



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

Academy of Holy Angels

October 6, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

NCAA Initial Eligibility and Recruiting

Carli Miller

Intern, Athletic Compliance

University of Minnesota

mill9088@umn.edu



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

Guide to the College Bound Student-Athlete

- Covers Recruiting and Eligibility
- Download at www.ncaa.org (pdf)
- High school academic information (Divisions I, II, III)
- NCAA Eligibility Center registration (Divisions I & II)
 - Google “NCAA Eligibility Center”
- Sample questions to ask in the recruiting process





NCAA Eligibility Center

- Located in Indianapolis, IN and run by the NCAA
- Review high school transcripts and test scores for all Division I and II prospects
- **Register during your junior year in HS**
- Costs \$110 to register (\$170 for international prospects)
- SAT/ACT scores must be sent directly to the Eligibility Center by marking code 9999
- Work closely with your HS counselor to determine core courses/plan classes



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

NCAA Core Course

- One full year of academic credit, taught at grade appropriate level.

The NCAA approves core courses, NOT the high school.

- Each high school has an approved core course list on the Eligibility Center's website.
- If the course is not on your high school list at the NCAA, it will not count as a core course
- If a course title on your transcript does not match the title on the NCAA's list, it will not count as a core course



Division I Core-Course Requirements – 16 core courses needed:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Math (Algebra I or Higher)
- 2 years of Natural/Physical Science (one lab)
- 1 year of additional English, Math or Science
- 2 years of Social Science
- 4 years of Additional Core courses

****** Need to plan for this – not just graduate!***



D1: Qualifier, Academic Redshirt, Non-qualifier

Qualifier

- Athletic scholarship, practice and competition in your first year in residence
- Four years to compete

Academic Redshirt

- Athletic scholarship and practice only in your first year in residence
- Four years to compete

Non-Qualifier

- No scholarship, practice or competition in your first year in residence
- Only three years to compete, with ability to regain 4th



Division II – 16 core courses needed:

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of Math (Algebra I or Higher)
- 2 years of Natural/Physical Science (one lab)
- 3 year of additional English, Math or Science
- 2 years of Social Science
- 4 years of additional core courses

Division II Test Score / GPA Requirements

- Core grade-point average must be at least 2.20 to be a final qualifier, 2.0 to be a partial qualifier



10 Core courses must be completed prior to start of senior year in HS; 7 of 10 must be in the following areas:

- English
- Math (Algebra I or Higher)
- Natural/physical science (one lab)

** The 10 core courses utilized to meet this rule may not be replaced by a course taken in the senior year.



Determining Initial Eligibility

Academic Component:

1. Graduation;
2. Complete the minimum number of core courses;
and
3. Minimum core grade point average

Amateurism Component:

1. Complete amateurism questionnaire



College Admission Process vs. NCAA Eligibility

- Two separate determinations
- Being a NCAA qualifier does not automatically mean you will be admitted to an institution
- Being admitted to an institution does not mean you are eligible under NCAA requirements



-As of January 2023, test scores are no longer required by the NCAA for initial eligibility.

-They may still be required on an institutional admissions basis!



Amateurism – Final Step

Prospects jeopardize NCAA amateur status by:

- Formally declaring into professional contract, compete with a professional team in hockey or skiing, or accept a salary
- Accepting prize money that exceeds expenses for an athletic event
- Entering into agreement or accepting benefits from agents



General Recruiting Concepts

- Rules are designed to protect the HS students
- **ASK QUESTIONS!!**
- Ask coaches recruiting you, ask academic resources on campus, ask your high school coaches and counselors



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

General Recruiting Concepts



NCAA DIVISION I RECRUITING GUIDE (All sports except Football)

Sport	Correspondence/ Private Messages	Incoming Telephone Calls	Outgoing Telephone Calls	Unofficial Visits	Official Visits	Off-Campus Contact	Verbal Offer
Baseball	9/1 of junior year	Anytime	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	7/1 after junior year	Not legislated
Men's Basketball	6/15 after sophomore year	Anytime	6/15 after sophomore year	8/1 before sophomore year	8/1 before junior year	Opening Day junior year	Not legislated
Women's Basketball	9/1 of junior year	Anytime	6/1 after sophomore year	Anytime	1/1 of junior year	9/1 of senior year	Not legislated
Men's Hockey	1/1 of sophomore year	1/1 of sophomore year	1/1 of sophomore year	1/1 of sophomore year	8/1 before junior year	8/1 before junior year	8/1 before junior year
Softball	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	9/1 of junior year	Not legislated. 9/1 of junior year is first recruiting interaction.
All Other Sports (except football)	6/15 after sophomore year	6/15 after sophomore year	6/15 after sophomore year	8/1 before junior year	8/1 before junior year	8/1 before junior year	Not legislated. 6/15 after sophomore year is first recruiting interaction.



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

General Recruiting Concepts



NCAA DIVISION I RECRUITING GUIDE

	Correspondence/ Private Messages	Incoming Telephone Calls	Outgoing Telephone Calls	Unofficial Visits	Official Visits	Off-Campus Contact	Verbal Offer
Football	6/15 after sophomore year	Anytime	6/15 after sophomore year	Anytime	4/1 of junior year	1/1 of junior year	Not legislated



Financial Aid / Scholarship Basics

- DIII schools do not offer athletic scholarships
 - Other financial aid packages may be available
- Financial Aid Agreement is a contract between athlete and college (DI & DII)
 - Athletic scholarships may be multi-year agreements between prospect and institution. This is at the offering institution's discretion.
- Full Scholarship = tuition & required fees, room & board, books, and cost of attendance
- Summer aid: Potentially available for scholarship athletes
- Fifth-year (exhausted eligibility) athletic aid to graduate may be available



House Settlement: Key Changes

Roster & Scholarships

- Programs now bound by roster size limits, not scholarship limits
- Head count & equivalency scholarships eliminated
- Any rostered student-athlete can receive any % of athletically-related aid

NIL GO (Clearinghouse)

- Managed by Deloitte – all student-athletes must register
- All external NIL deals must be disclosed in NIL GO
 - Within 5 business days of execution
 - Reviewed for valid business purpose & range of compensation



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

Division I Roster Limits

17.2 Roster Limitations. [S] Each sport of a Division I institution that is a member of a defendant conference or opts in to the House settlement must comply with the roster limits set forth below in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 17.2:

Sport	Limit	Sport	Limit
Women's Acrobatics and Tumbling	55	Women's Rowing	68
Baseball	34	Women's Rugby	36
Men's Basketball	15	Men's Skiing	16
Women's Basketball	15	Women's Skiing	16
Women's Beach Volleyball	19	Men's Soccer	28
Women's Bowling	11	Women's Soccer	28
Men's Cross Country	17	Softball	25
Women's Cross Country	17	Women's Stunt	65
Women's Equestrian	50	Men's Swimming and Diving	30
Men's Fencing	24	Women's Swimming and Diving	30
Women's Fencing	24	Men's Tennis	10
Field Hockey	27	Women's Tennis	10
Football	105	Men's Indoor Track and Field	45
Men's Golf	9	Men's Outdoor Track and Field	45
Women's Golf	9	Women's Indoor Track and Field	45
Men's Gymnastics	20	Women's Outdoor Track and Field	45
Women's Gymnastics	20	Women's Triathlon	14
Men's Ice Hockey	26	Men's Volleyball	18
Women's Ice Hockey	26	Women's Volleyball	18
Men's Lacrosse	48	Men's Water Polo	24
Women's Lacrosse	38	Women's Water Polo	24
Men's and Women's Rifle	12	Men's Wrestling	30
		Women's Wrestling	30

(Adopted: 6/6/25 effective 7/1/25)



Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)

Definitions:

- **NIL:** Student-athlete using their name, image, or likeness for a commercial purpose (e.g. appear in advertisement, license NIL to company, post on social media)
- **Collective:** an NIL entity that assists student-athletes in finding NIL opportunities. They are usually associated with a particular school.
 - Dinkytown Athletes – UMN Collective



Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)

NCAA Rules to Know

- NCAA rules permit high school students to get paid for an NIL opportunity (check with your high school athletic association for rules)
- Universities cannot currently directly offer an NIL deal to a recruit, nor can they directly pay current student-athletes for an NIL opportunity
 - This is different from a Collective offering a recruit – which is permissible based on the Tennessee injunction that was granted earlier this year.
- Universities are permitted to provide education and discuss factual information about what their institution is doing with NIL
 - Coaches are also permitted to facilitate agreements for student-athletes, as long as the student-athlete has the final say
- You must perform an action in order to be paid for NIL (e.g. do something, grant permission to a company to use your NIL)
- NIL deal cannot be based on athletic performance



Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)

NCAA Rules to Know

NCAA Reporting Requirements

Starting June 7th, 2025:

- Report any 3rd part NIL deal worth \$600 or more in total (cumulative deals with one company that exceed \$600)
 - **includes cash and non-monetary benefits (e.g. gear, discounts, free items)**
- Includes: contracts, royalties, bonuses, performance-based payments
- You have **5 business days** after signing to report your deal
- **Not required but recommended:** deals under \$600 – gives you peace of mind in case you do an additional deal with the same company that causes the total deal to exceed \$600
 - commission based deals: recommended you enter these with as much information as you know now



Athletic Compliance Educational Session

Questions??

Carli Miller

Intern, Athletic Compliance

University of Minnesota

mill9088@umn.edu



Follow us on Twitter!
@GopherGuardian