must be Eng/Math/Sci.
- 2.3 min core course\* GPA.
- Complete core courses within 8 semesters/4 years from start of 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Graduate from high school.
- \*\*Test scores no longer required!!!!

## • NCAA DII

- 16 credits of core courses
  - 3 credits – English
  - 2 credits – Math
  - 2 credits – Science
  - 3 credits – “Extra” (Eng/Math/Sci)
  - 2 credits – Social Science
  - 4 credits – “Other” (core subjects, foreign language, comparative religion, philosophy)
- 2.2 min core course\* GPA
- Graduate from high school.
- \*\*Test scores no longer required!!!

### Compliance Officer Notes:

\*Core Course GPA – not the same as HS weighted/unweighted GPA.

\*\*Test scores may be required/recommended for actual admission to colleges.

Links to NCAA Eligibility Center DI and DII core course worksheet included at end of PowerPoint.

# Initial Eligibility

- Students talk to CHS guidance counselors early in HS enrollment about playing sports in college. At least put it on the radar.
  - **Tip:** Use core course worksheets to plot out core courses taking. HS counselors + students should be reviewing core course completion periodically.
- Create NCAA Eligibility Center account. Make sure to pay the account set up fee or have fee waiver on file.
  - **Tip:** Compliance officers can't find student EC profiles if the student hasn't paid account set up fee. Not paying the fee in a timely manner could delay a student taking an Official Visit to a DI campus.
- Request counselors upload transcripts at the end of the year.
  - **Tips:** Getting transcripts after SO year with JR year schedule is important and helpful for Compliance officers.
  - Compliance officers can download HS transcripts from the EC. It's helpful when HS transcripts are up to date and already sent to Eligibility Center.
- If attend multiple high schools, must upload transcripts from each school.
  - **Tip:** Indiana Online classes will need transcripts submitted separate from CHS transcripts.
- Eligibility at NCAA DI and DII are separate from admission, qualification for scholarship, etc.. at individual schools.
- CHS counselors - make sure to review core course list periodically and submit information when course titles change.

# Tips from a Compliance Officer

- NCAA Eligibility Center and university admissions are separate. Both will need copies of transcripts from CHS that include proof of graduation.
- Test scores not required for NCAA DI or DII eligibility. College admission or qualification for academic scholarship MAY still require test scores.
- Recruits and families can visit campus as much as want without contact with athletics. Tour campus!
- Meet with an Admissions counselor!
- Meet with a Financial Aid counselor if needed.
- Meet with an academic advisor or faculty member for the program's you are interested in.
- Complete "Net Price Calculator" or FAFSA forms found on university websites.

*\*These are not specific to Butler University\**

# Resources – NCAA Links

## NCAA Recruiting Resources:

- [NCAA Recruiting Fact Sheet - All Divisions](#)
- [NCAA Recruiting Calendars – FAQs](#)
- [NCAA DI and DII Recruiting Calendars - 23-24](#)
- [NCAA - Play Division I Sports website](#)

## NCAA Eligibility Center Resources:

- [NCAA Eligibility Center - Registration](#)
- [NCAA Eligibility Center - High School Portal](#)
- [NCAA Eligibility Center - Guide for College Bound Athlete](#)
- [NCAA Eligibility Center - DI and DII Core Course Worksheet](#)

# Resources – NAIA and NJCAA Links

## NAIA Resources:

- [NAIA Eligibility Center](#)
- [NAIA Future Student-Athletes website](#)

## NJCAA Resources:

- [NJCAA Eligibility Requirements](#)
- [NJCAA FAQs](#)