



PATEADORES

COLLEGE NIGHT HANDOUT

2013

Program Agenda

- 1. INTRODUCTION**
- 2. OVERVIEW**
- 3. UNDERSTANDING INITIAL ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES**
- 4. COLLEGE RECRUITING TIMELINE AND GUIDELINES BY DIVISION**
- 5. WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE COLLEGE RECRUITING PROCESS**
- 6. STRATEGIES AND USEFUL TECHNIQUES BY STUDENT ATHLETE**
- 7. RECRUITING WORKSHEET**
- 8. Q&A FROM PARTICIPANTS**

Overview

The purpose of the college night presentation is to provide an opportunity for players and parents to gain information about the general college recruiting process and overall club college transition. Tonight will be an informative discussion that will describe the guidelines, timelines and useful techniques to educate our Pateadores families about today's college student athlete environment. In attendance is a representative panel of collegiate coaches from the DIV I, II, III, NAIA and Community College to discuss the distinctions between their respective levels. In addition to the panel there will be a question and answer segment to address additional questions not covered by our panel.

Understanding Initial Eligibility

Key Points

- 1. Familiarize yourself with academic requirements for desired institutions
SAT scores, ACT scores, cumulative GPA, and core course requirements**
- 2. Students need to meet the following requirements to receive athletics aid, practice and complete their first year**
- 3. Be aware of outside competition as it relates to eligibility**
- 4. Register with NCAA Clearing House**
- 5. Understand initial eligibility possible waivers**

RECRUITING

NCAA member schools have adopted rules to create an equitable recruiting environment that promotes student-athlete well-being. The rules define who may be involved in the recruiting process, when recruiting may occur and the conditions under which recruiting may be conducted. Recruiting rules seek, as much as possible, to control intrusions into the lives of student-athletes.

The NCAA defines recruiting as “any solicitation of prospective student-athletes or their parents by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution's athletics interests for the purpose of securing a prospective student-athlete's enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution's intercollegiate athletics program.”

DIV I RECRUITING TIMELINE

FRESHMAN YEAR

Recruiting Materials – receive camp brochures, NCAA materials and non-recruiting publications only

SOPHMORE YEAR

Recruiting Materials – you may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires

Telephone calls – You may make calls to the coach at your expense only – College coach cannot call you.

Off Campus Contact – none allowed

Official Visit – none allowed

Unofficial visit – you may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits

JUNIOR YEAR

Recruiting materials – you may begin receiving September 1 of junior year

Telephone calls – you may make calls to the coach at your expense

College Coaches – may call you – once per week starting July 1 after your junior year

Off-campus contact – allowed starting July 1 after your junior year

Official visit – none allowed

Unofficial visit – you may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits

SENIOR YEAR

Recruiting materials – allowed

Telephone calls – you may make calls to the coach at your expense

College coaches – may call you once per week beginning July 1

Off-campus contact – allowed

Official visit – allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I and II colleges.

Unofficial visit- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits

Evaluation and contacts – up to seven times during your senior year

DIV II Recruiting Timeline

FRESHMAN YEAR

Recruiting Materials – receive camp brochures, NCAA materials and non-recruiting publications only

SOPHMORE YEAR

Recruiting Materials – you may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires

Telephone calls – You may make calls to the coach at your expense only – College coach cannot call you.

Off Campus Contact – none allowed

Official Visit – none allowed

Unofficial visit – you may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits.

JUNIOR YEAR –

Recruiting materials – you may begin receiving September 1 of junior year

Telephone calls – you may make calls starting June 15 preceding your junior year

Off-campus contact – a college coach can have contact with you or your parents off the college campus beginning June 15 after your junior year

Official visits – none allowed

Unofficial visit – you may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time

SENIOR YEAR

Recruiting materials – allowed

Telephone calls – you may make calls to the coach at your expense

College coaches – may call you once per week beginning July 1

Off-campus contact – allowed

Official visit – allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. You are limited to one official visit per college up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I and II colleges.

Unofficial visit- You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits

Evaluation and contacts – up to seven times during your senior year

DIV III RECRUITING GUIDELINES

FRESHMAN – SENIOR YEAR

Recruiting rules and guidelines are primarily institutionally based

NAIA RECRUITING TIMELINE

1. NAIA Recruiting Rules
2. NAIA Advantages
3. There are many advantages to competing in NAIA sports. Besides the benefit of close
4. knit communities and small class sizes on the typical NAIA campus, NAIA Athletics offer:
5. Maximum opportunity to participate in regular season contests and National Championships.
6. Flexibility to transfer without missing a season of eligibility.
7. Fewer recruiting restrictions.
8. Focus on the education and character development of the student-athlete.
9. Printed Materials
10. Coaches may provide you any official academic, admissions, athletics and student-service publications published by the college and other general information available to all students.
11. Letter of Intent
12. There is no signing date for NAIA so players can sign a letter of intent at any time.
13. Once a player's signs a letter of intent with an NAIA institution they can train with the team.
14. NAIA institutions can start their preseason any time after August 1st (there is no set date to start).
15. What is a contact? A contact is any face-to-face meeting between you (or your parents or relatives) and college coach that includes any conversation other than "hello." If a college coach meets you in-person at your school, or at one of your games or practice's or at a pre-arranged meeting it is considered a contact even if no conversation takes place.
16. There is no limit to the number of times coaches may contact you or when the contacts may occur.
17. Evaluations
18. What is an evaluation? An evaluation is any off-campus (college campus) activity used to assess your academic qualifications or athletic ability in which no face-to face contact between you the college coach occurs beyond a "hello." Examples include watching you practice or compete in a game.
19. No restrictions.
20. Official Visits
21. NAIA institutions may invite recruits to visit the campus and offer scholarships at any time.
22. NAIA institutions may have recruits train with the team multiple times.
23. On recruit visits NAIA institutions are unable to pay for travel for recruits but can accommodate recruits on campus and pay for meals once they are there.

2 year College Recruiting Guidelines

Eligibility

- 1.) To be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics a student-athlete must be enrolled and attending a minimum of 12 units during the semester of competition. Eligibility is checked on a weekly basis through the end of each academic term. 8-week courses in the second half of a semester do not “count” until the class’s first meeting.
- 2.) If at any point during the semester a student-athlete is enrolled in fewer than 12 units (e.g., withdraws from a class and receives a grade of "W") the student-athlete immediately becomes ineligible to compete. The Student-Athlete is responsible for immediately notifying their coach if they are enrolled in fewer than 12 units.
- 3.) If a Student-Athlete is not academically eligible to compete in intercollegiate athletics, their IA in-class assignments may differ from other students. This decision will be made by the coaching staff for that sport.
- 4.) The Student-Athlete may complete their two seasons of eligibility at any time, but delays due to academic mistakes will jeopardize their potential for transfer and competition at NCAA institutions.
- 5.) A transfer student who did not participate in athletics prior to transferring to IVC is immediately eligible.
- 6.) A transfer student who participated in athletics prior to transferring to IVC, and comes directly from a 4-year college, is immediately eligible if they meet GPA and units-earned requirements.
- 7.) A transfer student who participated in athletics prior to transferring to IVC, and comes directly from another 2- year college, must fulfill a residence requirement at IVC. 12 units at IVC must be completed prior to their season of sport, 9 units of which must apply towards a degree, a certificate, or remediation, with no more than 8 units of the required 12 units earned during summer terms.
- 8.) Continuing student-athletes must successfully complete a minimum of 24 units between seasons of competition, and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative GPA in all courses, taken at all colleges during this time. 18 units of the required 24 units must also apply towards a degree, a certificate, or remediation. A course repeated to improve a grade of “D” or better cannot be counted towards the 24-semester unit requirement. See the CCCAA and bylaws at <http://cccaasports.org/constitution.asp> and [CCCAA Form 1](#).

2 year College Eligibility Guidelines

- 1.) Student-Athletes must make and keep an appointment with an academic counselor, preferably with the Counselor assigned to IVC Intercollegiate Athletics, prior to the CCCAA requirement in each season of competition.
- 2.) Student-Athletes are recommended to complete a MAP – My Academic Plan – prior to meeting with a Counselor.
- 3.) An Individual Education Plan (IEP) shall be completed during the Counseling appointment. It is important that student-athletes understand their academic and athletic goals prior to this meeting – an honest discussion with your coaching staff about your athletic potential is required.

4.) Any Student-athlete who fails to keep their counseling appointment will be suspended from their team's next competition. Further, those who do not have an IEP on file will not be permitted to compete or practice beginning with the CCCAA completion date until the IEP is completed.

5.) To assist in this process, Student-Athletes may also consider enrolling in the Counseling 1 course at Irvine Valley College. The course is UC and Cal State transferable, and an IEP is part of the course work. Please note that the IEP must still be filed with Rebecca but that an in-depth study by the Student-Athlete may be of tremendous benefit when planning to meet NCAA and transfer requirements.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE COLLEGE RECRUITING PROCESS

1. COLLEGES MAY NOT SHOW INTEREST OR INITIATE RECRUITING
2. LARGE POOL OF PLAYERS COMPETING FOR LIMITED NUMBER OF SPOTS
3. BE PREPARED NOT TO BE OFFERED ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP
4. PLAYERS WITH HIGHER ACADEMIC STANDING HAVE INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF BEING RECRUITED
5. MAY TAKE MULTIPLE ATTEMPTS TO GET RESPONSE
6. RESPONSES FROM COACHING STAFF MAY BE INTERMITTENT
7. SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BY PROGRAM IN HOW THEY RECRUIT

STRATEGIES AND USEFUL TECHNIQUES BY STUDENT ATHLETE

1. FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH COLLEGE INSTITUTIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS
2. INVESTIGATE SOCCER PROGRAM AND INSTITUTIONS OF INTEREST
3. BE REALISTIC ON POSSIBLE OPTIONS BASED ON ACCURATE SELECTION CRITERIA
4. CREATE A CONCISE INTRODUCTION LETTER TO CONTACT PERSPECTIVE SCHOOLS
5. SEND FOLLOW UP EMAILS WITH BRIEF UPDATES OF SCHEDULED COMPETITIONS
6. BE PREPARED TO VISIT PROSPECTIVE SCHOOLS
7. BE OPEN TO SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF INITIAL INTEREST
8. TAKE OFFICIAL VISITS
9. STAY COMMITTED TO ACADEMICS

SAMPLE INTRODUCTION LETTER

Dear Coach _____,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. My name is _____, I am a Junior at _____ High School, I was a Varsity starter as a freshman, and will graduate in 2014. My GPA is _____. I play on the Pateadores Academy Team and this is my second year at the U15-16 Academy. My current position is holding center midfielder and I can play either right or left fullback also, my jersey is _____. My coach/trainer is Matt Tutton and he can be reached at matttutton@gmail.com anytime. I am a full time roster player having also played internationally in France, Ireland, Italy and two showcase tournaments in Florida, Dallas Showcase Finals and the Manchester United Cup in Oregon. I am attaching my current Pateadores Academy schedule as well.

I would like to make you aware that I am very interested in your program, at (put school name here). I would prefer to further both my academic and soccer career locally if possible and I know of, and like your school. I am also interested in learning more about the soccer program at one of your future camps.

I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Corey Schramm 2014

PATEADORES RECRUITING WORKSHEET

Pateadores Prospective Colleges Worksheet

School selection criteria

Available Finances Contributions (Circle One)

- 0-10 k
- 10 k – 20k
- 20k- 30k
- 30k – 40k
- 40k – plus

Student Athlete G.P.A. _____

Student Athlete S.A.T. _____ ACT _____

College Course of Study _____

College Level of Competition – (Circle One)

- Div I, Div II, Div III, NAIA, Community College

College Proximity/ Location _____

Social Considerations _____

Top 10 Prospective Schools

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

The Information in this packet was pulled from the NCAA website, located at www.ncaa.org. This packet is a brief representation of the information found on this website.

NCAA – Eligibility

The Initial-Eligibility Standards for NCAA Division I College-Bound Student-Athletes Are Changing

College-bound student-athletes first entering an NCAA Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2016, will need to meet new academic rules in order to receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice or compete during their first year.

What are the New Requirements?

Full Qualifier	Academic Redshirt	Non-qualifier
Complete 16 Core Courses: • 10 of the 16 core courses must be complete before 7th semester (senior year) of high school. • 7 of the 10 core courses must be in English, Math, or Science.	Complete 16 core courses.	Does not meet requirements for Full Qualifier or Academic Redshirt status.
Minimum Core-Course GPA of 2.3	Minimum Core-Course GPA of 2.0	
Meet the Competition sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score.*	Meet the Academic Redshirt sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score.*	
Graduate from high school.	Graduate from high school.	

*To view the Full Qualifier and Academic Redshirt sliding scales, please click [here](#).

**International prospective student-athletes who present international graduation credentials listed in the [NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility](#) will be exempt from meeting the seventh semester core course distribution requirements.

Full Qualifier: A college-bound student-athlete may receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice and compete in the first year of enrollment at the Division I college or university.

Academic Redshirt: A college-bound student-athlete may receive athletics aid (scholarship) in the first year of enrollment and may practice in the first regular academic term (semester or quarter) but may NOT compete in the first year of enrollment. After the first term is complete, the college-bound student-athlete must be academically successful at his/her college or university to continue to practice for the rest of the year.

Non-qualifier: A college-bound student-athlete cannot receive athletics aid (scholarship), cannot practice and cannot compete in the first year of enrollment.

Examples

Q: A college-bound student-athlete completes nine core courses prior to the seventh semester of high school. What is the college-bound student-athlete's initial-eligibility status?

A: The college-bound student-athlete cannot be certified as a qualifier because only nine of the 10 required courses were completed before the seventh semester. He/she would be permitted to practice and receive aid (scholarship), provided he/she presents 16 core courses and meets the necessary core-course GPA and test score requirement at the time of graduation.

Q: A college-bound student-athlete completes 16 core courses in the required framework with a 2.500 core-course GPA and a 68 sum ACT. What is the college-bound student-athlete's initial-eligibility status?

A: The college-bound student-athlete is an academic redshirt. Under the new competition scale, a 68 sum ACT score requires a 2.950 core-course GPA. See sliding scale, please click [here](#).

Q: A college-bound student-athlete completes 15 core courses with a 2.500 core-course GPA and an 820 SAT score (critical reading and math). What is the college-bound student-athletes NCAA initial-eligibility status?

A: The college-bound student-athlete is a nonqualifier because only 15 core courses were completed, not the required 16 core courses.

International prospective student-athletes who present international graduation credentials listed in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility will be exempt from meeting the seventh semester core course distribution requirements.

Becoming Eligible

Academic Standards

The NCAA Eligibility Center verifies the academic and amateur status of all student-athletes who wish to compete in Division I or II athletics.

College-bound student-athletes who want to practice, compete and receive athletically related financial aid during their first year at a Division I or II school need to meet the following requirements:

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete a minimum of 16 core courses for Division I or 14 core courses for Division II. After August 1, 2013, student-athletes who wish to compete at Division II institutions must complete 16 core courses.
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in core courses.
- Earn a qualifying test score on either the ACT or SAT.
- Request final amateurism certification from the NCAA Eligibility Center.

For Division I student-athletes who will enroll in August 2016 and later, the requirements to compete in the first year will change. In addition to the above standards, prospects must:

- Earn at least a 2.3 grade-point average in core courses.
- Meet an increased sliding-scale standard (for example, an SAT score of 1,000 requires a 2.5 high school core course GPA)
- Successfully complete 10 of the 16 total required core courses before the start of their senior year in high school. Seven of the 10 courses must be successfully completed in English, math and science.

Prospects that earn at least a 2.0 GPA but not a 2.3 GPA and meet the current sliding scale standard (for example, an SAT score of 1,000 requires a 2.025 high school core course GPA) will be eligible for practice in the first term and athletically related financial aid the entire year, but not competition. Freshmen who are academically successful in the first term will earn the ability to continue to practice for the remainder of the year.

Division III college and universities set their own admission standards. The NCAA does not set initial eligibility requirements in Division III.

Amateurism

Amateurism certification ensures that NCAA amateurism regulations are applied uniformly for incoming student-athletes. The process is a collaborative effort among student-athletes, NCAA member schools and the NCAA Eligibility Center., which determines initial amateur and academic eligibility.

The amateur-certification process starts when college-bound Divisions I and II student-athletes register with the Eligibility Center. (In Division III, amateur certification is completed individually by the college or university.)

College-bound student-athletes are encouraged to register at <http://www.eligibilitycenter.org> at the beginning of their junior year in high school.

As part of the process, each college-bound student-athlete is asked to answer several questions regarding his or her sports-participation history. This is to capture a better picture of the prospect's amateur status and to identify any potential issues that might conflict with NCAA rules. If the answers indicate a possible violation, the amateur-certification staff will work with the school to determine the facts. If the agreed-upon facts indicate a violation occurred, an eligibility penalty will be imposed based on the severity of the violations. Penalties include repayment of money, sitting out a specified number of games or, in rare cases, permanent ineligibility.

Most college-bound student-athletes who complete the amateurism certification process are certified. Less than 1 percent of student-athletes seeking amateur certification receive any sort of amateurism-related penalty. Every year, approximately 180,000 college-bound student-athletes register to have their academic credentials and amateurism status certified. Over 90 percent of those who register are automatically certified. About seven percent every year do not meet the academic standards of the division in which they want to compete and about 600 college-bound student-athletes are not certified because of amateurism issues.

Amateur Athletic Clubs

College-bound student-athletes may participate in amateur sports clubs as long as they do not receive expenses in excess of travel, lodging or equipment for practice or competition. A prospect may accept prize money based on performance in an open competition as long as the prize is awarded by the sponsor of the event and the amount of the prize does not exceed the student-athlete's expenses to compete in the event. College or university representatives may not help with fundraising efforts for a student-athlete's amateur club team.

Initial-eligibility waivers

The initial-eligibility waiver process assists prospective student-athletes who do not meet the academic initial-eligibility standards.

A school must file an initial-eligibility waiver on behalf of the prospective student-athlete. The NCAA academic and membership affairs staff can make initial waiver decisions based on objective evidence of mitigating circumstances. Committees composed of representatives from Divisions I and II member schools hear appeals.

Waivers can be submitted for various circumstances, including deficiencies in core-course attainment, core-course grade-point average and graduation; not meeting the test-score or waiver- submission deadlines; a change on a transcript; and education-impacting disabilities.

Waivers can be conditionally approved (allowing a student-athlete to receive aid or receive aid and practice), fully approved or denied. Student-athletes can practice and receive benefits while initial-eligibility waiver requests are pending, subject to some restrictions.

Recruiting

NCAA member schools have adopted rules to create an equitable recruiting environment that promotes student-athlete well-being. The rules define who may be involved in the recruiting process, when recruiting may occur and the conditions

under which recruiting may be conducted. Recruiting rules seek, as much as possible, to control intrusions into the lives of student-athletes.

The NCAA defines recruiting as “any solicitation of prospective student-athletes or their parents by an institutional staff member or by a representative of the institution’s athletics interests for the purpose of securing a prospective student-athlete’s enrollment and ultimate participation in the institution’s intercollegiate athletics program.”

See attached Recruiting Calendar

Tryouts

Division III schools are not allowed to hold practice tryouts with college-bound student-athletes.

Only Division I men’s basketball is allowed to hold tryouts. Those tryouts are limited to prospective student-athletes who are seniors in high school, junior college transfers or four-year transfers who have completed their basketball season. They also must be on an official or unofficial visit to the campus.

The on-campus evaluations are limited to two hours per week, whether during the collegiate season or out of it. The two hours must take place during the regular allowable practice time (20 hours during the season, eight hours out of it).

Division II schools are allowed to hold one practice or tryout for a college-bound student-athlete on its campus as long as the student-athlete is a high-school senior who is enrolled in a term other than the term in which the traditional season in the sport occurs. The school may conduct a medical examination of the student-athlete, and the tryout may include tests to evaluate the student-athlete’s strength, speed, agility and sport skills. The tryout may include competition except in football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer and wrestling. The tryout is limited to the length of the school’s normal practice period in the sport, but in no event can it be longer than two hours. The school may loan equipment and clothing to the college-bound student-athlete during the tryout.

College-bound student-athletes may try out with professional teams and still retain their eligibility if the following restrictions are met:

- A professional team may pay for a college-bound student-athlete to try out before he or she enrolls in college as long as the student-athlete’s visit does not exceed 48 hours and compensation for the visit does not exceed necessary expenses.
- A college-bound student-athlete cannot try out more than once with a professional team.
- A self-financed tryout may take any length of time.
- A current student-athlete may not try out with a professional team during any part of the academic year, unless the student-athlete has exhausted eligibility in the sport.
- A current student-athlete may try out with a professional team during the summer as long as he or she does not receive any expense-reimbursement or compensation from the professional team.
- During a tryout, a current student-athlete may not take part in any outside competition as a representative of that professional team.

ELIGIBILITY

DIVISION I TOOLKIT

Academic Eligibility

To participate in Division I athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during the first year of college, a student-athlete must:

- Complete the 16 core-course requirement in eight semesters:
 - 4 years of English

- 3 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher)
- 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by the high school)
- 1 extra year of English, math or natural or physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy)
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in core courses
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches the core course grade-point average and test-score sliding scale. (For example, a 3.000 core-course grade-point average needs at least a 620 SAT).

Student-athletes enrolling in college in August 2015 and later must meet all of the above requirements to receive aid in the first year and practice in the first term. In order to compete in the first year, prospects must meet all of the above and:

- Earn at least a 2.3 GPA in core courses
- Meet an increased sliding-scale standard
- Complete 10 core-courses prior to the start of the seventh semester, at least seven in English, math and science.

If a student-athlete earns nine credits in the first term, he or she can continue to practice the remainder of the year. If not, he or she can remain on aid but can't practice.

Amateurism Eligibility

All incoming student-athletes must be certified as an amateur student-athlete. With global recruiting becoming more common, determining the amateur status of college-bound student-athletes can be challenging. All college-bound student-athletes, including international students, need to adhere to NCAA amateurism requirements in order to preserve their eligibility for NCAA intercollegiate athletics.

Certification process

All college-bound student-athletes must have an academic and amateurism certification from the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#).

The online registration process that must be completed by all future Division I and II college-bound student-athletes includes a questionnaire relating to the individual's amateur status.

For the staff at the NCAA Eligibility Center to certify amateur status, college-bound student-athletes must answer a questionnaire during registration.

The questionnaire covers the following precollegiate enrollment activities:

- Contracts with professional teams
- Salary for participating in athletics
- Prize money
- Play with professionals
- Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team
- Benefits from an agent or prospective agent
- Agreement to be represented by an agent
- Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition

The [Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete](#) contains more detailed information about initial academic and amateurism eligibility.

Recruiting Rules

NCAA policies govern how coaches can recruit college-bound student-athletes. The rules specify when and how coaches can contact prospects, what materials can be sent and when student-athletes can visit campus. The rules differ from sport to sport.

The NCAA Eligibility Center administers the National Letter of Intent program. The National Letter of Intent is a contract between a college or university and a prospect that requires the college-bound student-athlete to attend the college or

university for one academic year and the college or university to provide athletics financial aid for one academic year. The National Letter of Intent is a legal document and should be read carefully before being signed.

Financial Aid

Individual colleges or universities award athletics grants-in-aid (often described as scholarships) on a one-year, renewable basis. They may be renewed for a maximum of five years within a six-year period of continuous college attendance. Aid can be renewed, canceled or reduced at the end of each year for many reasons. If a student-athlete's aid will be reduced or canceled, the college or university must provide the student-athlete with an opportunity to appeal.

Financial aid is awarded in various amounts, ranging from full scholarships (including tuition, fees, room, board and books) to small awards that might provide only course-required books. Such partial awards are known as "equivalencies." Some Division I sports (including Football Bowl Subdivision football and basketball) do not permit equivalencies.

All scholarships from any source in any amount must be reported to the college financial aid office. The total amount of financial aid a student-athlete can receive and the total amount of athletics aid a team can award may be limited. These limits can affect whether a student-athlete can accept aid from other sources.

Athletics financial aid can be a tremendous benefit to most families, but some costs are not covered (for example, travel between home and school). Also, although the benefits of athletically related financial aid are substantial, the [likelihood of participating](#) is relatively small. Any young person contemplating college attendance should use high school for legitimate academic preparation.

Transfer Rules

Division I student-athletes interested in transferring to another four-year college or university and student-athletes at two-year colleges interested in attending a four-year school should be aware of the rules that govern the transfer process.

- **Eligibility:** Transfers from two-year colleges must have their academic and amateur status certified, just as incoming freshmen do.
- **Permission to contact:** Most transfers from four-year college or university to four-year college or university require a "permission-to-contact" letter from the current school's athletics director to the new school's coach or administrator. The new school cannot contact the student-athlete until the current school agrees to the contact. If the current school does not agree, the student-athlete can appeal.
- **Five-year clock:** Division I student-athletes have five calendar years from the first enrollment at a two- or four-year school to compete four seasons of competition.
- **Academic year in residence:** Research shows that student-athletes who remain at one college or university throughout their academic careers graduate at higher rates than those who transfer. To encourage an academic focus, the NCAA requires Division I student-athletes who transfer from a two-year school and do not meet transfer requirements or transfer from one four-year school to another four-year school to spend one academic year in residence before being eligible to play. There are exceptions to the rule:
 - If the student-athlete has never transferred before from a four-year school and meets academic requirements, that student-athlete might be able to use the one-time transfer exception (except in baseball, basketball, men's ice hockey or football).
 - If the first school dropped the sport of the affected student-athlete
 - If the student-athlete never has been recruited, received an athletics scholarship or practiced beyond a 14-consecutive day period at any school or participated in competition before transferring
 - If the student-athlete returns to the first school without participating at the second school
 - If the student-athlete did not practice or play in his or her sport for two years

Individual colleges or universities and conferences also often have their own rules governing transfers.

DIVISION II TOOLKIT

Academic Eligibility (2009 - July 31, 2013)

If you enroll in a Division II college between now and July 31, 2013, and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

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

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

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

Division II Qualifier

Being a qualifier entitles you to:

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

Division II Partial Qualifier

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

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

As a partial qualifier, you:

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

Division II Non-qualifier

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

As a non-qualifier, you:

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

Amateurism Eligibility

All incoming student-athletes must be certified as an amateur student-athlete. With global recruiting becoming more common, determining the amateur status of college-bound student-athletes can be challenging. All college-bound student-athletes, including international students, need to adhere to NCAA amateurism requirements in order to preserve their eligibility for NCAA intercollegiate athletics.

Certification process

All college-bound student-athletes must have an academic and amateurism certification from the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#).

For the staff at the NCAA Eligibility Center to certify your amateur status, you must answer a questionnaire during registration. The questionnaire covers the following pre-collegiate enrollment activities:

- Contracts with professional teams
- Salary for participating in athletics
- Prize money
- Play with professionals
- Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team
- Benefits from an agent or prospective agent
- Agreement to be represented by an agent
- Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition

The [Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete](#) contains more detailed information about initial academic and amateurism eligibility.

Recruiting Rules

The NCAA has policies governing the recruitment of college-bound student-athletes. The rules specify when and how coaches can contact you and send you materials and when you can visit campus. The rules differ depending on which sport you play.

The NCAA Eligibility Center administers the National Letter of Intent program. The National Letter of Intent is a contract between a college or university and a prospect that requires the prospect to attend the college or university for one academic year and the college or university to provide athletics financial aid for one academic year. This is a legal document and should be read carefully before signing.

Financial Aid

Athletics grants-in-aid are awarded by individual colleges or universities on a one-year, renewable basis. They may be renewed for a maximum of five years within a six-year period of continuous college attendance. Aid can be renewed, canceled or reduced at the end of each year. If your aid is reduced or canceled, your college or university must provide you with an opportunity to appeal.

Grants-in-aid are awarded in a variety of amounts, ranging from full packages (including tuition, fees, room, board and books) to smaller packages known as equivalencies. Most athletically related financial aid in Division II is provided as equivalencies.

All financial aid from any source must be reported to your college financial aid office. The total amount of financial aid a student-athlete can receive and the total amount of athletics aid a team can award may be limited. These limits can affect whether a student-athlete can accept aid from other sources.

Athletics financial aid can be a tremendous benefit to most families, but some costs are not covered by the scholarship (for example, travel between home and school).

REMAINING ELIGIBLE

Academics

Because intercollegiate athletics is part of the fabric of the university, student-athletes must be committed to academic achievement and the pursuit of a degree.

Student-athletes must meet academic standards throughout their careers on campus to remain eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Member institutions in each division create academic standards specific to that division's goals.

In Division I, student-athletes must complete 40 percent of the coursework required for a degree by the end of their second year. They must complete 60 percent by the end of their third year and 80 percent by the end of their fourth year. Student-athletes are allowed five years to graduate while receiving athletically related financial aid. All Division I student-athletes must earn at least six credit hours each term to be eligible for the following term and must meet minimum grade-point average requirements that are related to an institution's own GPA standards for graduation.

Teams in Division I are also subject to the Academic Progress Rate (APR), a standard that measures a team's academic progress by assigning points to each individual student-athlete for eligibility and retention/graduation. Read more about the Academic Performance Program [here](#).

In Division II, student-athletes must complete 24 hours of degree credit each academic year to remain eligible for competition. At least 18 of those hours must be earned between the start of fall classes and spring commencement at a student-athlete's institution (six hours may be earned in the summer). All Division II student-athletes also must earn at least six credit hours each full-time term to be eligible for the following term.

In addition, Division II student-athletes must earn a 1.8 cumulative grade-point average after earning 24 hours, a 1.9 cumulative grade-point average after earning 48 hours and a 2.0 cumulative grade-point average after earning 72 hours to remain eligible. Student-athletes are given 10 semesters of full-time enrollment in which to use their four seasons of competition, provided they maintain academic eligibility.

Division II student-athletes must complete their four seasons of competition within the first 10 semesters or 15 quarters of full-time enrollment.

While there are no minimum national standards for establishing or maintaining eligibility in III, student-athletes in that division must be in good academic standing and make satisfactory progress toward a degree as determined by the institution.

Division III student-athletes must be enrolled in at least 12 semester or quarter hours, regardless of an institution's own definition of "full time."

Institutions in all divisions must determine and certify the academic eligibility of each student-athlete who represents the school on the field of play. Institutions are responsible for withholding academically ineligible student-athletes from competition.

Waivers are available for many of these rules, including progress-toward-degree standards.

Student-athletes who are declared academically ineligible must use the student-athlete reinstatement process to be restored to competition.