ELIGIBILITY CENTER

NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY

For College-Bound Student-Athletes

ELIGIBILITY CENTER

AGENDA

- What is the NCAA?
- NCAA Eligibility Center.
- NCAA Registration.
- Core Courses.
- Certification Outcomes.
  - Division I.
  - Division II.
- Recruiting.
- Resources.

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WHAT IS THE NCAA?

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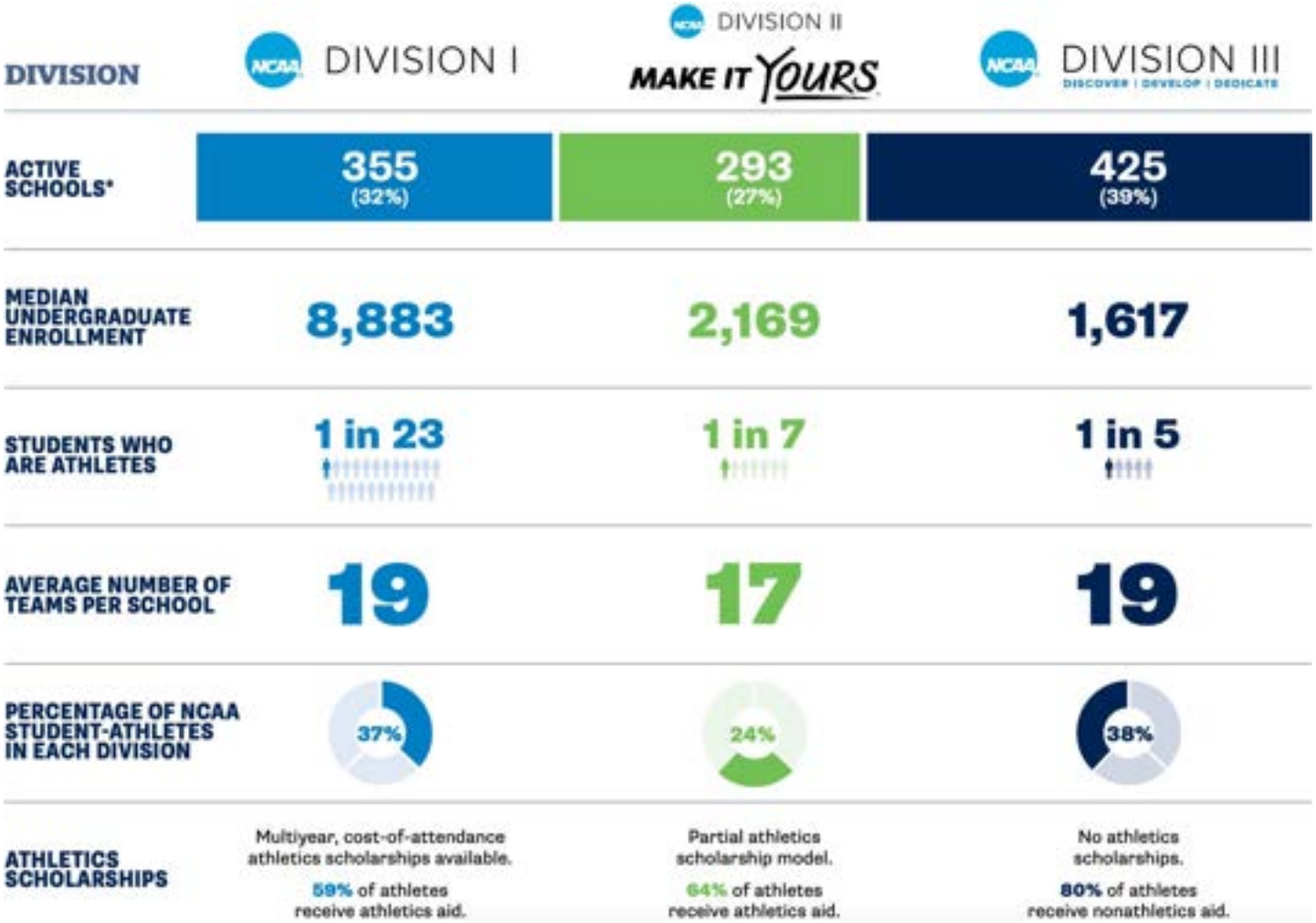
NCAA THREE DIVISIONS



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NCAA SPORTS

FALL SPORTS	
MEN:	**WOMEN:**
Cross Country	Cross Country
Football	Field Hockey
Soccer	Soccer
Water Polo	Volleyball

WINTER SPORTS	
MEN:	**WOMEN:**
Basketball	Basketball
Fencing	Bowling
Gymnastics	Fencing
Ice Hockey	Gymnastics
Indoor Track and Field	Ice Hockey
Rifle	Indoor Track and Field
Skiing	Rifle
Swimming and Diving	Skiing
Wrestling	Swimming and Diving

SPRING SPORTS	
MEN:	**WOMEN:**
Baseball	Beach Volleyball
Golf	Golf
Lacrosse	Lacrosse
Outdoor Track and Field	Outdoor Track and Field
Tennis	Rowing
Volleyball	Softball
	Tennis
	Water Polo

EMERGING SPORTS
WOMEN:
Acrobatics and Tumbling
Equestrian (Divisions I and II only)
Rugby
Stunt
Triathlon
Wrestling

Note: Student-athletes competing in emerging sports must register with the Eligibility Center and meet the same standards as all other students.

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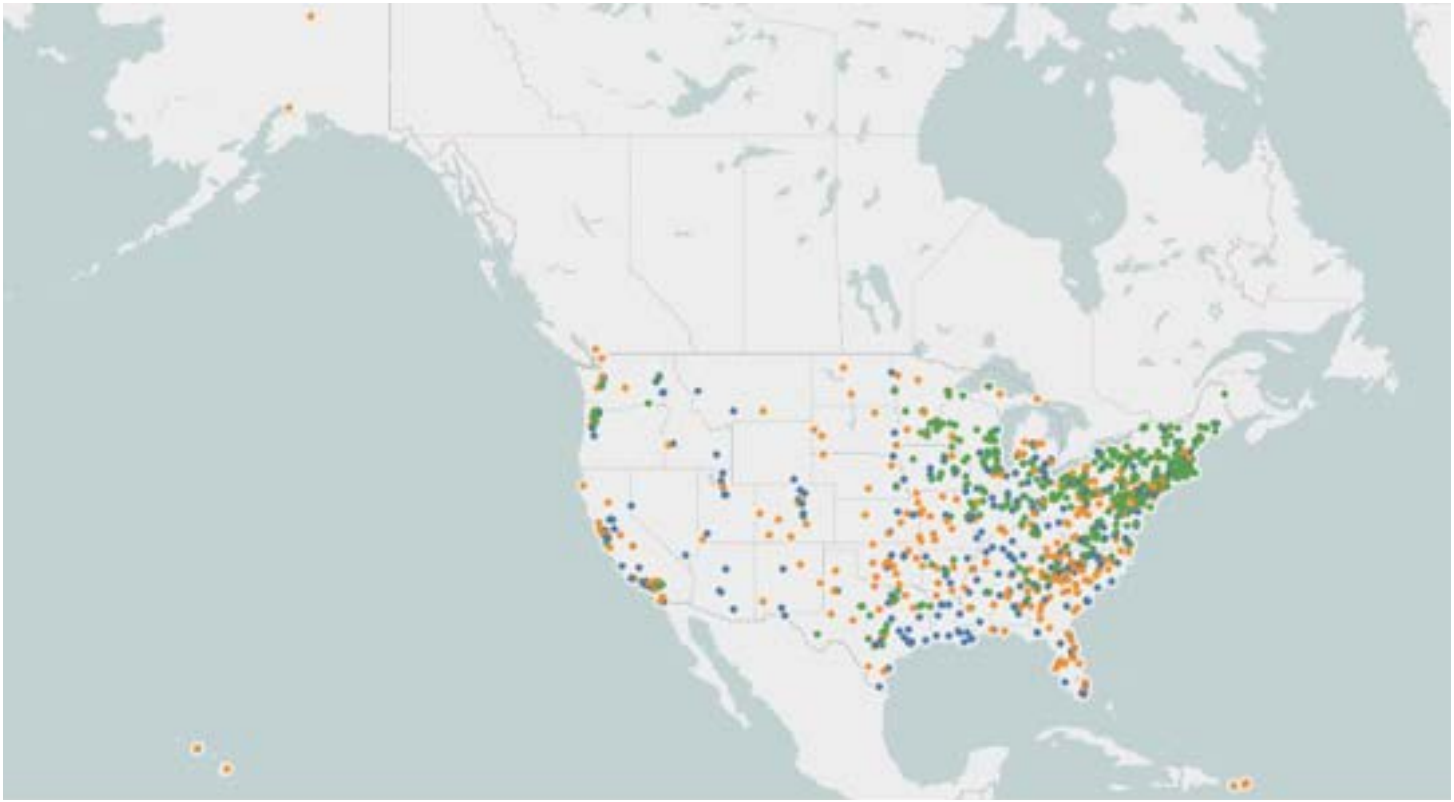
NCAA SCHOOLS

» Use this interactive map to locate NCAA schools you're interested in attending.



CHOOSING AN NCAA SCHOOL

School Size

School Location

Majors and Minors

Cost of Attendance

Admission Requirements

Culture and Affiliations

Student-to-Faculty Ratio

Playing Time

» Visit on.ncaa.com/choosing for suggestions of questions to ask NCAA schools recruiting you.

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NCAA
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NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

» **Who are we?** A unit within the NCAA.

» **What do we provide?** Certification of college-bound student-athletes for collegiate competition.

» **What do we review?**

- Academic requirements.
- Amateurism requirements.

» **Why do we review?** To create fair and equitable competition across NCAA schools and divisions.

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THREE REQUIREMENTS TO PLAY COLLEGE SPORTS

High School Graduation

NCAA Initial Eligibility

College Admission

COLLEGE ADMISSION

- Apply and be accepted to the NCAA school before you can compete.
  - NCAA certification does **NOT** include acceptance to the NCAA school.
- Ask college admission about:
  - Cost of attendance.
    - Financial aid and scholarships.
    - FAFSA.
  - Standardized test scores.
    - May be required for college admission or scholarships.
    - **NOT** required for NCAA certification.
  - For more questions to ask, visit on.ncaa.com/choosingcollege.

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Only about 2% of high school athletes are awarded athletics scholarships to compete in college.

Possible Elements of Financial Aid	Division I	Division II
Tuition and fees	✓	✓
Room and board	✓	✓
Books	✓	✓
Course-related books and supplies	✓	✓
Multiyear scholarship options	✓	✗
One-year scholarship option	✓	✓
Funding for degree completion to finish your bachelor's or master's degree after your time playing NCAA sports ends	✓	✓

Note: Division III does not offer athletics scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Understand what is covered by the NCAA school, and the costs you would be responsible for outside of that aid.

» Academic scholarships.

» Athletics scholarships.

» Expectations and requirements to maintain each type.

- Annual scholarships.
- Full scholarships.
- Partial scholarships.
- Scholarship renewals.

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THINKING OF GOING PRO?

Of the student-athletes participating in college sports with professional leagues, **less than 2%** become professional athletes.

	Baseball	Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Football	Men's Ice Hockey	Women's Soccer	Softball
High School Student-Athletes	478,451	537,438	373,366	1,028,761	33,013	377,838	344,952
NCAA Student-Athletes	38,849	19,213	16,668	77,204	4,388	29,959	21,646
Drafted NCAA Student-Athletes	444	46	33	259	69	47	24
Percentage High School to NCAA	8.1%	3.6%	4.5%	7.5%	13.3%	7.9%	6.3%
*Percentage NCAA to Major Professional	5.1%	1.1%	0.9%	1.5%	7.1%	0.7%	0.5%

Note: High school and college participation data are from the 2022-23 academic year.
*The percentage of NCAA student-athletes moving on to major professional leagues is based on the number of draft picks in the 2023 MLB, NBA, WNBA, NFL, NHL, NWSL and WPF drafts.

» For the rest, the experiences of college athletics and life lessons learned along the way will help them pursue careers in business, education, athletics administration, communications, law, medicine and many more fields.

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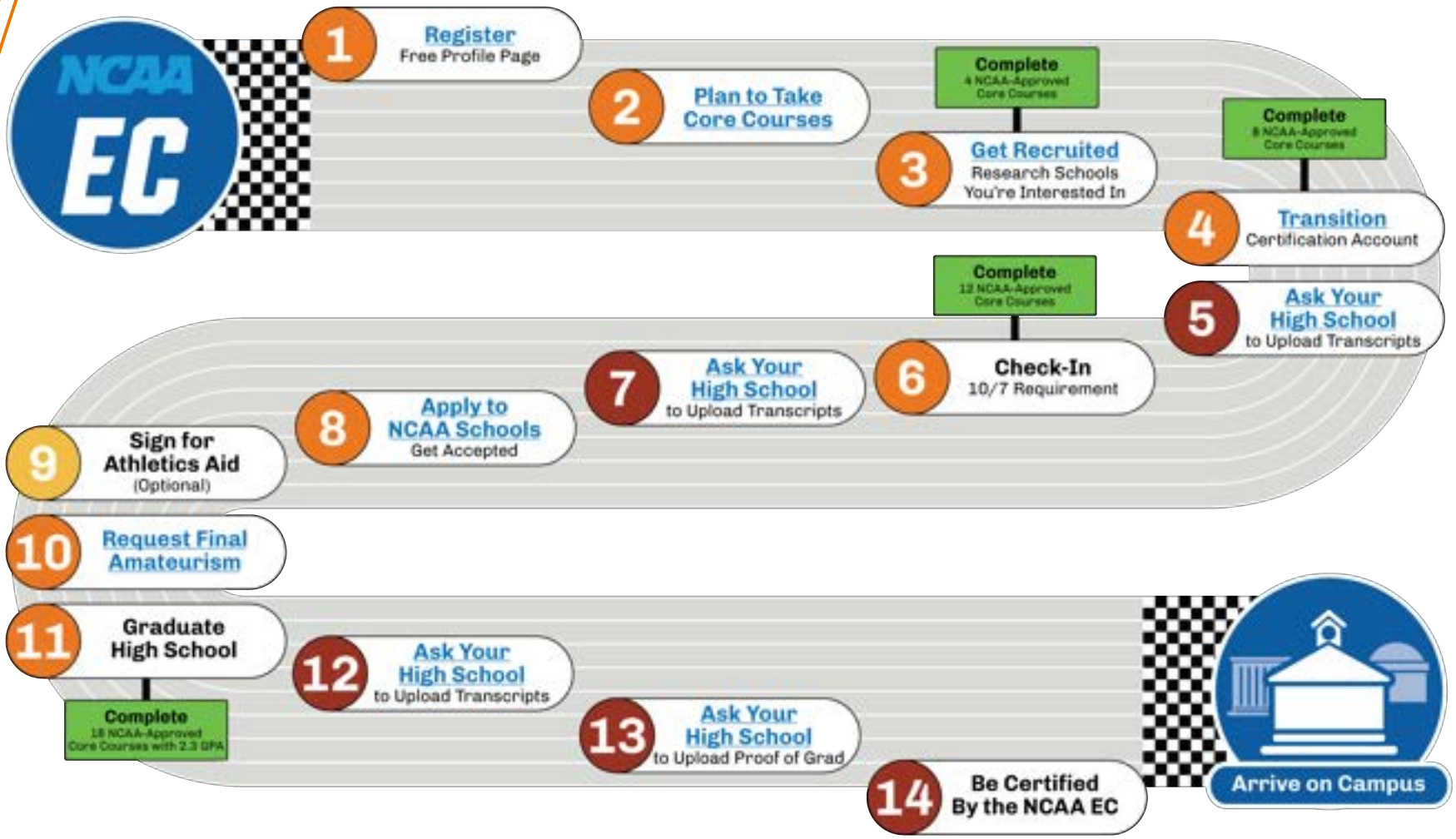
KEEP YOUR CERTIFICATION ON TRACK



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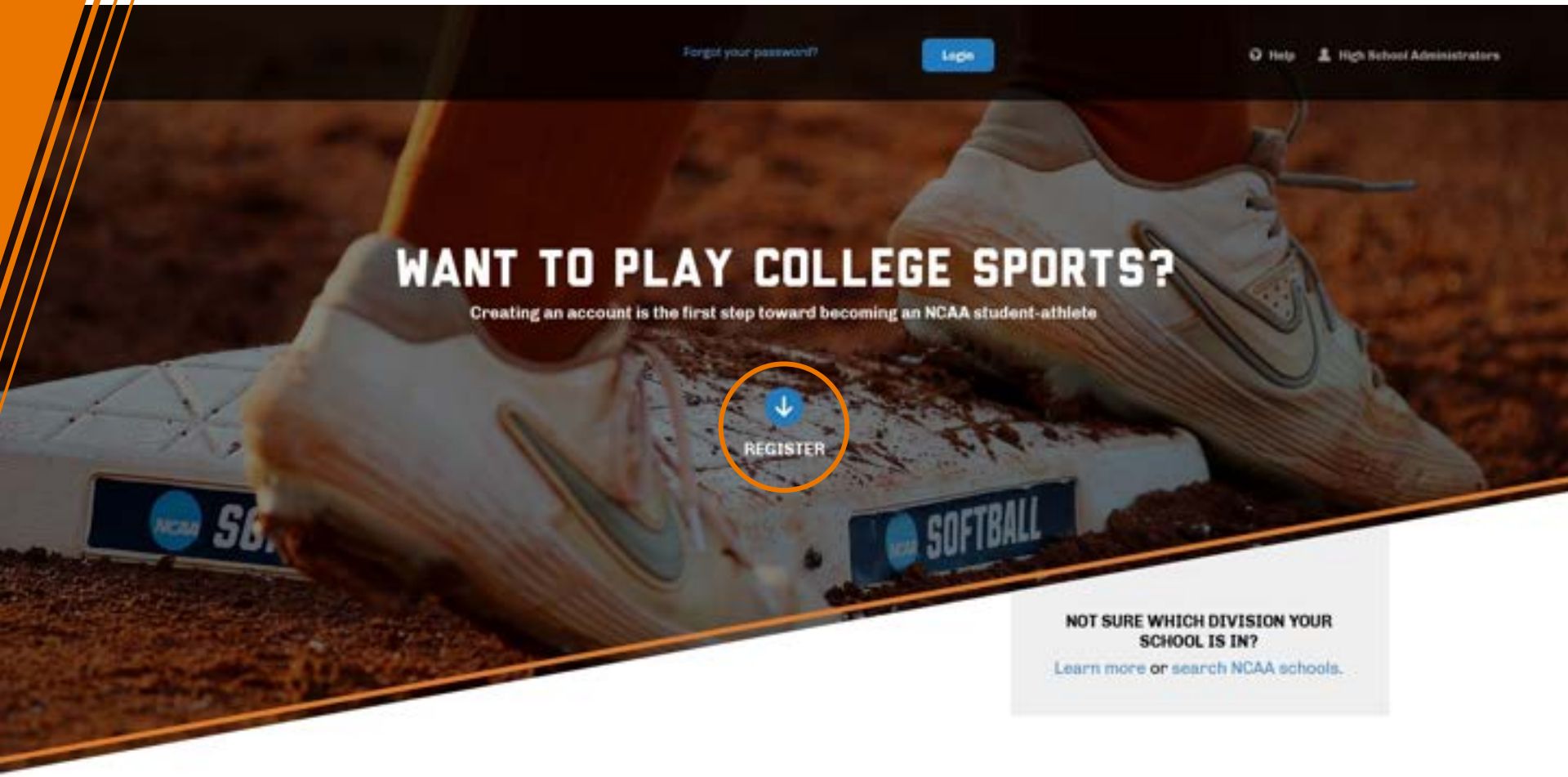

NCAA REGISTRATION

Best Practice: Register Before Freshman Year

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NCAA REGISTRATION

Three Account Types

Free Profile Page Account

Academic and Amateurism Certification Account

Amateurism-Only Certification Account

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FREE PROFILE PAGE ACCOUNT

Account Type #1

The right place to start for most students!

» Not sure in which division you plan to compete.

» Domestic students planning to compete at a Division III school.

» Registering in an NCAA-certified nonscholastic basketball event.

No registration fee.

If you're being actively recruited by an NCAA Division I or II school, transition your Profile Page account to a certification account.

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ACADEMIC AND AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION ACCOUNT

Account Type #2

Required to compete at a Division I or II school:

» Go on Division I official visits.

» Sign for athletics aid.

» Receive an athletics scholarship.

Registration fee:

» Domestic students: $100.

» International students: $160.

» Check to see if you meet fee waiver criteria.

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AMATEURISM-ONLY CERTIFICATION ACCOUNT

Account Type #3

Recommended for all international student-athletes planning to compete at a Division III school.

Registration fee:

» $70.

» Check to see if you meet fee waiver criteria.

Student-athletes transferring from a two-year school to an NCAA Division I or II school who did not require an Eligibility Center academic certification.

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CORE COURSES

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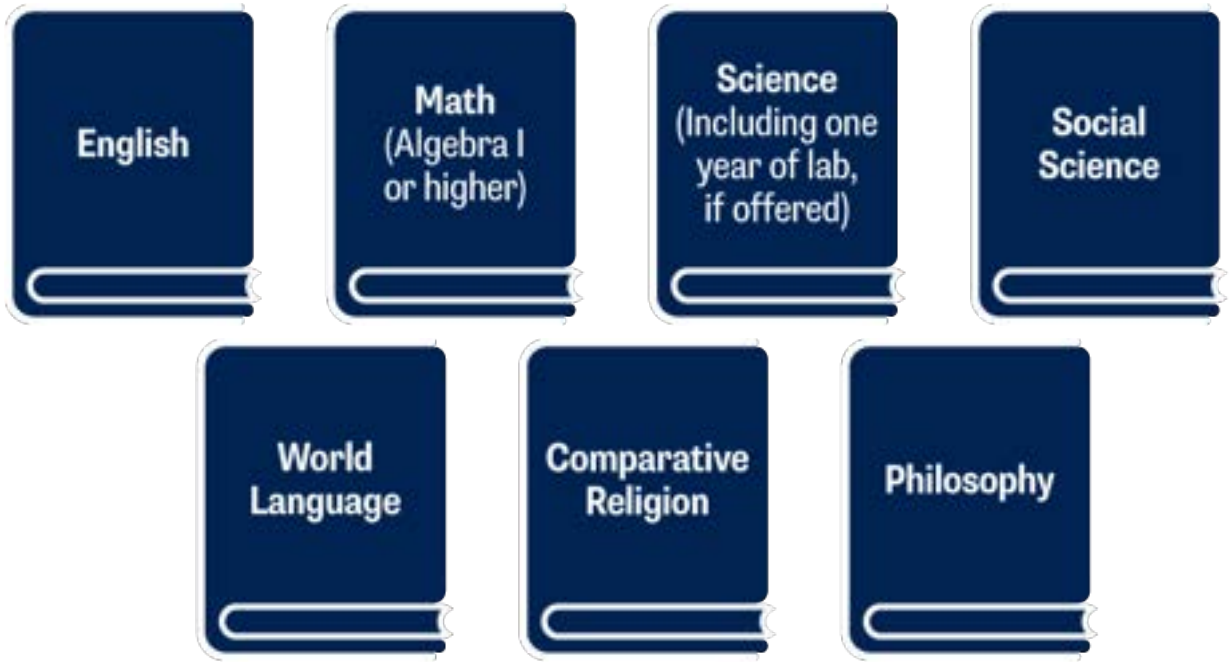
WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

A core course must meet the following requirements to be used in your academic certification:

» Meet high school graduation requirements in one or more of the following subject areas:



» Be on your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses.

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WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

A core course must meet the following requirements to be used in your academic certification:

» Be completed in alignment with your high school's policies related to instruction, pacing, etc.

» Be completed at a high school with a "Cleared" or "Extended Evaluation" Eligibility Center account status.

DUAL-ENROLLMENT COURSEWORK

- May be used to satisfy NCAA core-course requirements if course:
  - Appears on your official transcript with grade and high school credit.
  - Meets all requirements for an NCAA-approved core course.

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NCAA-APPROVED CORE COURSES

Scan the QR Code Below

Find Your High School's List of NCAA-Approved Core Courses

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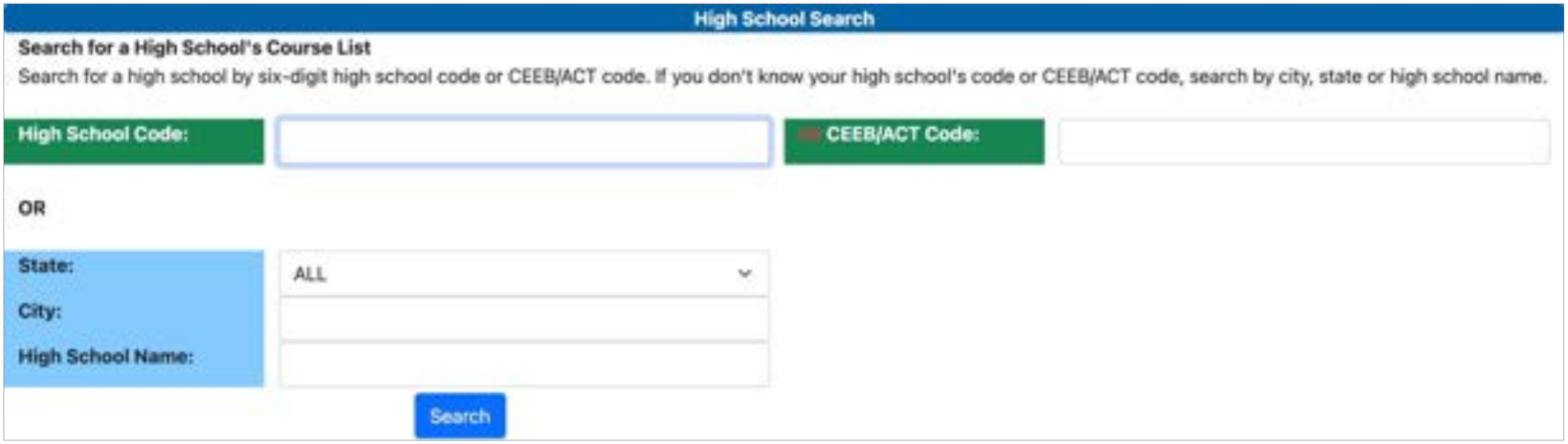
NCAA-APPROVED CORE COURSES



Example

Mathematics					
Course Weight	Title	Notes	Max Credits	OK Through	EID Course
	ALGEBRA				Yes
	ALGEBRA 1				No
	ALGEBRA 1A/PT1		.5		No
	ALGEBRA 1B/PT2		.5		No

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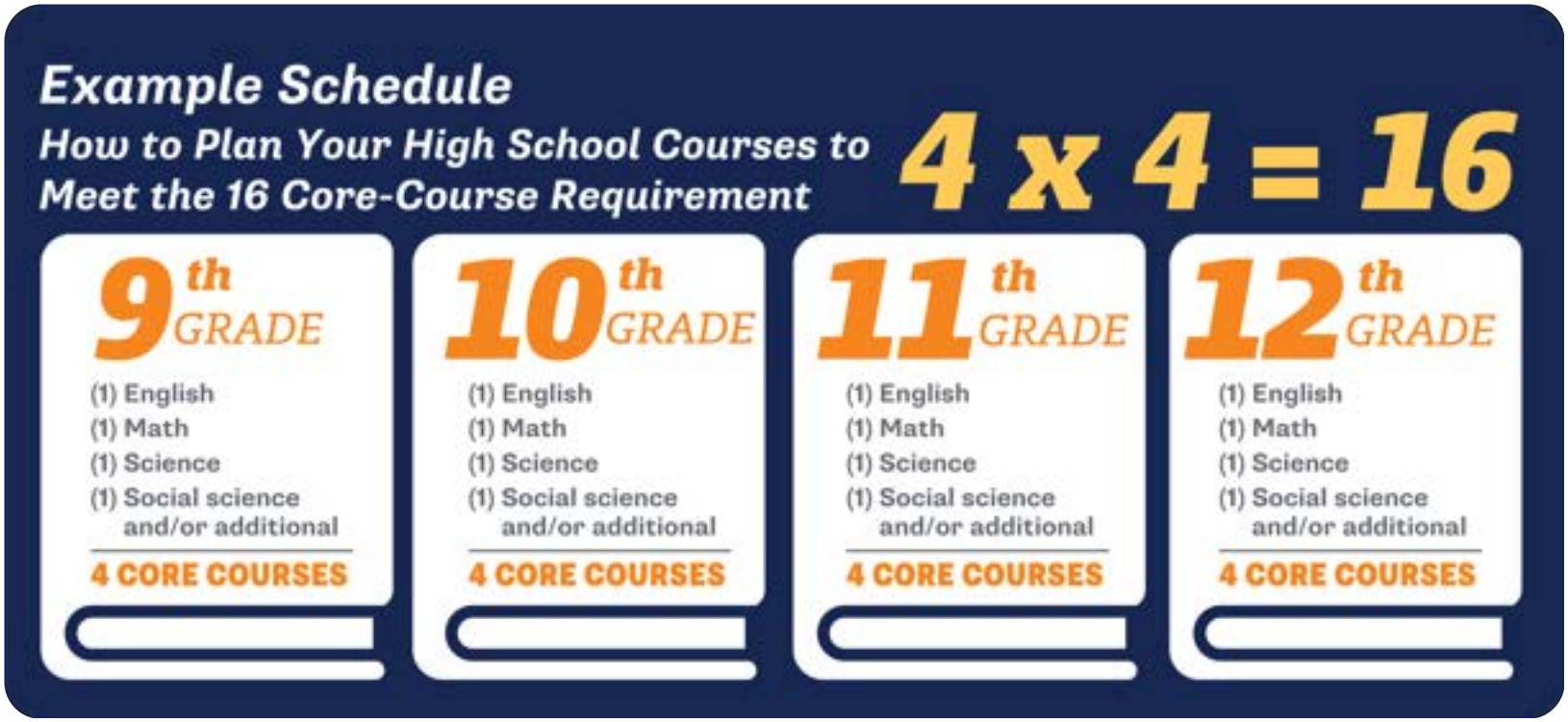
EXAMPLE SCHEDULE



ELIGIBILITY CENTER

DIVISION I AND II WORKSHEETS

Use the Division I and II Worksheets to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards.

View the Division I and II Worksheets

Note: The Eligibility Center will determine your academic status after graduation.

ELIGIBILITY CENTER

DIVISION I AND II WORKSHEETS

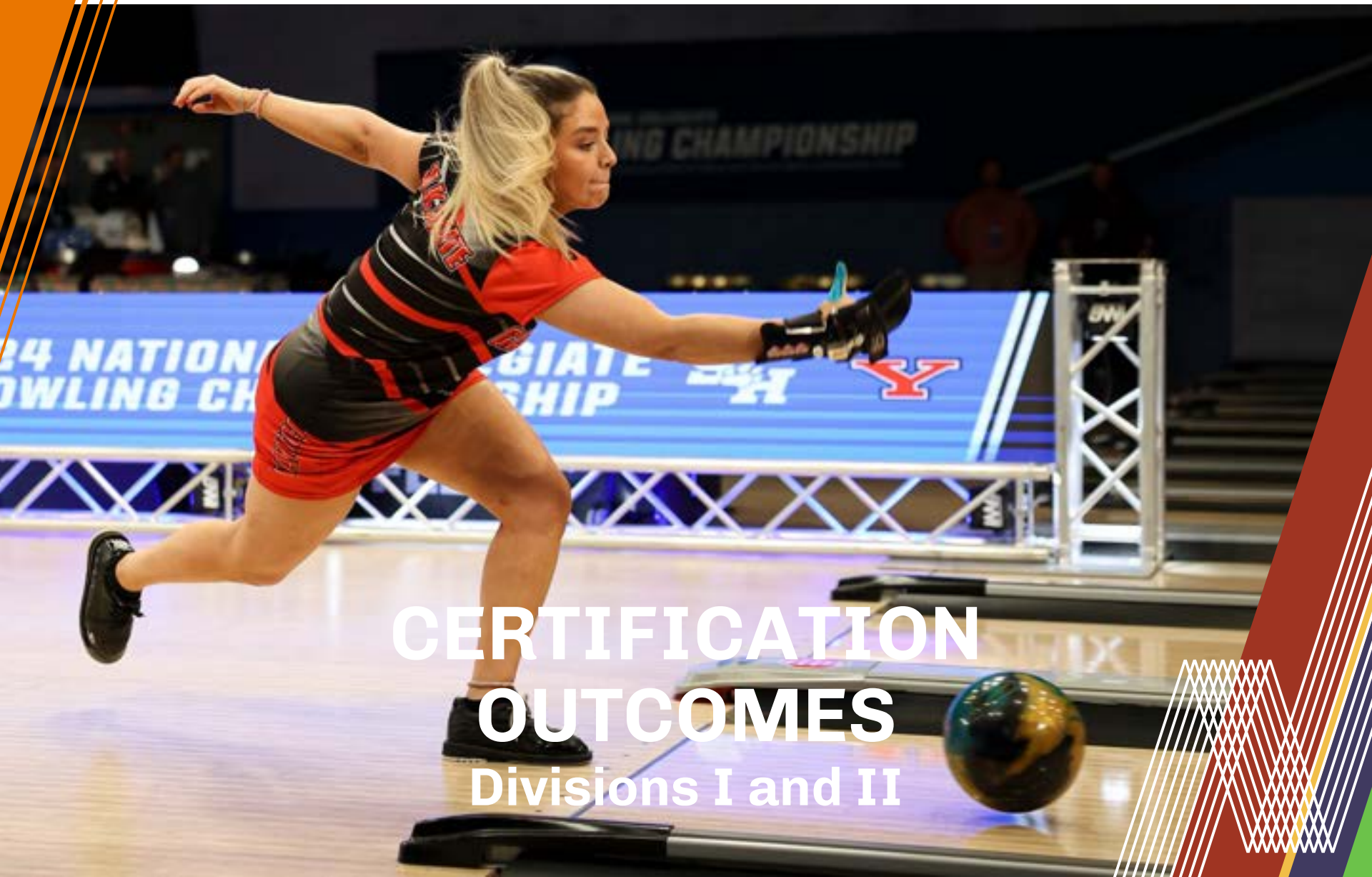
Use the Division I and II Worksheets to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards.

ENGLISH (4 YEARS REQUIRED)						
10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
✓	Example: English 9	.50		4		(.5 x 4) = 2
✔	English 10	1.00		4.00		4.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTAL ENGLISH UNITS	1.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 4.000

QUALITY POINTS	/	CREDITS	=	CORE-COURSE GPA
TOTAL QUALITY POINTS FROM EACH SUBJECT AREA / TOTAL CREDITS = CORE-COURSE GPA	4.00	/	1.00	= 4.000

Note: The Eligibility Center will determine your academic status after graduation.

ELIGIBILITY CENTER



CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES

Divisions I and II

Division I

CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES

1. Early Academic Qualifier.
2. Qualifier.
3. Academic Redshirt.
4. Nonqualifier.

» Athletics Aid.
» Practice.
» Compete.

Division I

EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

Note: Based on your pre-seventh semester academic record.

Earn 14 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the required subject areas.

Earn a minimum 3.0 core-course GPA.

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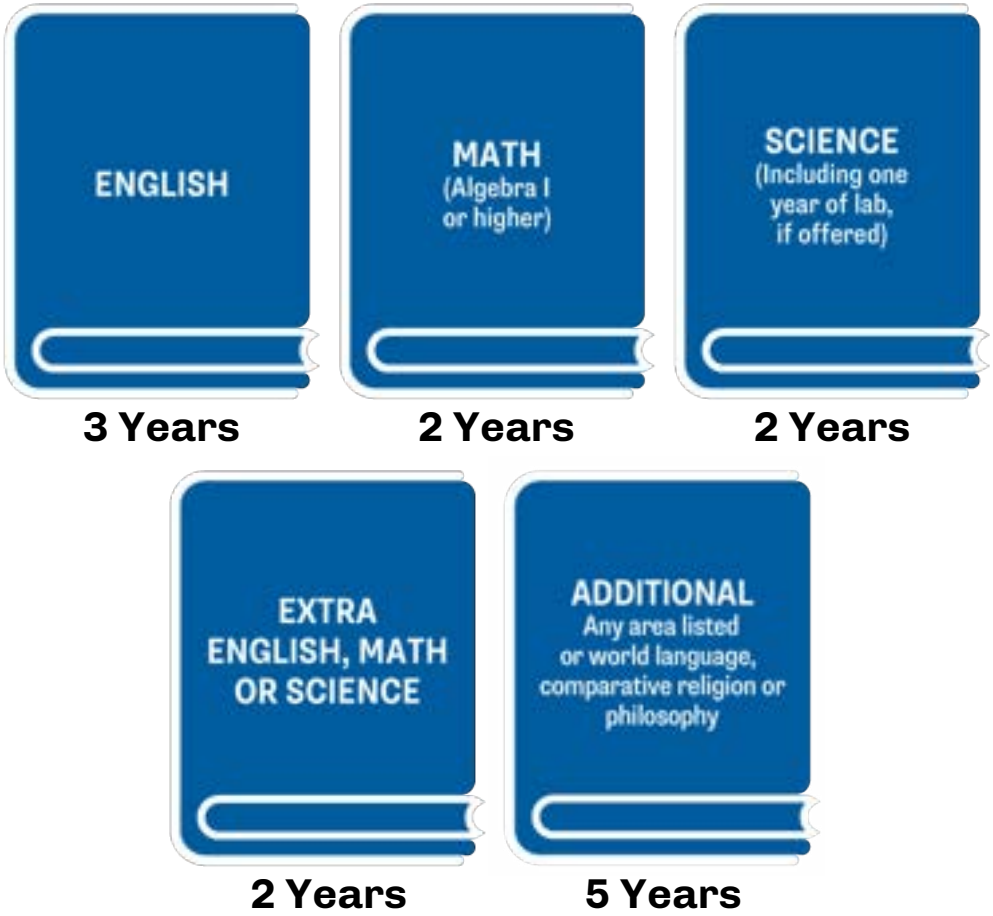
DIVISION I: EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

Subject Area Breakdown



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» Athletics Aid.
» Practice.
» Compete.

Division I
QUALIFIER

Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the required subject areas.

Complete 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in eight semesters from your initial start of ninth grade.

Meet the 10/7 requirement before the start of your seventh semester.
- » Not required for students with solely international academic credentials.

Earn a minimum 2.3 core-course GPA.

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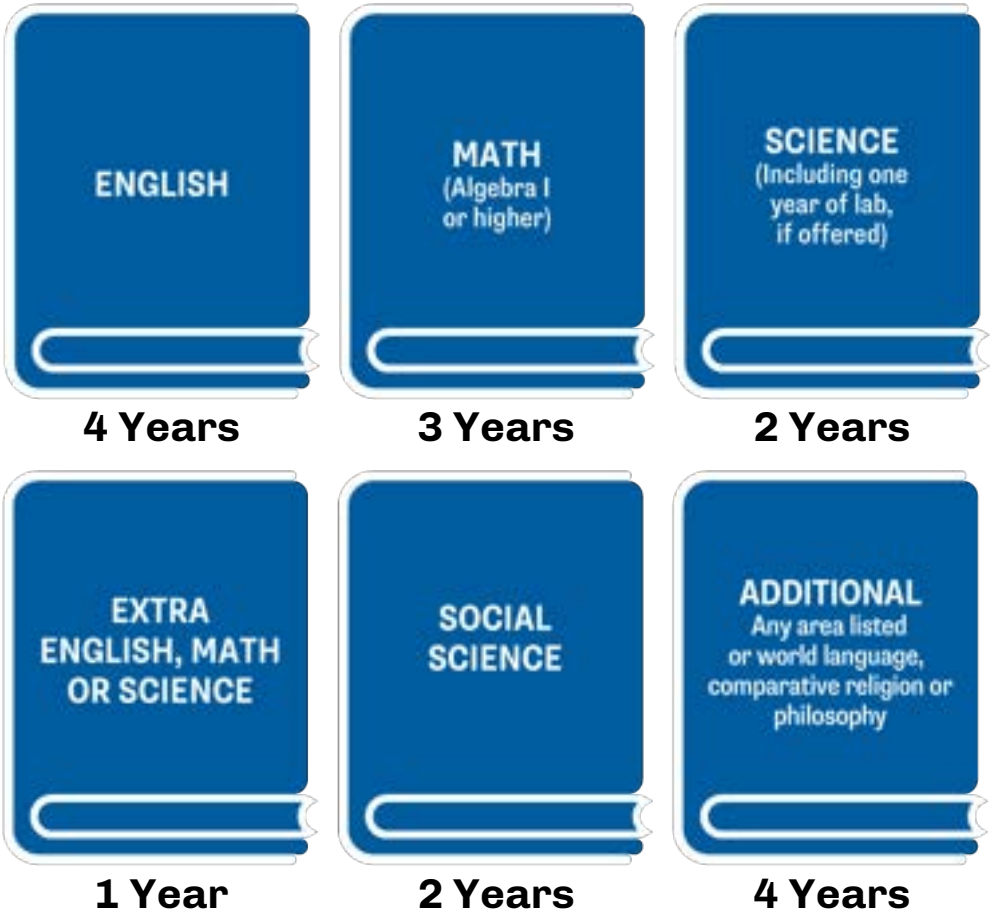
DIVISION I: QUALIFIER

Subject Area Breakdown



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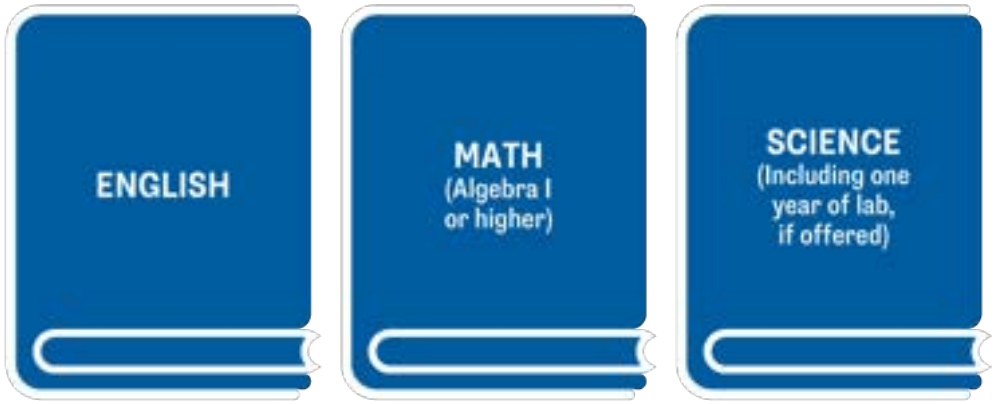
DIVISION I: 10/7 REQUIREMENT

Complete 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits (including seven in English, math or science) before the start of your seventh semester.



» Students with solely international academic credentials (including Canada) are not required to meet the 10/7 requirement.

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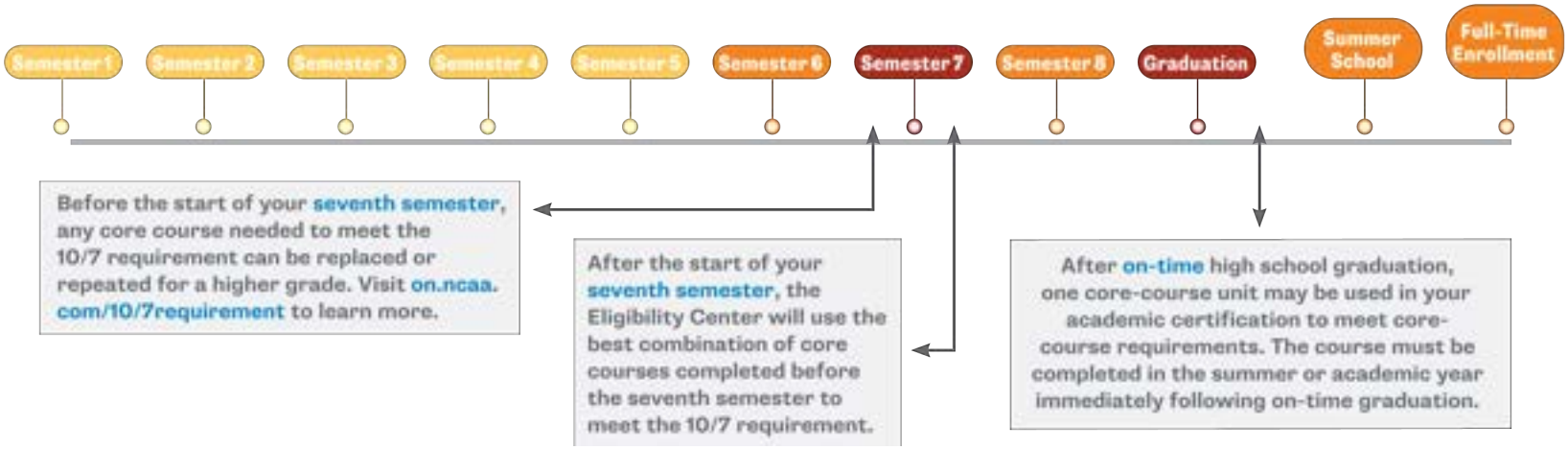
DIVISION I: COURSES TAKEN AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

For Division I, only core courses completed in the first eight semesters from your initial start of ninth grade will be used in your academic certification.



If you graduate from high school on time, you may use one core-course unit completed in the year after graduation and before enrolling full time at any college or university.

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Division I
ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

- First Year Athletics Aid.
- First Term Practice.
- ~~Compete.~~

Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the required subject areas.

Earn a minimum 2.0 core-course GPA.

- » ~~Athletics Aid.~~
- » ~~Practice.~~
- » ~~Compete.~~

Division I
NONQUALIFIER

Not eligible to receive athletics aid, practice or compete during your first year of full-time enrollment.

Check with the compliance office at the NCAA school you may attend to discuss your options.

Division II

CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES

1. Early Academic Qualifier.
2. Qualifier.
3. Partial Qualifier.

- Athletics Aid.
- Practice.
- Compete.

Division II

EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

Note: Based on your pre-seventh semester academic record.

Earn 14 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the required subject areas.

Earn a minimum 2.5 core-course GPA.

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DIVISION II: EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

Subject Area Breakdown

ELIGIBILITY CENTER

» Athletics Aid.
» Practice.
» Compete.

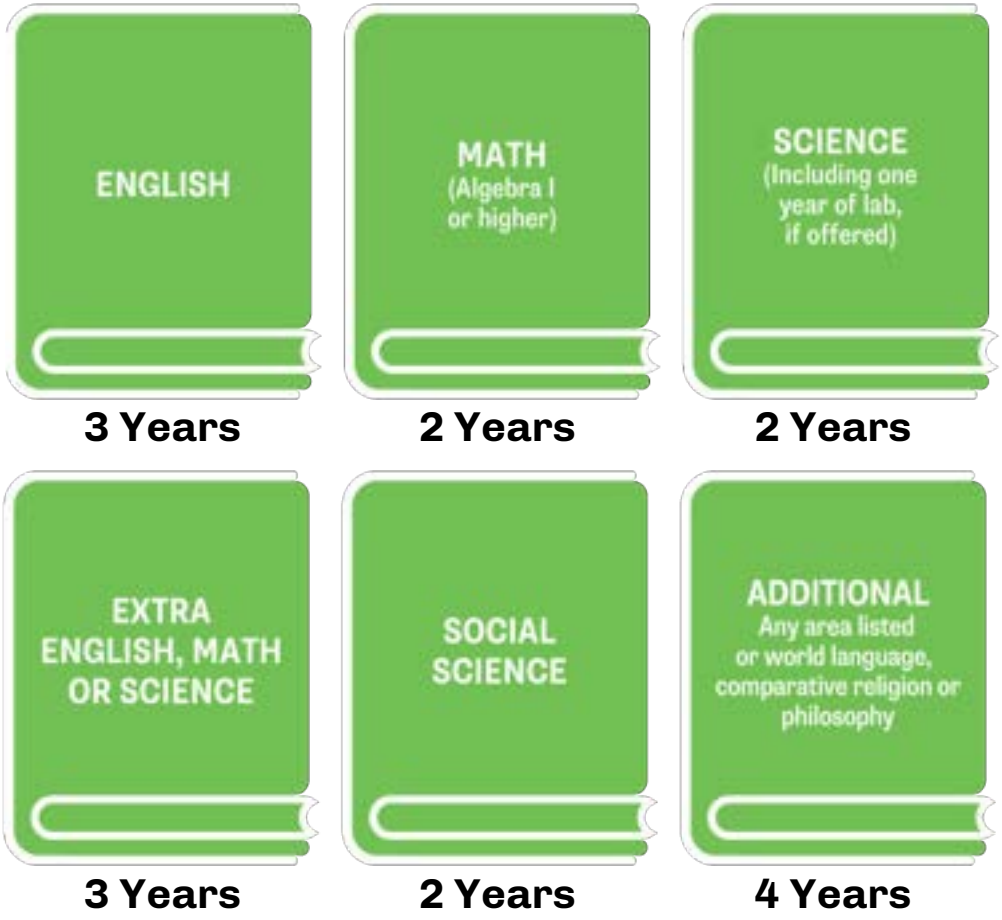
Division II
QUALIFIER

Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the required subject areas.

Earn a minimum 2.2 core-course GPA.

DIVISION II: QUALIFIER

Subject Area Breakdown



Division II

PARTIAL QUALIFIER

May receive athletics aid and practice but may NOT compete during your first year of full-time enrollment.

Check with the compliance office at the NCAA school you may attend to discuss your options.

- Athletics Aid.
- Practice.
- ~~Compete.~~

DIVISION III

» While Division III schools set their own academic standards on campus, the Eligibility Center certifies the amateur status of Division III international student-athletes.

  ○ All other Division III student-athletes are certified on campus.

» International student-athletes enrolling at a Division III school must register with the Eligibility Center and receive their final amateurism certification before they can compete.

» Domestic student-athletes enrolling at a Division III school may register for a free Profile Page account, but it is not required.

EDUCATION-IMPACTING DISABILITIES

- Current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and requires accommodation.
- Must meet the same initial-eligibility standards as other students but may be provided certain accommodations.
  - Take NCAA-approved courses for students with EIDs.
  - **Division I:** Take up to three additional core courses after graduating high school, before enrolling full time.
  - **Division II:** Take an unlimited number of core courses after starting ninth grade, before enrolling full time.
- For more information, visit on.ncaa.com/eid.

RECLASSIFYING

- For Division I, only core courses completed in the first eight semesters from your initial start of ninth grade will be used in your academic certification.
  - If you do not graduate on time, the coursework completed after eight semesters would **not** be used in your certification.
- To be a Division I qualifier, you must also complete 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits (including seven in English, math or science) before the start of your seventh semester.
  - Students with solely international academic credentials (including Canada): Not required to meet the 10/7 requirement.
- Check with the compliance office at the NCAA school you may attend to discuss your options.

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DELAYED ENROLLMENT

M&W TENNIS	MEN'S ICE HOCKEY		M&W SKIING		ALL OTHER SPORTS		
DI	DI	DII	DI	DII	DI	DII	DIII
Grace Period*	Up to	Grace Period*	Up to	Grace Period*	Grace Period*	Grace Period*	Grace Period*
6	21ST	3	21ST	3	12	12	12
months	BIRTHDAY	YEARS	BIRTHDAY	YEARS**	months	months	months

*If you continue to compete on or after Oct. 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs first after the end of your grace period), you risk losing up to one season of NCAA eligibility for each consecutive 12-month period you continue to compete. You may also be required to serve an academic year in residence at your NCAA school before you can compete.
** Competition must be sanctioned by the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association or its international counterparts.

» After high school graduation, you have a grace period to continue competing in your sports before initially enrolling full time at any two- or four-year college or university.
  - Generally, if you continue to compete in organized competition after your grace period, you risk losing a season of NCAA eligibility for each 12-month period you continue to compete.
  - Click here for more information.

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RECRUITING

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ARE YOU BEING RECRUITED?

» You're being actively recruited if an NCAA coach:

Calls

Texts

Emails

Messages via Social Media

Visits Your High School

Pays Expenses to Visit Campus

Issues Athletics Aid

Writes Offer of Financial Aid

» Recruiting can begin as early as ninth grade.
  - In most cases, recruiting starts in eleventh grade.

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INSTITUTIONAL REQUEST LIST

» An IRL is a list of college-bound student-athletes an NCAA school is interested in recruiting.

  ○ You **must** be on an NCAA school's IRL to receive an academic and/or amateurism certification.

Receive Athletics Aid

Practice

Compete

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RECRUITING CALENDARS

Recruiting calendars promote your well-being and ensure fairness among schools by defining certain periods during the year in which recruiting may or may not occur in a particular sport.

Division, Sport and Grade Level Determines Recruiting Activities*	CONTACT PERIOD	EVALUATION PERIOD	QUIET PERIOD	DEAD PERIOD	RECRUITING SHUTDOWN
College coaches may call, write, text or email you and your family.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
College coaches may watch you compete.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
College coaches may visit your high school.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
College coaches may have face-to-face contact with you and your family.	Yes	Yes, but only on the college's campus.	Yes, but only on the college's campus.	No	No

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RECRUITING CALENDARS

Scan the QR Code Below

Visit on.ncaa.com/recruitcal

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OFFICIAL vs UNOFFICIAL VISITS

OFFICIAL VISITS

» Official visits: Any visit to a college campus paid for by the NCAA school you are visiting. Before a Division I or II official visit, you must:

Register with the Eligibility Center

Be on the NCAA School's IRL

Request Upload of Your High School Transcript

UNOFFICIAL VISITS

» Unofficial visits: Any visit to a college campus paid for by you or your family members.

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OFFICIAL vs UNOFFICIAL VISITS

OFFICIAL VISITS

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

Division I	Division II	Division III
Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you're visiting (plus up to two family members).	Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you're visiting.	Your transportation to and from the NCAA school you're visiting.
Your lodging.	Your lodging.	Your lodging.
Up to three meals per day for you and up to four family members.	Your meals.	Up to three meals per day for you.
Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to $60 per recruited student-athlete and up to four family members accompanying you, including five tickets to a home sports event).	Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to $50 per recruited student-athlete and any family member accompanying you, including tickets to a home sports event).	Reasonable entertainment expenses (including up to $40 per recruited student-athlete and any family member accompanying you, including tickets to home sports events).

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OFFICIAL vs UNOFFICIAL VISITS

UNOFFICIAL VISITS

What can an NCAA school pay for during an unofficial visit?

Division I	Division II	Division III
No complimentary meals.	One meal for you and your family members.	One meal for you at the on-campus dining facility or one meal for you off campus if the on-campus dining facility is closed and the NCAA school provides meals to all prospective students, including nonathletes.
Complimentary admission (including three tickets for a home athletics contest).	Complimentary admission (including tickets for a home athletics contest).	Complimentary admission (including tickets for you and those accompanying you).

"WALK-ON" STUDENT-ATHLETES

» Someone who is not typically recruited by a school to participate in sports and does not receive a scholarship from the school but who becomes a member of one of the school's athletics teams.

  ○ Division I and II "walk-on" student-athletes must register with the Eligibility Center and meet the same standards as all other students.

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TOPICS TO DISCUSS WITH NCAA COACHES

- Academic resources.
- Additional team responsibilities.
- Athletic training and medical expenses.
- Coaching philosophy and style.
- Degree completion support.
- Injuries and rehabilitation.
- Mental health resources.
- Name, image and likeness.
- Playing time.
- Scholarship renewals.
- Team time demands.

Visit on.ncaa.com/choosing for more suggestions of questions for students to ask NCAA schools.

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RECRUITING BEST PRACTICES

» Talk with your support system about what level of competition they think you should aim for.

» Register for an Eligibility Center account before ninth grade.

» Check your email often for Eligibility Center tasks.

» Work as hard in the classroom as you do in your sport! Earn the best NCAA core-course GPA possible.

» Use this interactive map to research the admission requirements of NCAA schools you're interested in attending.

» Research when your division- and sport-specific recruiting activity periods are throughout each year.

» If possible, play on elite travel teams and attend camps or showcases in your area to display your skills and build relationships.

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RECRUITING BEST PRACTICES

» Conduct yourself in a positive manner in class, practices and games, at home, in your community and online.

» Email college coaches during your sport's contact period to share your achievements and your interest.

  ○ Include your name, position and NCAA ID.

» If you're being actively recruited by an NCAA school, transition your Profile Page account to the right certification account.

» Take unofficial and official visits to NCAA schools you're interested in attending.

  ○ If you're unable to visit campus, review school websites and take virtual campus tours to learn more.

NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS

- NCAA student-athletes can benefit from their NIL.
- Resources:
  - Visit on.ncaa.com/nil.
  - Contact your state's high school athletic association for current legislation.
  - Contact your future NCAA school's compliance office.
  - Follow the Eligibility Center on X, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.

ATHLETICS AID

- By signing for athletics aid, you agree to attend that Division I or II school.
- Athletics aid is:
  - Voluntary and ends the recruiting process.
  - Provided for a minimum of one academic year.
    - You must be admitted to the NCAA school.
    - You must be eligible for financial aid under NCAA rules.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Understand the transfer rules, options and potential consequences before choosing to transfer.
- Check with the compliance office at the NCAA school you may attend.
  - Depending on your college experience, you may be able to compete as soon as you transfer.
- Division-specific resources:
  - Guide for Two-Year Transfers.
  - Guide for Four-Year Transfers.
- For more transfer information, visit on.ncaa.com/transfer.

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RESOURCES

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RESOURCES

» Registration Checklist.

» Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.

» Initial-Eligibility Flyer.

» Homeschooled Students.

» International Students.

» Education-Impacting Disabilities.

Connect with the Eligibility Center

@ncaaec @playcollegesports @ncaaec @ncaaec

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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ELIGIBILITY CENTER

THANK YOU FOR JOINING!

Contact the Eligibility Center

» College-bound student-athlete support line.

- 877-262-1492.
  - > Monday-Friday.
  - > 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time.

Take a Short Survey on How We Did Today

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