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We Believe in the Power of Sport Beyond Profit and its' Power to Transform People and Communities



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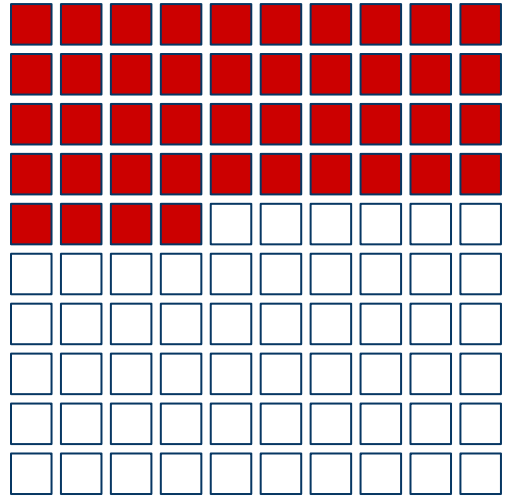
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WHY ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY MATTERS

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44% of high school students are ineligible for college sports

* According to an Honest Game study conducted across 31 states, involving 128,934 students from over 300 high schools





1 in 3 high schools

across the country do not have adequate NCAA-approved courses to qualify their students for NCAA full-qualifier status

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Don’t be caught by surprise!

Students can be admitted to college, rostered to a team, and then discover they are NCAA or NAIA **academic non-qualifiers**, making them **ineligible for scholarships or to compete** at the college level.

By the time students learn they are ineligible, it’s too late to fix.

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COURSE OVERVIEW

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- Academic Eligibility 101 for College Athletics
- NCAA Eligibility Center Portal Maintenance
- Registering with the NCAA and NAIA Eligibility Centers
- College Recruiting - Rules and Regulations
- Navigating the New Landscape of Athletic Grant-in-Aid
- The Student-Athlete Guide to Financial Aid and College Scholarships

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MODERN DAY COLLEGE RECRUITING

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How you can support your students who get recruited:

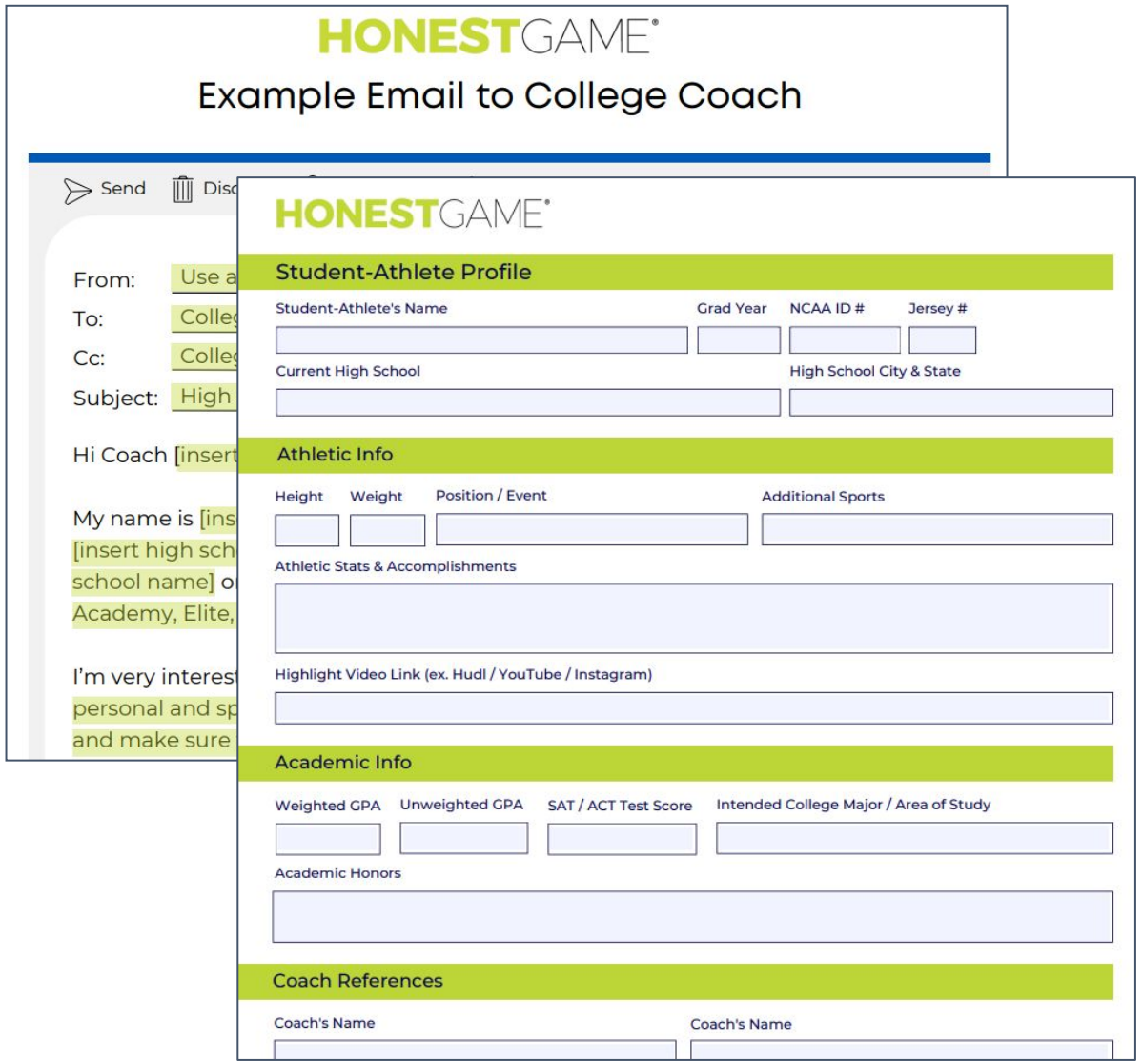
How it Was vs. How it is Today

Stakes are higher:

- 10x more talent
- Much more scholarship money
- More recruiting services (rumor mill, equity to access, and credibility of service)

Three things matter:

- Can you play?
- Academic eligibility/admissibility
- Your character

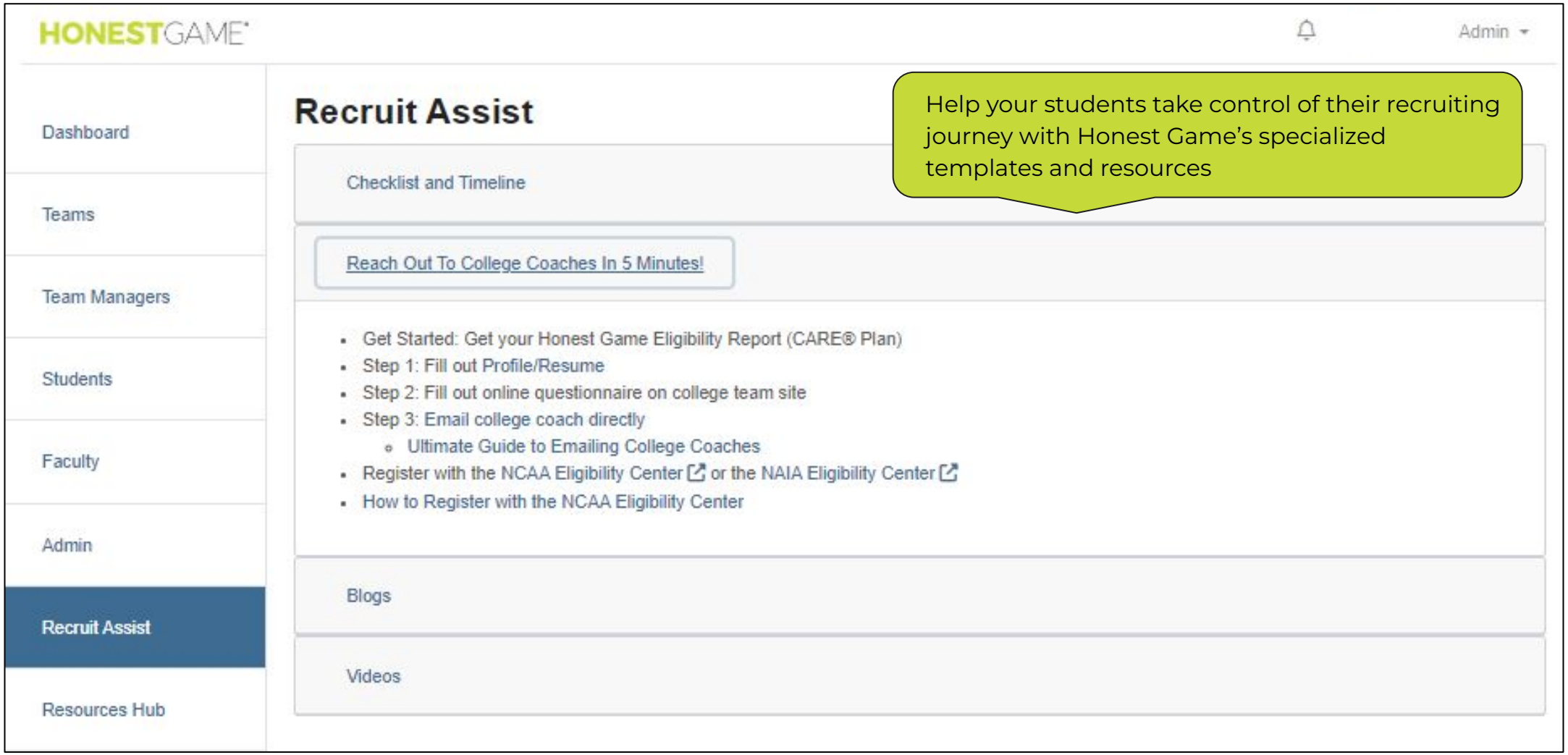


*** $3.6 B Every Year in NCAA Scholarships and $800 M in NAIA*

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RECRUIT ASSIST

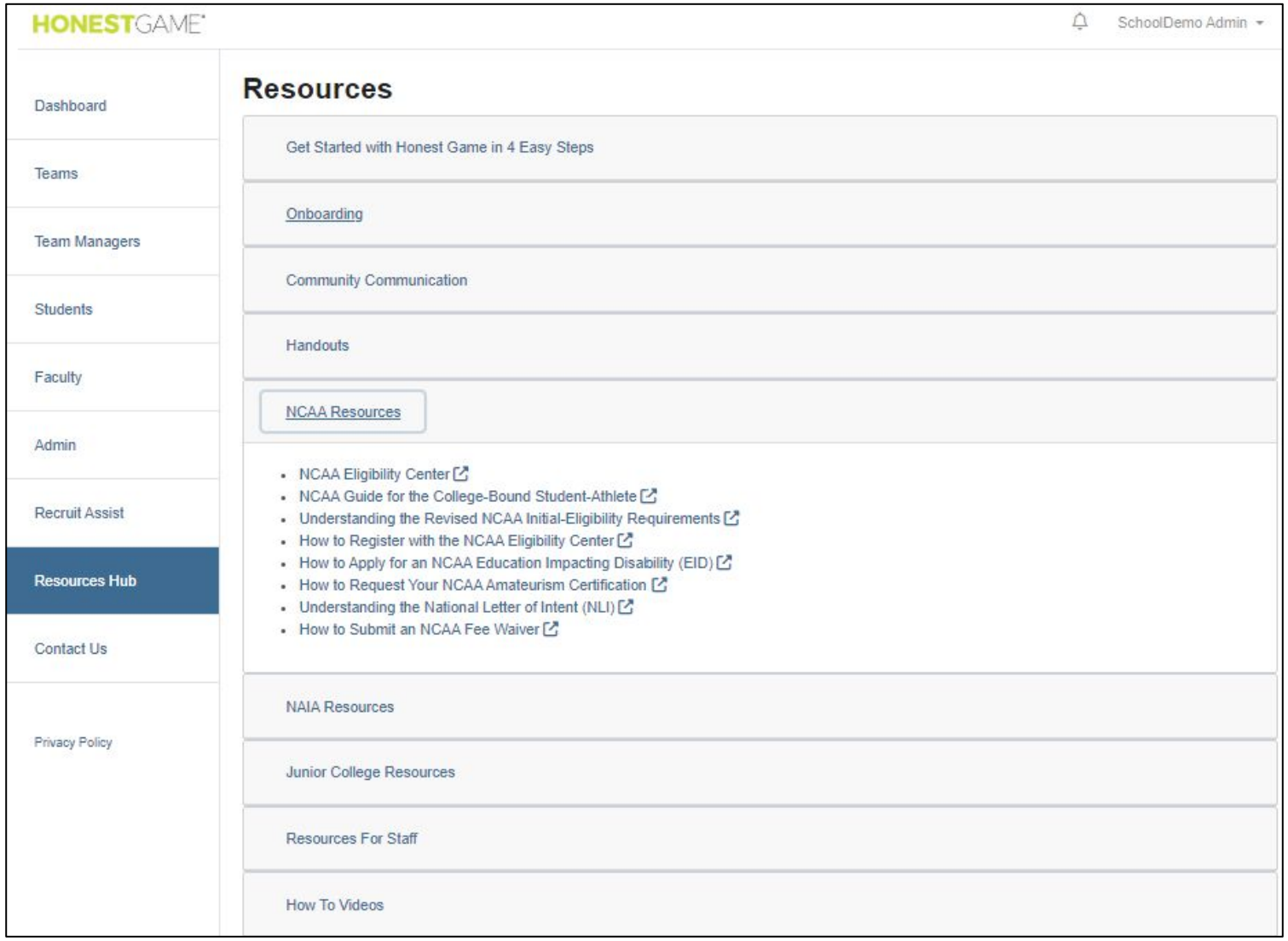
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ONE-CLICK INTERACTIVE RESOURCES - STUDENTS/FAMILIES

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STUDENT-ATHLETE TIMELINE

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HONESTGAME® COLLEGE ATHLETIC CHECKLIST

FRESHMAN YEAR

- ☐ Review Honest Game's Academic Eligibility 101 Guide
- ☐ Check your Honest Game Academic Eligibility progress report
- ☐ Plan for summer school if needed

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- ☐ Review freshman class checklist items
- ☐ Register with the NCAA and NAIA Eligibility Center if you are being recruited
- ☐ Create a College Starter List
- ☐ Fill out online recruit questionnaires for college teams
- ☐ Email/DM college coaches
- ☐ Check your Academic Plan if you decide to reclassify

JUNIOR YEAR

- ☐ Review sophomore class checklist items
- ☐ Complete the NCAA 10/7 requirement before start of senior year
- ☐ Re-evaluate college list
- ☐ College campus visits (virtual or in-person)
- ☐ Complete verbal commitment (optional)
- ☐ Confirm transcript has been submitted to the NCAA Eligibility Center
- ☐ Ask for teacher recommendation letters

SENIOR YEAR

- ☐ Review junior class checklist items
- ☐ Submit college applications (as early as August 1)
- ☐ Check the NCAA requirements, especially if graduating early

Scan to Download Checklist

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Academic Eligibility 101 for College Sports

COLLEGE ATHLETICS | OPPORTUNITIES

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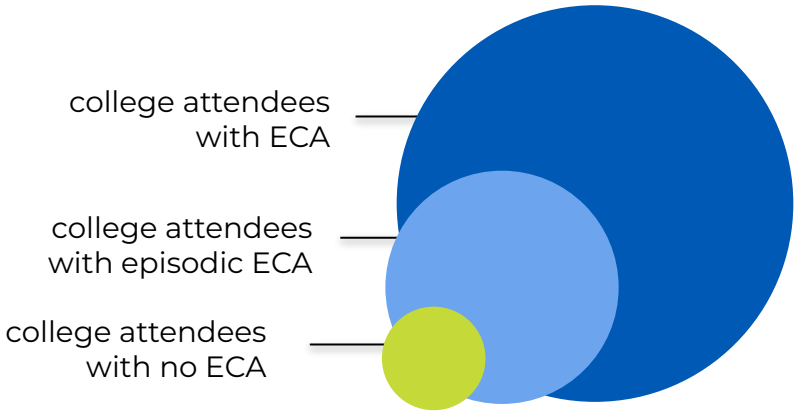
	NAIA	NCAA DI	NCAA DII	NCAA DIII	NJCCA
# SCHOOLS	250	350	300	432	525
# STUDENT-ATHLETES	77,000	187,000	120,800	195,000	70,000
# SPORTS OFFERED	17	24	24	24	16
ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES (DI/DII) NO (DIII)

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WHY ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY MATTERS

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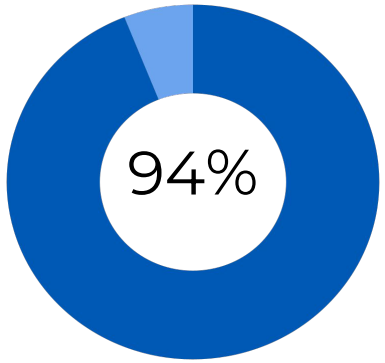
Research shows that sports as an extracurricular activity is most consistently associated with high academic achievement in both men and women.*



Kids consistently involved in extracurricular activities (ECA) are 70% more likely to go to college than students who are only episodically involved – and 400% more likely than kids who are not involved at all.*

Student-athletes continue to graduate at record rates and outperform their peers in the general student body. The four-class average federal rate for DIII student-athletes was 70%.

70%



94% of women who hold C-suite level positions are former athletes. 52% played sports at the collegiate level (compared to 39% of women at other managerial levels).

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*Our Kids, Robert Putnam 2015
** NCAA Graduation Rates 2022

WHY ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY MATTERS

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1 in 3

schools across the U.S. are either unaccredited or lapsed with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Academic eligibility is required for:

- X Scholarships
- X Competition
- X Admissions
- X Roster
- X Practice
- X NIL*

**If you can't play, you won't get the exposure*

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NCAA ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY | THE BASICS

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Uses a combination of a student-athlete's high school coursework and their NCAA Core GPA as calculated using NCAA-approved Core Courses.

DI Minimum 2.3 NCAA Core GPA in 16 NCAA-approved Core Courses (10 before the start of senior year)

DII Minimum a 2.2 NCAA core GPA in 16 NCAA-approved Core Courses

DIII No NCAA course requirements. Must meet the admissions standards for the institution, with full eligibility in accordance with the NCAA academic requirements

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NCAA ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY | THE BASICS

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- ✓ Standardized test scores are no longer required for initial-eligibility and removal of the NCAA Sliding Scale
- ✓ As of August 1, 2024, core courses taken through distance, e-learning, or hybrid program must each be submitted to the NCAA Eligibility Center for Approval if they are noted on a transcript as taught in a different format
- ✓ The NCAA COVID-19 Waiver has lapsed
- ✓ Increased account fee for NCAA Registration Accounts and new Amateurism-Only Certification Account

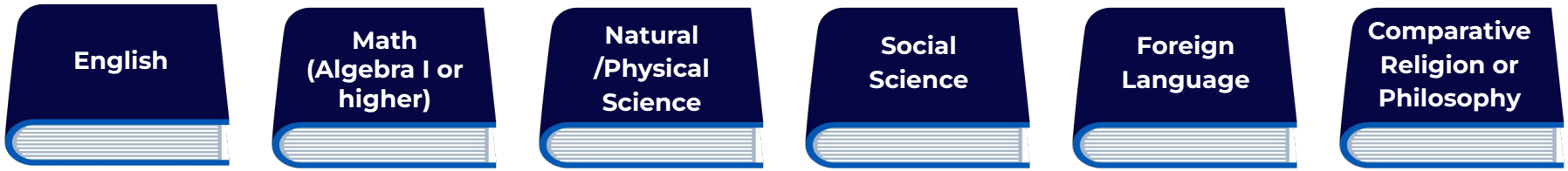
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What is an NCAA Core Course?

NCAA Core courses must meet the below requirements to be approved by the NCAA:

✓ Be an academic, four-year college preparatory course receiving high school graduation credit in one or more of these areas:



✓ Be at or above your high school's regular academic level

✓ Be taught by a qualified instructor

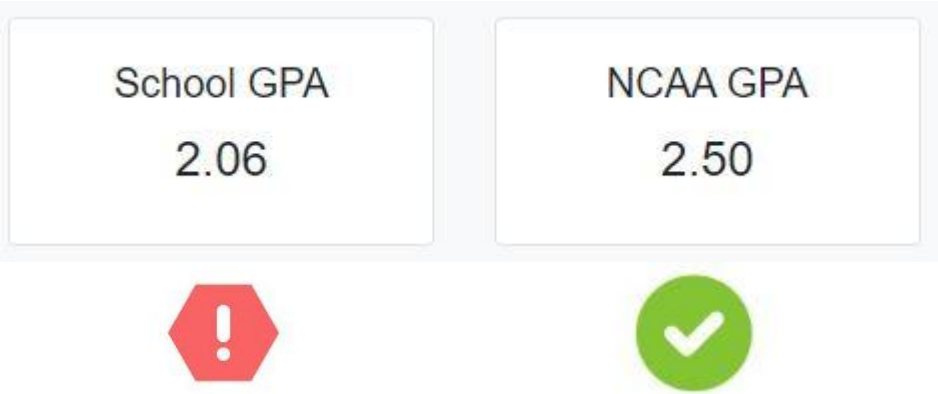
✗ Not all high school classes are NCAA core courses and each high school has its own list of NCAA-approved courses, which must be submitted and approved by the NCAA for each school.

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What is an NCAA Core GPA?

The NCAA Eligibility Center calculates student-athletes GPA (DI/DII level) based on the grades earned in the 16 NCAA-approved core courses that are completed in high school (32 semesters).



A real-life student who had a low school GPA but an eligible NCAA Core GPA



A real-life student who had a high school GPA but an ineligible NCAA Core GPA

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What is the NCAA Core GPA for a DI Full Qualifier?

Student-Athletes must earn at least a 2.3 GPA in their NCAA Core Courses.

Full Qualifier: College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Academic Redshirt: College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first regular academic term, but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier: College-bound student-athletes cannot practice, receive athletics scholarships or compete during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

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What is the NCAA Core GPA for a DII Full Qualifier?

Student-Athletes must earn at least a 2.2 GPA in their NCAA Core Courses.

Full Qualifier: College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Partial Qualifier: College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first year of enrollment, but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier: does not exist at the NCAA DII level.

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What is an NCAA Early Qualifier?

Early Academic Qualifier status is designated for prospective student-athletes who meet certain academic thresholds **after six semesters of high school**. EQs are eligible to compete, practice and receive athletics aid during their first year of full-time enrollment.

NCAA DI EQ Requirements: College-bound student-athletes must achieved an NCAA Core GPA of 3.000 or higher in a minimum of 14 core courses in the following areas:

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of math
- 2 years of natural/physical science
- 2 additional years of English, math or natural/physical science
- 5 Five additional core courses in any area

A final high school transcript must be submitted to the Eligibility Center.

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What is an NCAA Early Qualifier?

NCAA DII EQ Requirements: College-bound student-athletes must achieve an NCAA Core GPA of 2.500 or higher in a minimum of 14 core courses in the following areas:

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of math
- 2 years of natural/physical science
- 6 additional core courses in any area

A final high school transcript must be submitted to the Eligibility Center.

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What is the NCAA 10/7 Rule and How Does it Work?

NCAA DI initial-eligibility rules require college-bound student-athletes to complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses at their high school(s) by the time they enroll in college.

For students looking to compete at the DI level, the NCAA **requires 10 of those 16 core courses to be completed before the start of the student's 7th semester of high school**. Specifically, **7 of those 10** courses must be in the subject areas of English, Math, or Natural/Physical Science.

Once high school senior year starts, grades achieved in the 10/7 courses must be used in calculating the student's NCAA core GPA and cannot be replaced or repeated, so the term "locked in" is often used.



If a student-athlete does not meet the 10/7 Rule by the mandatory deadline, they will be deemed a Non-Qualifier and will be ineligible to play at a NCAA DI school right after high school.

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Education-Impacting Disability (EID)

For academic eligibility purposes, the NCAA defines an EID as a current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and required accommodation must be approved by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

A high school student with a documented EID must meet the same initial-eligibility requirements as other students but may be provided certain accommodations to help meet those requirements.

A course for students with EIDs may count towards the NCAA academic eligibility requirements if it:

- is designated for students with EIDs
- must be substantially comparable, qualitatively and quantitatively, as a regular core course offered in that academic area
- must appear on the high school's list of approved core courses as a EID version "=Algebra 1"

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Education-Impacting Disability (EID)

Students planning on attending an NCAA DI school and **whose EID documentation is approved by the NCAA Eligibility Center:**

- may take up to **3 additional core courses after graduating high school** and before enrolling full-time at a DI school if they graduate high school in eight consecutive semesters after starting ninth grade.

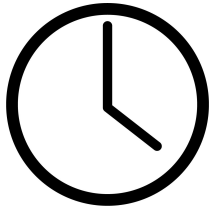
Students planning on attending a NCAA DII school and **whose EID documentation is approved by the NCAA Eligibility Center:**

- may take **an unlimited number of core courses after starting 9th grade and before enrolling full-time at a Division II school**.

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NCAA DI QUALIFIER POINTERS

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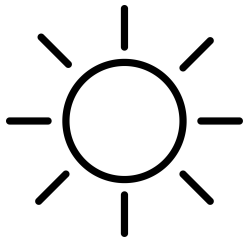


Each Semester Counts Equally

Average 4 NCAA-approved courses each year

In total 16 (32 semesters) NCAA-approved courses

10 (20 semesters) NCAA courses must be completed before start senior year



Summer School or Virtual Courses

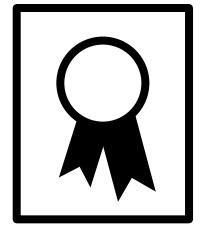
Catching up on courses during the summer or taking virtual courses is encouraged

Not every course is NCAA approved, check approved course list



Core GPA in NCAA courses

Earn a minimum 2.3 Core GPA in NCAA Core Courses



NCAA D1 Qualifier Status

Student registers with NCAA Eligibility Center, submits transcript and completes NCAA Eligibility Center Amateurism Survey

Student completes 16 NCAA approved courses:
4 English | 3 Math | 2 Nat Sci | 1 Eng/Nat Sci/Math | 2 Soc Sci | 4 Add'l Courses

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NAIA ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY | THE BASICS

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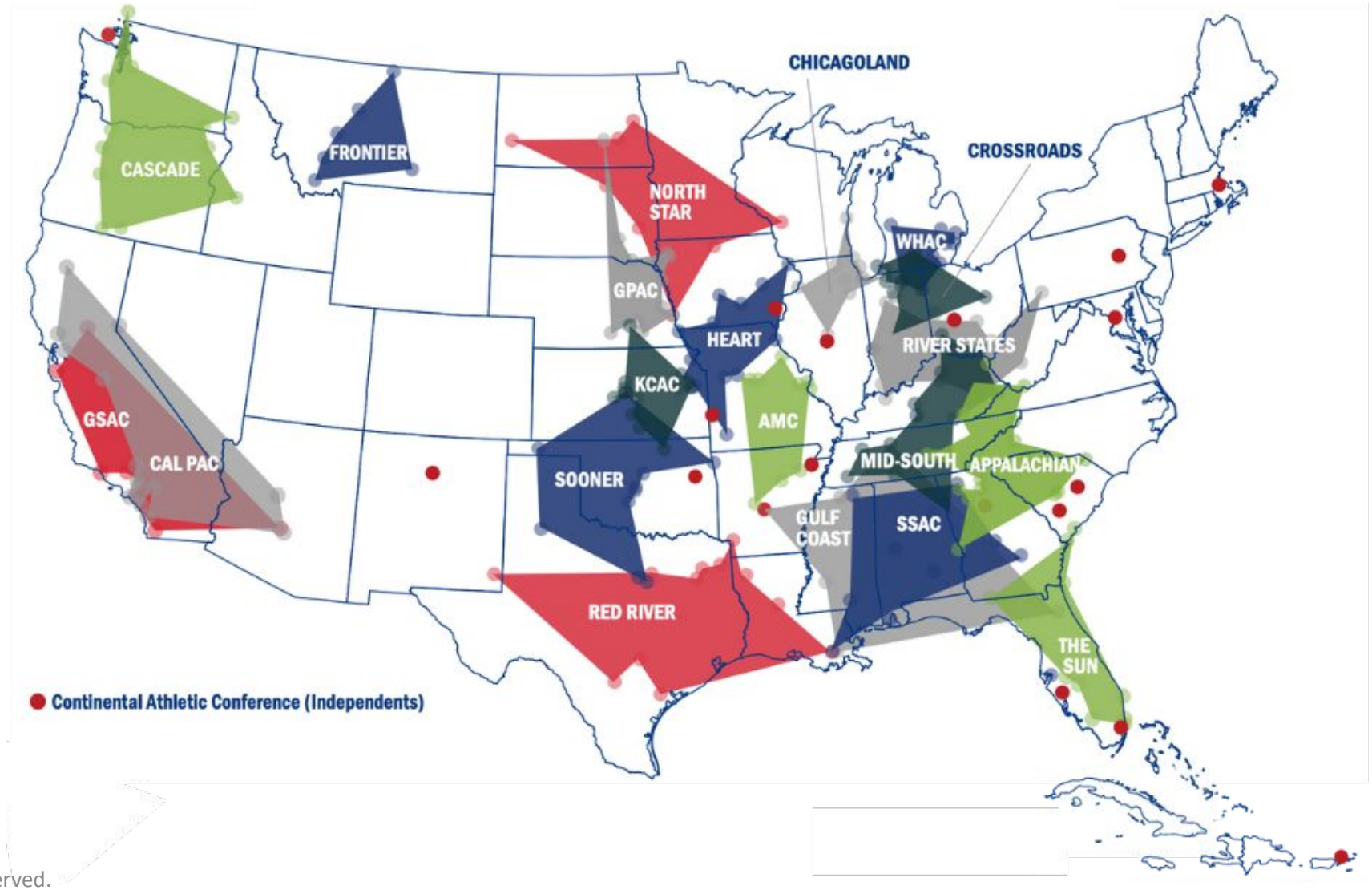
Students who do not meet the **2.3 minimum overall high school GPA requirement** upon graduation may still become eligible to compete at an NAIA school by meeting 2 of the following 3 criteria:

- ✓ Minimum overall high school GPA of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- ✓ Minimum test score of 18 on the ACT or 970 on the SAT
- ✓ Graduate in the top half (50%) of their high school class

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NAIA ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY | THE BASICS

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JUNIOR COLLEGE ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY | THE BASICS

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- JUCOs are allowed to set their own standards.
- Generally, a student-athlete **must be a graduate of a high school with an academic diploma**, earned a **general education diploma (GED)** or a state department of education-approved **high school equivalency test.**
- NCAA initial-eligibility is important to know and understand prior to attending JUCO for student-athletes looking to continue on at a four-year school.
- NCAA DI/DII non-qualifiers who attend JUCO are held to different academic and enrollment requirements than those that were initial-qualifiers out of high school.

Honest Game Insight: Attending a JUCO right out of high school does not inhibit a student-athlete's goal of playing at a traditional four-year college!

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NCAA DI 2-4 Transfers

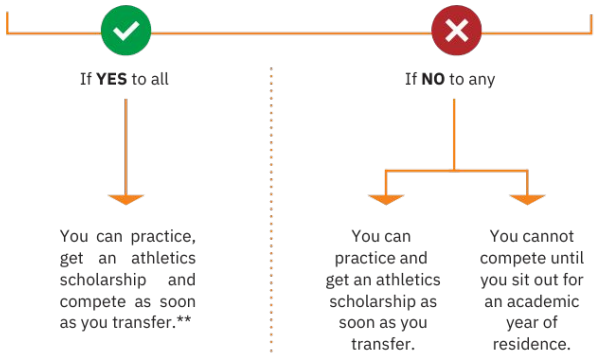
You are a qualifier:

At your two-year school, did you:

1. Complete at least **one semester** or **quarter** as a **full-time student**? *Summer school does not count.*

2. Complete an average of **12 transferable credit hours** in each term you attended full time?*

3. Earn a **GPA** of **2.500** in those transferable credit hours?



You are a nonqualifier or academic redshirt (or qualifier who does not meet criteria listed on the left side of this page):

At your two-year school, did you:

1. Graduate from your **two-year school**? You must have earned **25% of your credit hours** at the two-year school awarding your degree.

2. Complete at least **three semesters** or four quarters as a full-time student? Summer school does not count.

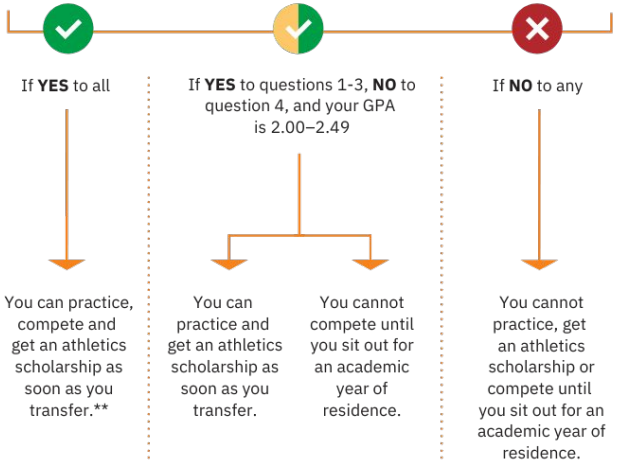
3. Complete **48 transferable credit hours** if your school uses semesters or **72 transferable credit hours** if your school uses quarters? *Your transferable credit hours **must include** all the following subjects:

» **English:** Six hours if your school uses semesters or eight hours if your school uses quarters.

» **Math:** Three hours if your school uses semesters or four hours if your school uses quarters.

» **Science:** Three hours if your school uses semesters or four hours if your school uses quarters.

4. Earn a GPA of 2.500 in those transferable credit hours?



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NCAA DII 2-4 Transfers

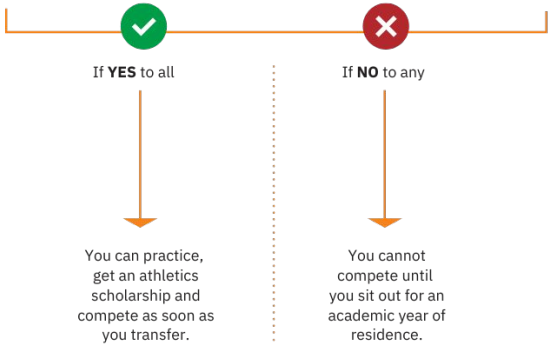
You have never attended a four-year school full time, are a qualifier and have attended only one semester or quarter at a two-year school full time:

At your two-year school, did you:

1. Complete only **one semester** or quarter as a full-time student? *Summer school does not count.*

2. Complete at least **12 transferable credit hours** for the semester or quarter you attended full time?*

3. Earn a **GPA of 2.200** in all transferable credit hours?



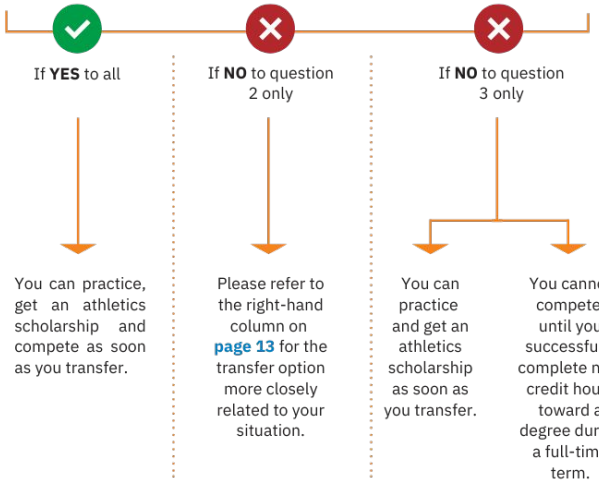
If you are a qualifier or partial qualifier:

At your two-year school, did you:

1. Complete at least **two semesters** or three quarters as a **full-time** student? *Summer school does not count.*

2. Earn at least **25%** of the credit hours needed to fulfill the degree requirement at the **two-year school** awarding your degree?

3. Earn at least **nine transferable credit hours** during your last full-time term?



You have never attended a four-year school full time, have been enrolled for more than one full-time term in a two-year school but have not graduated and are a qualifier or partial qualifier:

At your two-year school, did you:

1. Complete at least **two semesters** or three quarters as a full-time student? *Summer school does not count.*

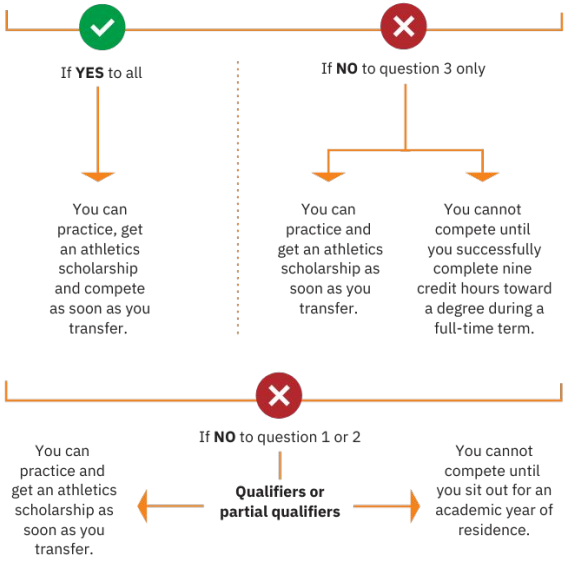
2. Complete an average of **12 transferable credit hours** for each term you attended full time, earning a **GPA of 2.200** in all transferable credit hours? *Your transferable credit hours **must include all** the following subjects:

» **English:** Six hours if your school uses semesters or eight hours if your school uses quarters.

» **Math:** Three hours if your school uses semesters or four hours if your school uses quarters.

» **Science:** Three hours if your school uses semesters or four hours if your school uses quarters.

3. Earn at least **nine transferable credit hours** during your last full-time term?



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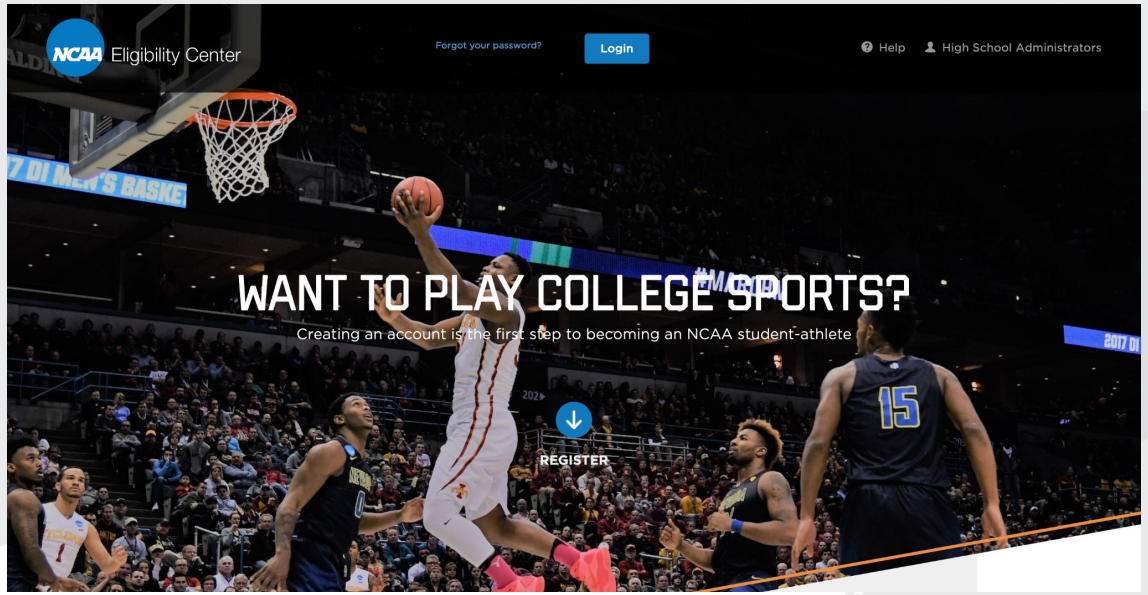
Registering with the NCAA and NAIA Eligibility Centers

ELIGIBILITY CENTER REGISTRATION

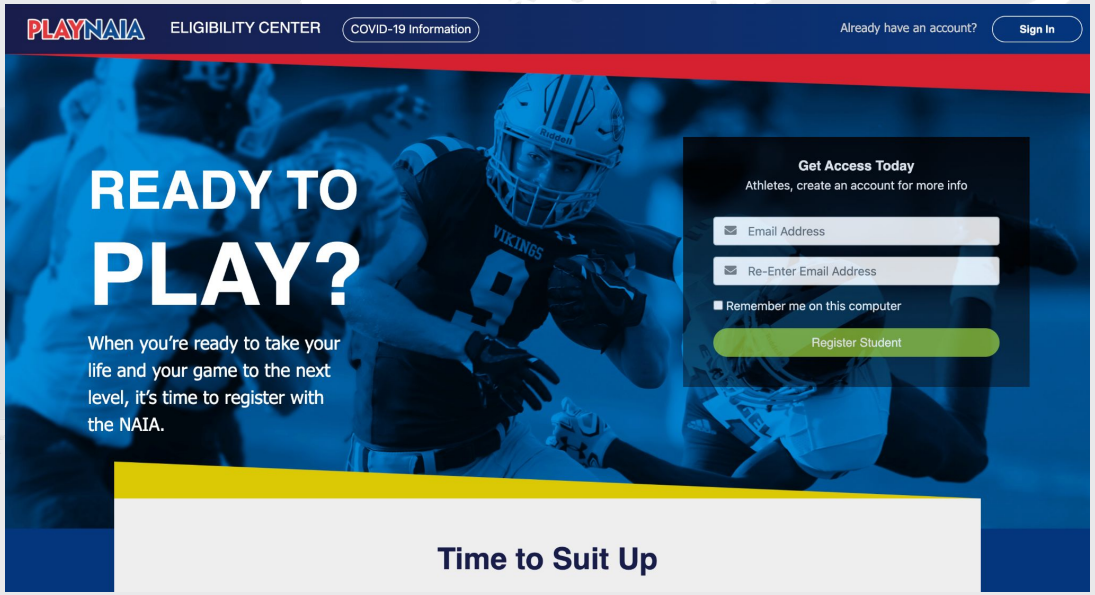
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Encourage College-Bound Student-Athletes to Register

ELIGIBILITYCENTER.ORG



PLAYNAIA.ORG



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What Type of NCAA Account Does My Student-Athlete Need?

All student-athletes looking to study and compete at an NCAA DI or DII school must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

There are 3 types of accounts depending on the NCAA division and whether they're a domestic or international student-athlete.

- **Free Profile Page Account:** For domestic students registering to play at NCAA-sponsored events, students younger than 9th grade, or those unsure of which division they want to compete in.
- **Academic and Amateurism Certification Account**: For students wanting to compete at an DI or DII school, be placed on a school's Institutional Request List (IRL), sign an athletic grant-in-aid, or are preparing to take an official visit. Registration fee is $100 for domestic students or $160 for international students.
- **Amateurism-Only Certification Account:** All international student who plan to compete at a DIII school, as well as domestic student-athletes transferring from a 2-year school to an NCAA DI or DII school who have not previously been certified. Registration fee is $70.

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What Do Students Need to Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center?

- **Valid Email Address**: Students should use an email that is frequently checked and one they will have access to after high school, as it is how the NCAA will contact them if they have any account questions or require students to take additional steps.
- **Basic Education History**: Include a list of all high schools or secondary schools students have attended and the dates during which they attended them.
- **Sports Participation History *(Academic and Amateurism Certification Accounts only)***: Add details about any teams they have practiced or played or events they participated in, as well as information about any individuals that have advised them or marketed their skills.
- **Payment *(Academic and Amateurism Certification Account only)***: Effective 9/1/2022, the registration fee is $100 for students from the United States and its territories and Canada, and $160 for students from all other countries. Students must pay online by debit, credit card or e-check. Some students may be eligible for a fee waiver.

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5 Tips for Student-Athletes Completing Eligibility Center Registration

1. **Stay on top of Eligibility Center tasks:** Students will receive an email from the NCAA when they are assigned new tasks.
2. **Complete and send in SAT/ACT test scores:** While the NCAA no longer requires standardized test scores, they are still mandatory for NAIA eligibility.
3. **Keep academic records up-to-date:** Students should ask their school counselor to send up-to-date transcripts to the NCAA and NAIA Eligibility Center after finishing their 6th semester of high school (typically junior year for most students).
4. **Send final academic records to the Eligibility Center:** After completing high school, students should confirm that their school counselor has sent their final high school transcript (with proof of graduation) to the NCAA and/or NAIA Eligibility Center.
5. **Request NCAA Amateurism Certification:** College-bound NCAA DI or DII student-athletes must follow NCAA amateurism rules about receiving a salary or prize money for athletic participation.

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College Recruiting: Rules and Regulations

RECRUITING BASICS

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Be Prepared for the Academic Conversation

Leverage your students' academics in the recruiting conversation with college coaches - an academically eligible recruit can rise to the top of a pile of high schoolers very fast!

If a college coach asks for a students' transcript, attach the Honest Game compliance academic eligibility report with it to increase the students' chances of receiving an offer.

Know the Recruiting Calendar

Stay current with recruiting calendar dates and changes at Division I and II Recruiting Calendars and Guides - NCAA.org.

Follow NIL Regulations

Check with both state high school athletic association and the college compliance office recruiting your student to assure they are following the ever-changing Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) legislation. One misstep and it could cost your student a year or more of eligibility.

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HONESTGAME®

Be Prepared for the Academic Conversation

- College coaches consider a candidate's ability to meet the school's admissions standards, their eligibility status and potential academic scholarship opportunities when reviewing recruits.
- An outstanding GPA and quality standardized test scores can be the difference-maker between you and another player.
- Often college coaches are able to advocate for their recruits in the admissions process and the weight can be significantly lifted off of the coach when a recruit has achieved high grades and test scores – easing the workload on the coaching staff.

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Know the Recruiting Calendar

Coaches Must Follow Specific Rules When Recruiting Based On:

- ✓ Student-athlete's year in high school
- ✓ Whether they are a DI or DII coach
- ✓ Current time of the year (month and day)

Stay current with recruiting calendar dates and changes at Division I and II Recruiting Calendars and Guides - NCAA.org.

✗ ***Failure to follow the rules could result in a violation for the coach (and the recruit) resulting in penalties***

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What to Know About Recruiting “Live Periods”

- Live periods differ by sport: check NCAA recruiting calendar to assist student-athletes with attending the live periods.
- Sometimes these live periods result in school days missed - remind students to keep up with their make-up work from classes they have missed.
- Encourage positivity and social emotional support - this is a high pressure time for your student-athletes.
- Remind students that recruiting schedules and agendas are ever-changing -- recruiting visits and live period schedules could change at the last minute which can cause uncertainty.
- Live periods aren’t just for athletic evaluation - ensure your students are ready to speak to their academic eligibility and have their transcript or Honest Game CARE® plan (College Athletic Report on Eligibility) ready to show.

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What Can You Do During an Evaluation Period?

Prospective College Coaches

- ✓ CAN call/text recruits
- ✓ CAN email recruits
- ✓ CAN comment/like social media posts and send direct messages
- ✓ CAN watch recruits at live competition events
- ✓ CAN offer official and unofficial visits

Student-Athlete Recruits

- ✓ Interact in a positive manner with coaches, teammates, referees and opponents
- ✓ Give your best in each practice or competition
- ✓ Work hard in the classroom and download your Honest Game CARE®
- ✓ Do research on the college that fits your academics and athletic ability best
- ✓ Reach out to college coaches with a short note and any new film
- ✓ Respond to all coach communication

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What Can You Do During a Contact Period?

Prospective College Coaches

- CAN call/text recruits
- CAN email recruits
- CAN comment/like social media posts and send direct messages
- CAN visit recruits in their home or school
- CAN watch recruits at live competition events
- CAN offer official and unofficial visits

Student-Athlete Recruits

- Work hard in the classroom and download your Honest Game CARE®
- Do research on the college that fits your academics and athletic ability best
- Reach out to college coaches with a short note and any new film
- Practice talking with coaches on the phone and in person
- Prepare a list of questions to ask coaches before stepping foot on a college campus

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What Can You Do During a Quiet Period?

Prospective College Coaches

- ✓ CAN talk to recruits on a college campus
- ✗ CAN NOT visit a recruit in their home, at their school or at an event
- ✗ CAN NOT watch recruits play live
- ✓ CAN welcome recruits to campus on an unofficial visit
- ✓ CAN call/text/email recruits
- ✓ CAN comment/like social media posts and send direct messages

Student-Athlete Recruits

- ✓ Work hard in the classroom and download your Honest Game CARE®
- ✓ Do research on the college that fits your academics and athletic ability best
- ✓ Update your Hudl profile
- ✓ Reach out to college coaches with a short note and any new film
- ✓ Practice talking with coaches on the phone and in person
- ✓ Prepare a list of questions to ask coaches before stepping foot on a college campus

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What Can You Do During a Dead Period?

Prospective College Coaches

- ✗ NO in-person contact with recruits and/or their family ANYWHERE!
- ✗ CAN NOT watch recruits play
- ✗ CAN NOT invite recruits to campus or see recruits off campus
- ✓ CAN call/text recruits
- ✓ CAN email recruits

Student-Athlete Recruits

- ✓ Work hard in the classroom and download your Honest Game CARE®
- ✓ Do research on the college that fits your academics and athletic ability best
- ✓ Update your Hudl profile
- ✓ Reach out to college coaches with a short note and any new film
- ✓ Organize the list of competition dates/locations
- ✓ Continue working on strength and endurance

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Recruiting at NCAA Division III Schools

- ✓ Coaches can contact and interact with athletes with no restrictions
- ✓ Coaches can speak to student athletes at the end of a competition at any time
- ✓ Official Visits can begin during January of Junior year

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Recruiting at NAIA Schools

NAIA recruiting rules encourage coach-student and personal relationships. The benefits of NAIA recruiting rules include:

- ✓ No recruiting calendar restrictions of any kind
- ✓ Ability to freely communicate with NAIA coaches directly
- ✓ Direct interaction with NAIA coaches

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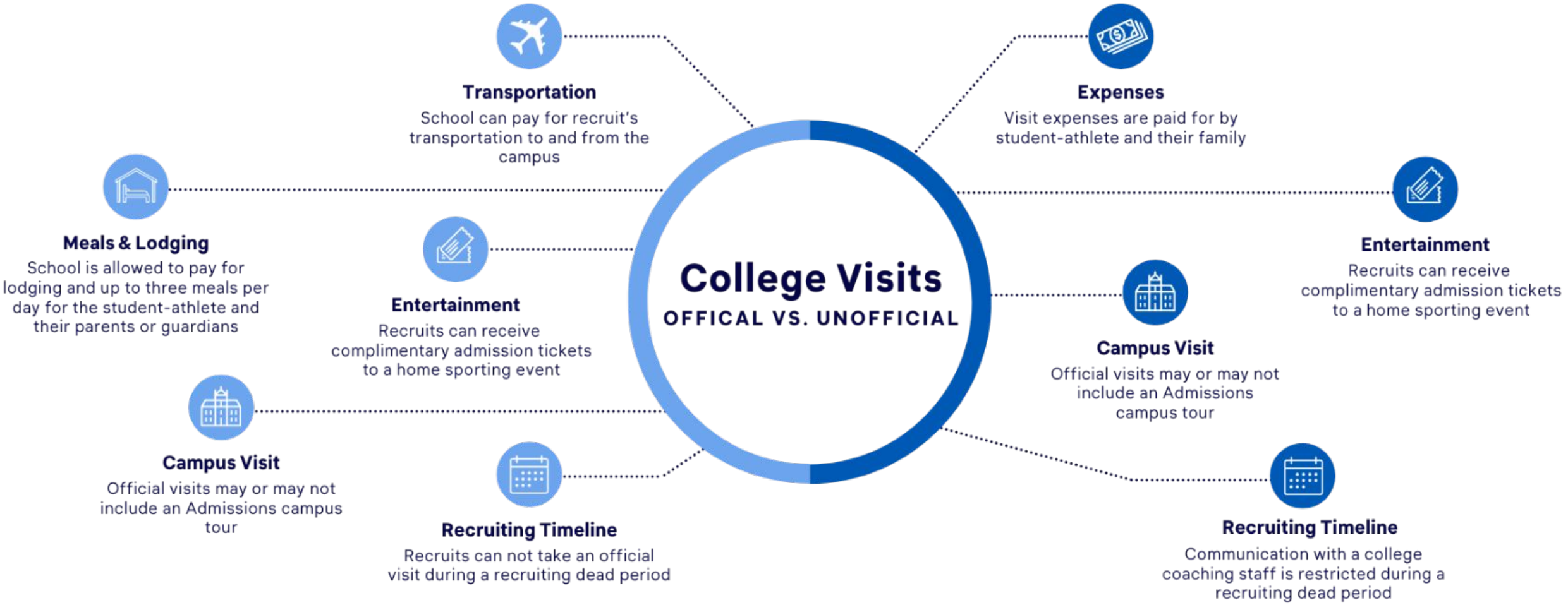
Recruiting at Two-Year / Junior Colleges

- ✓ Junior Colleges can not offer inducements or gifts to attend
- ✓ Junior colleges may pay for one visit to its campus (no more than 2 days and 2 nights)
- ✓ A student-athlete must have completed his/her junior year in high school in order to receive an official recruiting visit by a member NJCAA college
- ✓ While recruiting a potential athlete on campus, a college representative may purchase meals for the athlete

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CAMPUS RECRUITING VISITS

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College ID and Summer Camps

- Prospective student-athletes may be invited to attend college camps/clinics, as long as the camp is legitimately advertised and open to all entrants (limited only by number and age, grade level, and/or gender).
- High school, prep school or two-year college athletes, or any other individual being recruited by an institution, **may not be given free or reduced admission** to any camp/clinic.
- Discounted camp admission may only be given based on objective criteria unrelated to athletics ability.
  - E.g. registration prior to a specific deadline, online registration, attendance at multiple sessions.
  - Discount criteria must be published and available on an equal basis to all who qualify.

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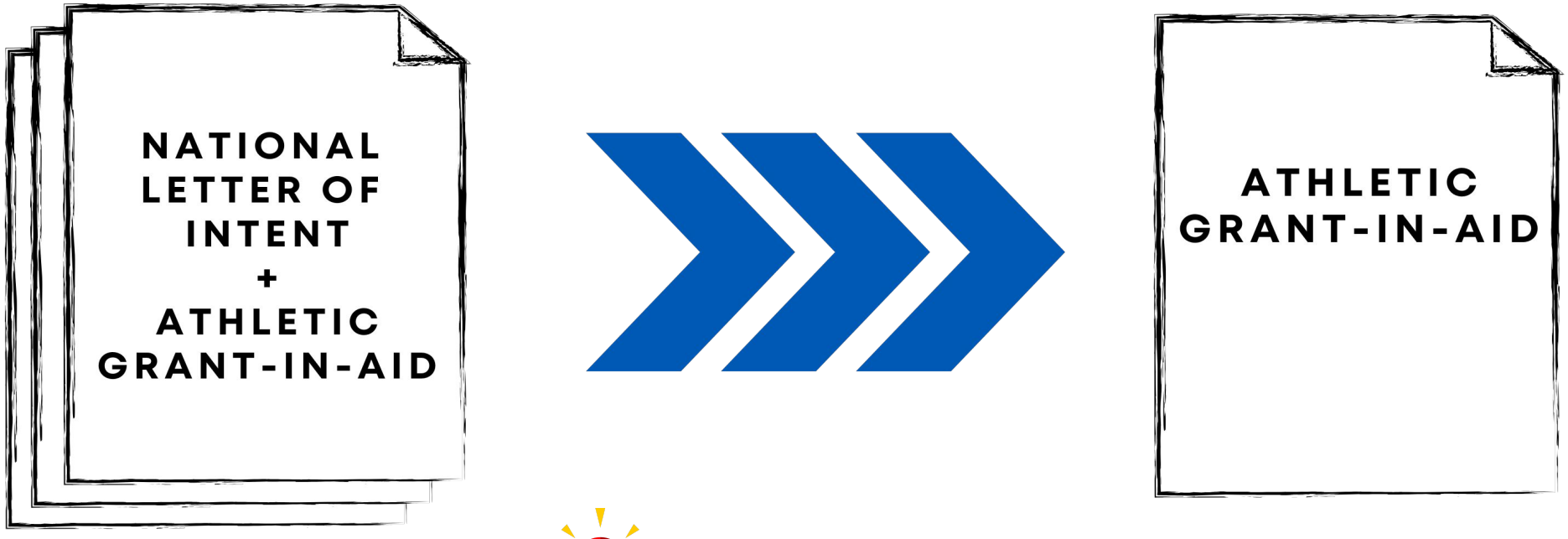


Navigating the New Landscape of Athletic Grant-in-Aid

HONESTGAME®

What Has Changed with the Removal of National Letter of Intent (NLI)?

Effective immediately - the National Letter of Intent will be eliminated by the NCAA Division I and DII Councils and in its place NCAA schools will have student-athletes sign an athletic grant-in-aid agreement.



Watch for updates as NCAA guidance will continue to evolve!

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Athletic Grant-in-Aid

An "Athletics Grant-in-Aid" is a **legal binding financial aid agreement between a college-bound student-athlete and a college or university** that specifies the athletic scholarship a student-athlete will be receiving from that school.

Signing Athletic Grant-in-Aid = No More Recruiting



Students may continue the recruiting conversations with other NCAA schools that do not provide athletic scholarships, which may include NCAA DIII, Ivy League, or U.S. Military Academies.

✗ Walk-ons, recruited walk-ons, and non-scholarship students do not sign an athletic grant-in-aid.

✗ Students who sign “commitment letters” without an athletic grant-in-aid are not bound to a scholarship or roster spot.

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NO CHANGES TO SIGNING DATES

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Prospective Student-Athletes Signing 2024/25 and Enrolling 2025/26

Sport (s)	Initial Signing Date	Final Signing Date
Division I Basketball (Early Period)	November 13, 2024	November 20, 2024
Division I Basketball (Regular Period)	April 16, 2025	May 21, 2025
Division I Football (Early Period)	December 4, 2024	December 6, 2024
Division I and II Football (Midyear JC Transfer)	December 4, 2024	January 15, 2025
Division I and II Football (Regular Period)	February 5, 2025	Division I: April 1, 2025 Division II: August 1, 2025
All Other Division I and II Sports	November 13, 2024	August 1, 2025



Stay current with the signing dates by reviewing the NationalLetter.org for student-athletes signing in 2024/25 or the NCAA.org for future signing dates.

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Information as of October 22, 2024.

ISSUES TO WATCH OUT FOR WHEN SIGNING

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Student-by-Student Terms and Conditions

- Athletic grant-in-aid terms and conditions may vary by school, sport, or even recruit.
  - Requesting a release from a signed athletic grant-in-aid must go through the school with which you sign.



Fully Understand the Agreement Before Signing

- Have Questions? Ask the prospective college coach and school's Compliance officer before signing the agreement.
- If you receive more than one athletic grant-in-aid offer, compare more than just the scholarship dollar amount (multi-year vs. annual renewal, community service provisions, academic requirements).

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HOW TO SIGN AN ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID

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What to Sign

The student-athlete will receive an electronic or print athletic grant-in-aid agreement which outlines the terms and conditions of the award, including the amount of the scholarship and what the student must do to keep it.

How to Submit

By completing the electronic or print agreement, the student confirms they agree to the offered athletic grant-in-aid.



High schools are encouraged to celebrate their student-athletes by hosting a symbolic signing ceremony, allowing families and the community to share in the special moment.

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Information as of October 22, 2024.

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What Happens After Signing an Athletic Grant-in-Aid?

The college will mark the student-athlete as a committed recruit in the NCAA Eligibility Center, indicating to other NCAA DI and DII coaches that the student has committed.

A signed athletic grant-in-aid can be nullified for many reasons including:

- ✗ Student-athlete is not admitted to the school
- ✗ Student-athlete becomes ineligible
- ✗ Serious disciplinary issues or team rules are violated

These reasons will be included under Terms and Conditions of the athletic grant-in-aid.

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The Student-Athlete Guide to Financial Aid and College Scholarships

HONESTGAME®

Athletic Scholarships

An athletic scholarship is a financial aid awarded to a student-athlete from the college athletic department budget.

These scholarships are awarded based on the college coach's opinion of the student's athletic abilities and how they can contribute to the team. The decision on **who receives athletic scholarships (and how much) is dependent on the coach**; however, **the number of athletic scholarships at each school is capped by NCAA regulations** and varies by sport and division level. Note, many college budgets do not offer the maximum number of scholarships allowed by the NCAA.

To receive an athletic scholarship, you must be accepted to the school and if the school is part of the NCAA or NAIA, **the Eligibility Center must deem you eligible** by meeting certain academic requirements.

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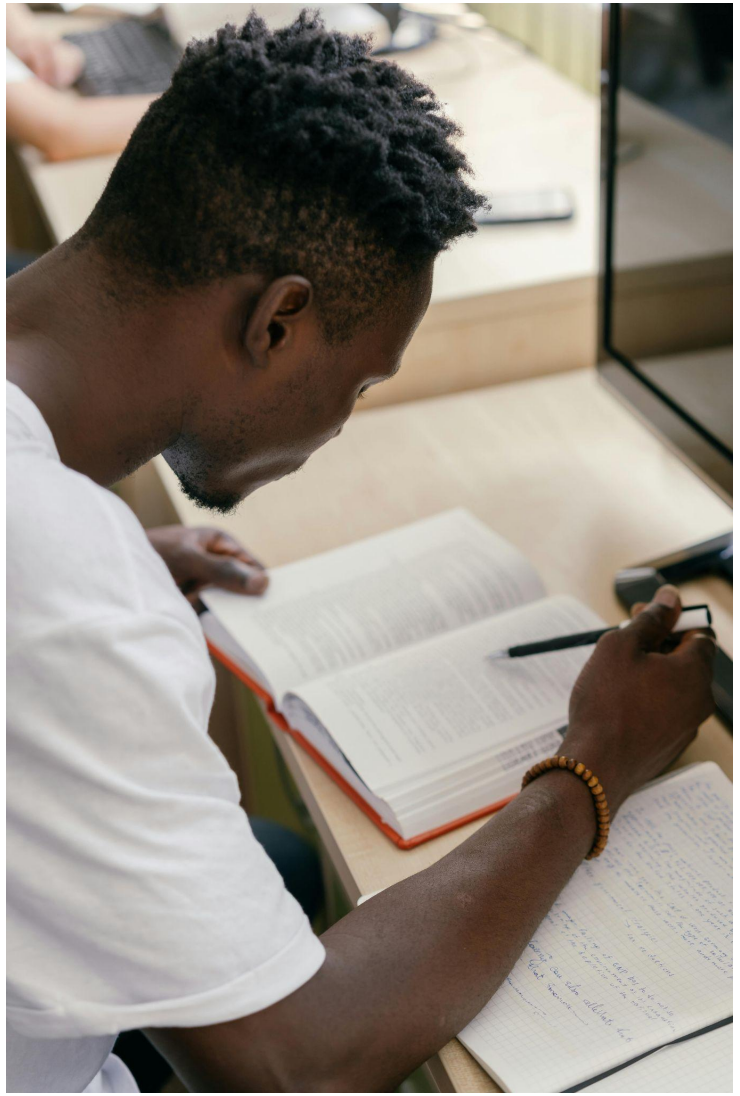
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Academic Scholarships

Since college coaches have limited athletic scholarships to offer, **academics is one of the most important things to focus on when looking to cover the total cost of college**. Achieving a high GPA and a strong SAT/ACT score will often provide more money than athletic scholarships.

Academic scholarships are fairly clear cut – if a student maintains the minimum GPA for the scholarship that they have been awarded, it will be honored into the next school year, given that it is renewable and for all four years. In contrast, an athletic scholarship can be revoked or lowered for various reasons.

In order to be considered for an academic scholarship, student-athletes must meet a minimum academic standard and these are different for every college and university.



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COMBINING ATHLETIC AND ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

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It can absolutely be done, but it depends on each playing division and school. There are many student-athletes who earn both academic and athletic scholarships, also known as stacked scholarships, and are able to combine both for a larger financial aid package.

Honest Insight: Each college has its own process and policies regarding the ability to stack scholarships, so you should consult with the school's Compliance Office or Financial Aid Department to be aware of how everything works for that particular school and how it might apply to your student's situation in recruiting.

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NEW NCAA SCHOLARSHIP + ROSTER LIMITS

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More College Access and Opportunities for Students

In the new model, NCAA schools are permitted to offer a scholarship to each player on a sport's roster up to the new roster limits. With the move, roughly **790 new scholarships are available across the 40-plus NCAA sports.** According to Yahoo Sports, there were previously about 500 scholarships available under the old model; the **new limits increase that number to over 1,200**.

For example, football will see its scholarship cap rise from 85 to a roster limit of 105, adding 20 more scholarships for schools willing to offer the maximum. Baseball, currently limited to 11.7 scholarships, **will see a significant increase to a 34-player roster limit**, translating to an **additional 22.3 possible scholarships**.

NCAA DI & DII

$3.3 BILLION

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS



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NEW NCAA SCHOLARSHIP + ROSTER LIMITS

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SPORT	SEX	OLD LIMIT	NEW LIMIT	INCREASE
Baseball	**Men**	**11.7**	**34**	**22.3**
Basketball	Men	13	15	2
Basketball	Women	15	15	0
Beach Volleyball	Women	6	19	13
Bowling	Women	5	11	6
Cross Country	Men	5	17	12
Cross Country	Women	6	17	11
Equestrian	**Women**	**15**	**50**	**35**
Fencing	**Men**	**4.5**	**24**	**19.5**
Fencing	**Women**	**5**	**24**	**19**
Field Hockey	**Women**	**12**	**27**	**15**
Football	**Men**	**85**	**105**	**20**
Golf	Men	4.5	9	4.5

SPORT	SEX	OLD LIMIT	NEW LIMIT	INCREASE
Golf	Women	6	9	3
Gym	Men	6.3	20	13.7
Gym	Women	12	20	8
Ice Hockey	Men	18	26	8
Ice Hockey	Women	18	26	8
Track	**Men**	**12.6**	**45**	**35.4**
Track	**Women**	**18**	**45**	**27**
Lacrosse	**Men**	**12.6**	**48**	**35.4**
Lacrosse	**Women**	**12**	**38**	**26**
Rifle	Both	3.6	12	8.4
Rowing	**Women**	**20**	**68**	**48**
Skiing	Men	6.3	16	9.7
Skiing	Women	7	16	9

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NEW NCAA SCHOLARSHIP + ROSTER LIMITS

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SPORT	SEX	OLD LIMIT	NEW LIMIT	INCREASE
Soccer	**Men**	**9.9**	**28**	**18.1**
Soccer	Women	14	28	14
Softball	Women	12	25	13
Stunt	**Both**	**14**	**65**	**51**
Swim	**Men**	**9.9**	**30**	**20.1**
Swim	**Women**	**14**	**30**	**16**
Tennis	Men	4.5	10	5.5
Tennis	Women	8	10	2
Triathlon	Women	6.5	14	7.5
Tumbling	**Women**	**14**	**55**	**41**

SPORT	SEX	OLD LIMIT	NEW LIMIT	INCREASE
Volleyball	Men	4.5	18	13.5
Volleyball	Women	12	18	6
Water Polo	**Men**	**4.5**	**24**	**19.5**
Water Polo	**Women**	**8**	**24**	**16**
Wrestling	**Men**	**9.9**	**30**	**20.1**
Wrestling	**Women**	**10**	**30**	**20**

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SCHOLARSHIP AT NCAA DIII + NAIA SCHOOLS

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Division III Schools

Offer substantial financial aid packages and offer preferred acceptance to athletes. They help students gain admission to universities where they would otherwise be waitlisted.

DIII financial packages often amount to more aid than DI & DII athletic scholarships.

NAIA

Offer over $800M in athletic scholarships every year.

CHOOSE A COLLEGE, NOT A DIVISION

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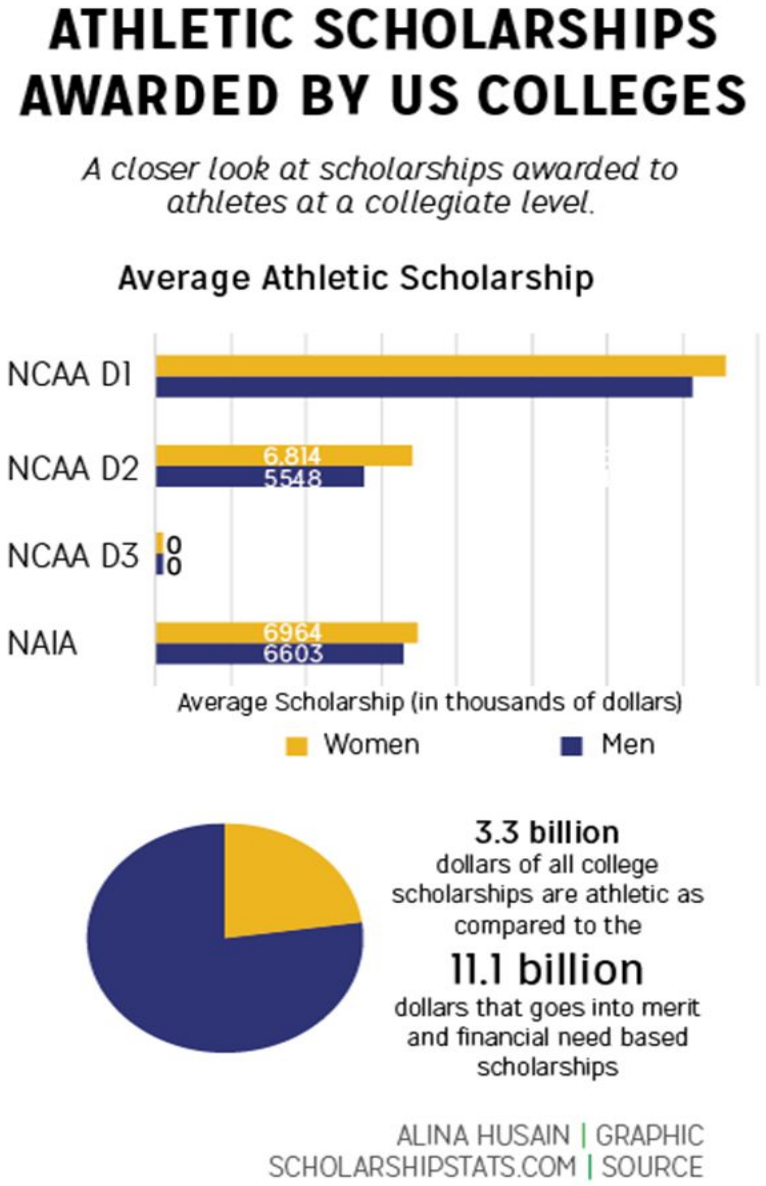
Merit-based Financial Aid (also called merit scholarships or merit awards) is financial aid offered in recognition of student achievements (e.g. academic, athletic, artistic, etc.).

Need-based Financial Aid is awarded based on the financial need of the student or family.

NCAA Division III Schools
DIII schools cannot offer athletic scholarships, but they can offer academic scholarships and need-based financial aid packages that:

- Offer preferred acceptance for recruited athletes.
- Help students gain admission to universities where they would otherwise be waitlisted.

TIP: DIII scholarships are more secure and often amount to more money than DI and DII athletic scholarships



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WHAT DO ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS COVER?

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Full and partial athletic scholarships can be applied towards direct college costs including:

- ✓ College tuition and registration fees
- ✓ Room and board (dorms or on-campus housing and meal plans)
- ✓ Miscellaneous fees, e.g., orientation, technology, facilities (gyms, libraries), and student activities (Greek life, clubs, etc.).

Indirect college costs do not appear on a college bill but are additional expenses associated with attending school, such as textbooks, transportation to and from school, meals, and insurance premiums.

According to the NCAA, **less than 2% of high school athletes are awarded a full or partial college athletic scholarship**.

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COVERING THE INDIRECT COSTS OF COLLEGE

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For DI student-athletes that receive an athletic scholarship, **the NCAA provides DI schools with the "Student Assistance Fund", (or SAF)** as a way to provide additional financial resources to athletes, helping cover unforeseen expenses throughout their schooling.

SAF money comes mostly from NCAA March Madness revenues, which are then distributed to member institutions by way of their conference offices. Each college can decide how to disperse SAF money and which students benefit from such funds.

Common costs covered by a school's SAF include:

- ✓ Clothing and/or travel from campus to home and other essential expenses
- ✓ Summer school and 5/6th year aid
- ✓ Academic course supplies (e.g., notebooks and pens)
- ✓ Medical and dental costs not covered by another insurance program
- ✓ Costs associated with student-athlete or family emergencies

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MYTHS ABOUT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

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Only 57% of Division I athletes receive some form of financial aid, ranging from a book scholarship to a “full ride.”

The amount is slightly higher in Division II at 63%. Given the low odds of receiving a full-ride college athletic scholarship, most athletes will have the best chance of having their college education funded by seeking a combination of athletic and academic scholarships, plus financial aid.



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MYTHS ABOUT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

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Most NCAA DI, DII, and NAIA schools offer athletic scholarships; however, NCAA DIII schools and Ivy League schools do not.

Even though NCAA DIII schools are not allowed to offer athletic scholarships, close to **80% of DIII student-athletes** receive some form of merit and/or “need” based assistance in the forms of grants and financial aid.



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MYTHS ABOUT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

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Every scholarship is **awarded on an annual basis and renewed** based on the coach's discretion. Students will sign their athletic scholarship (or grant-in-aid) every year to be applied to their bill the following year.

If a coach and/or athletic department decides not to award a scholarship to a student the following year, they must inform the student in writing that their athletic grant-in-aid is either being reduced or non-renewed by July 1.

Students then have an appeal period, and the process is usually conducted outside of the Athletic Department.



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MYTHS ABOUT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

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A **verbal commitment with a coach is not a binding agreement**, but more of a “handshake agreement” and may be repealed if a student-athlete demonstrates poor judgment or behavior rising to the level of alarm.

Honest Insight: Even if a student signs an athletic grant-in-aid, it can be invalidated if they are not admitted to the college, are deemed academically ineligible by the NCAA Eligibility Center, or if they exercise poor judgment or their behavior crosses the line of acceptability.



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Financial Aid & Student Loans

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a financial aid application that determines a student's eligibility for federal (and state) grants, loans, and work-study funds administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

The information from FAFSA is used to calculate a student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) – an index number that colleges use when determining how much financial aid they'd receive if they attend their school. Each college calculates and uses a student's FAFSA to determine if and how much additional financial aid they can offer.

In order to create a more complete scholarship package, **all student-athletes should look to complete FAFSA, even if they are offered an athletic scholarship**.

85% of students receive some form of financial aid

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Student Loans + Grants

Unlike academic, athletic, merit scholarships, and financial aid grants (which don't have to be paid back), student loans must be repaid (with interest) within a certain period after graduating college.

Most student-athletes are eligible for federal student loans, which often offer benefits such as income-driven repayment plans, making them easier to repay when they graduate.

To apply for a federal loan, students must first complete (and submit!) their FAFSA. After their FAFSA results are sent to the college, the school will send a financial aid offer, which may include a combination of federal and private grants and a list of which federal student loans for which they qualify.

If a student doesn't receive enough money in loans from the government to cover college costs, a common consideration is private student loans. Credit unions, banks, and online lenders offer these loans.

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ADDITIONAL WAYS FOR STUDENTS TO EARN MONEY

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On-Campus Work

Student-athletes are allowed to hold on-campus jobs. With limited practices during the off-season, student-athletes may find work on campus depending on their course load. A great place to look for an on-campus job is right in the Athletic Department! Those administrators understand the athletic and academic demands, and also will be understanding of a student-athlete's time constraints and ever-changing schedule.

Work-Study Program

Student-athletes may qualify for a paid part-time job on-campus as part of a federal or university-funded work-study program.

Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL)

Since July 2021, college student-athletes have gained the right to make money from their name, images, and likenesses. Players can accept money from businesses in exchange for using them in products or advertisements, and can also promote themselves or other companies in public appearances.

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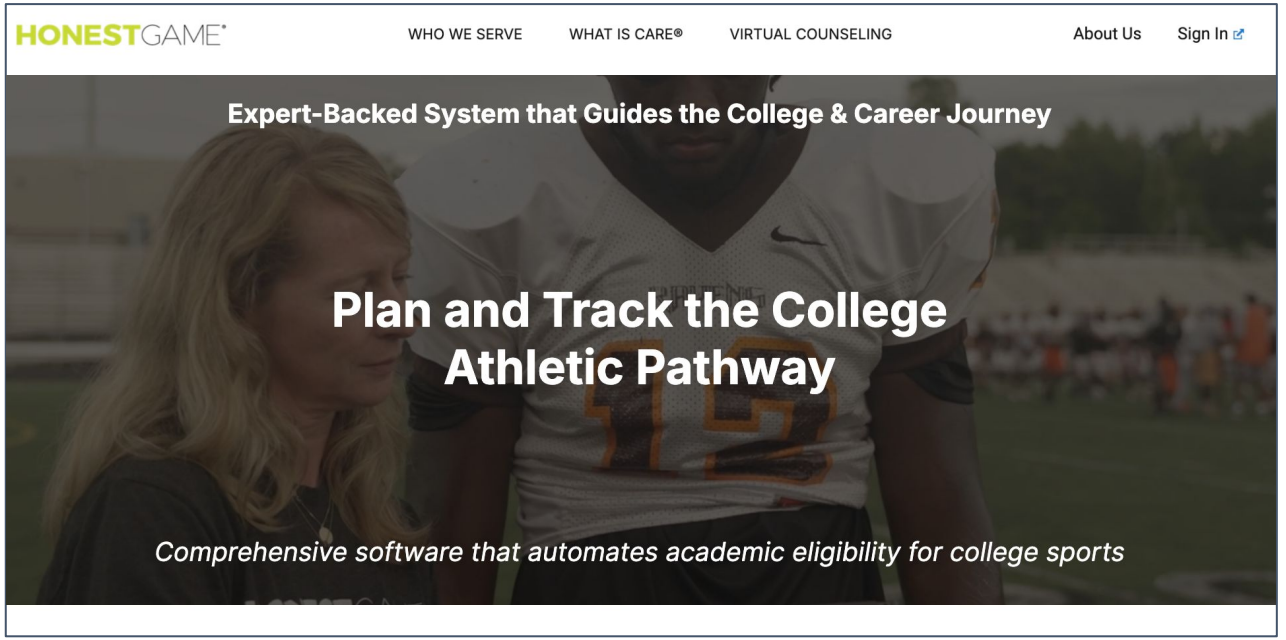


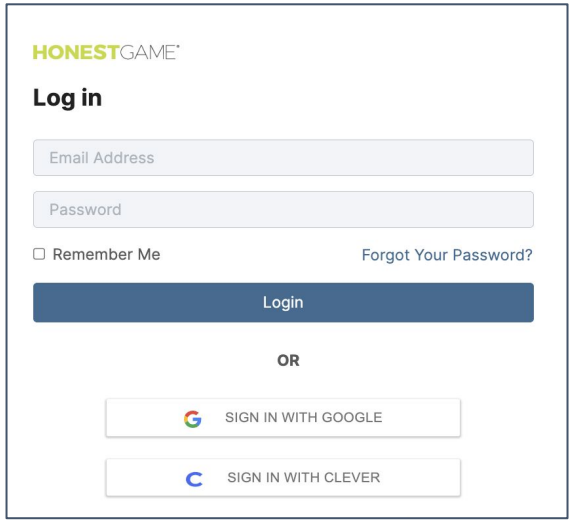
Get Started with Honest Game

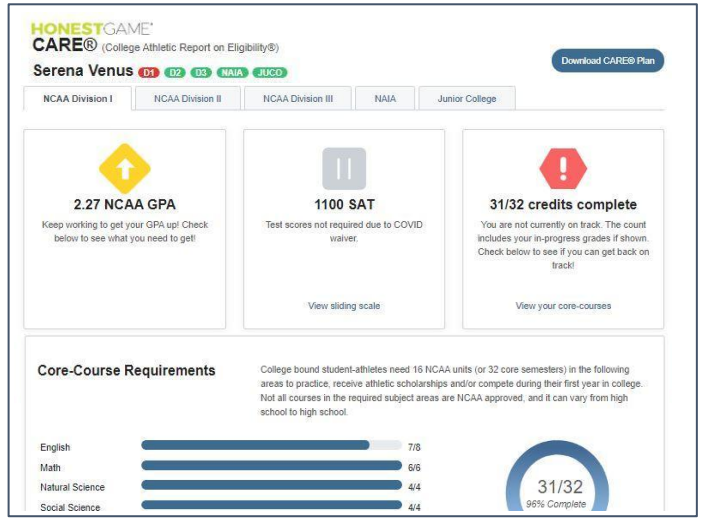
GET STARTED WITH HONEST GAME

HONESTGAME®

1. Visit www.HonestGame.com
2. Select “Sign In” at the top right corner of the screen
3. Sign in using your school email via Google Single-Sign On or Clever
    - *If your school email is NOT connected to Google SSO, select “Forgot Your Password”*
4. View your Honest Game eligibility plan, CARE® and begin tracking your eligibility in the app.



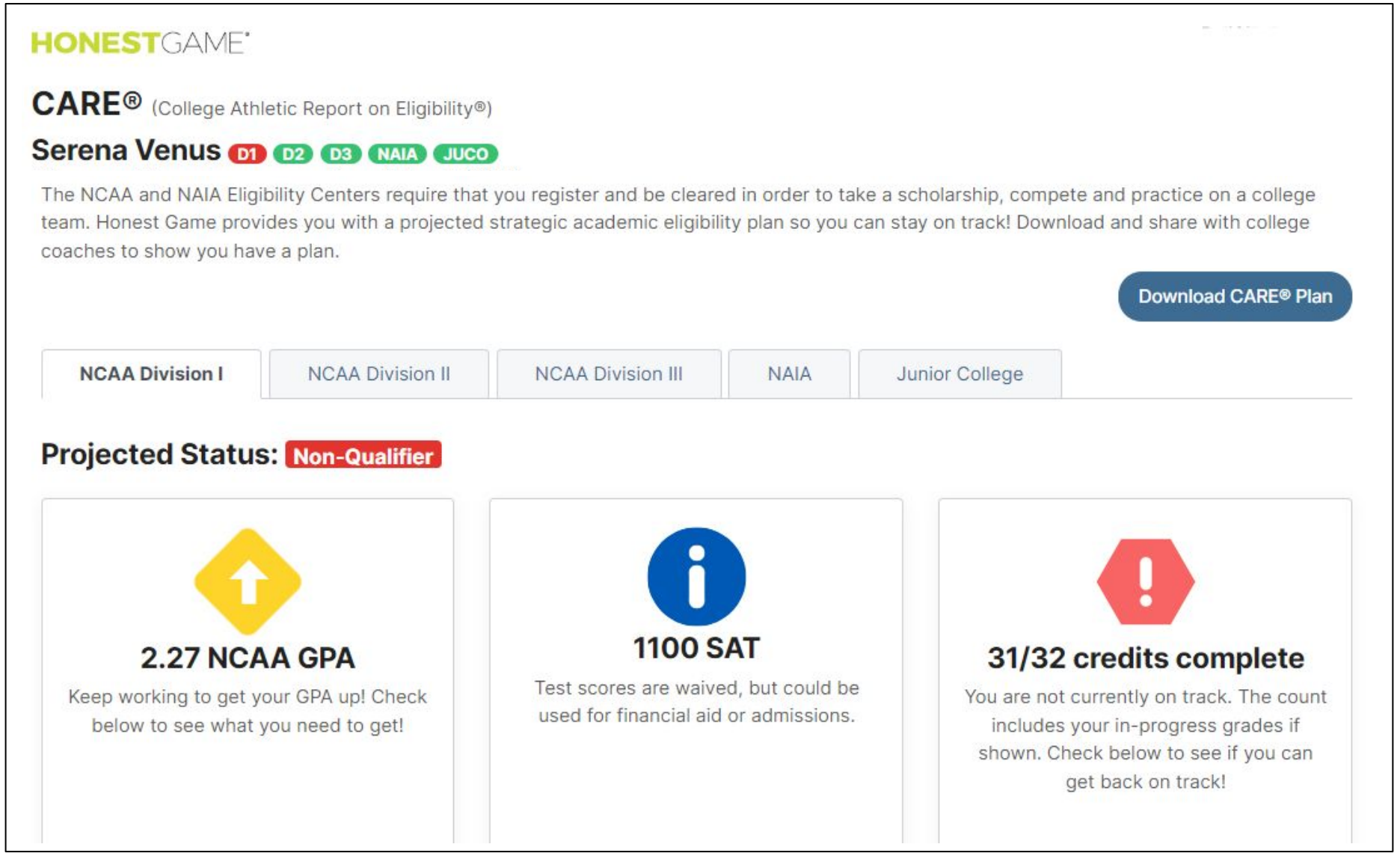




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INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY REPORTS

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INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY REPORTS

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CRITICAL INTERVENTION

Core-Course Requirements

College bound student-athletes need 16 NCAA units (or 32 core semesters) in the following areas to practice, receive athletic scholarships and/or compete during their first year in college. Not all courses in the required subject areas are NCAA approved, and it can vary from high school to high school.





Division I Required Credits Shown Include *Completed* and *In Progress* Course Credits

Future Projections

If you get all A's in your 3 core courses this semester, your NCAA GPA will go up to a 2.52.

If you get all B's in your 3 core courses this semester, your NCAA GPA will go up to a 2.41.

If you get all C's in your 3 core courses this semester, your NCAA GPA will go up to a 2.31.

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INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY REPORTS

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- Tracking 10/7 locked courses
- Showing in-progress courses
- Future product update: projecting NCAA GPA by specific course and grade
- Including transfer courses from other schools
- International student transfers

Past and Current Grades

Freshman Year 2019-2020

Core Subject	Course	Fall	Spring
English	English I	C-	C-
Mathematics	Algebra I 09	B+	C-
Natural Science	Biology I 09	C+	A-
Social Science	Anc World Hist H	C+	C+
Additional Courses			
NA	Educ and Career Tech	B	
NA	High School Reading	C	C
NA	Prin of Entrepren	C	D
NA	PE I 1/2 Cr		A
NA	Health		B

Sophomore Year 2020-2021

Core Subject	Course	Fall	Spring
English	English II	B+	C-
English	Speech I		C+
Mathematics	Geometry	C	C
Natural Science	Chemistry I	B+	C
Social Science	Economics	C	
Social Science	Sociology		C+
Additional Courses			
NA	Sophomore Reading	B	B
NA	Intro Culinary Arts	C	C
NA	Driver Ed	D	
NA	PE III/IV		B

Junior Year 2021-2022

Core Subject	Course	Fall	Spring
English	English 3	C	C+
Mathematics	Algebra 2	C-	C
Natural Science	Physics	C	C

Senior Year 2022-2023

Core Subject	Course	Fall	Spring
English	Literature and Film ⚠		
Mathematics	AB Calculus AP		
Natural Science	Environmental Science		

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Thank you!



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