

NCAA REGISTRATION PROCESS

What is the NCAA Eligibility Center? Why is it Important?

The Eligibility Center certifies the academic and amateur credentials of all students who want to play sports at an NCAA Division I or II institution as freshmen. In order to practice, play and receive an athletic scholarship, students need to meet certain academic benchmarks. An additional certification process exists to make sure the student is still an amateur, which is necessary in order for the student to compete.

When Should you Register?

Students may register at any time, but we recommend that they register during their junior year. The eligibility center will evaluate a student's academic credentials once the following information has been received, and the student has had their status requested by an NCAA member institution:

- Completed online registration
- Fee payment
- SAT or ACT test scores on file from the respective testing agency
- Transcript(s) from all schools or programs attended

What are the Registration Steps?

- Log in to the Eligibility Center website: www.eligibilitycenter.org
- Click "Enter Here" under NCAA College-Bound Student-Athletes"
- In upper right hand corner click "New Account"
- Enter your Email Address. You will then be sent an Access Code to that email address that you will need in order to proceed
- Upon entering access code and clicking "Submit" you will continue with setting-up your account and registering. The registration process will take anywhere from 15 minutes to one hour
- The registration screens will ask you about yourself, coursework information, and your sport; answer the questions about your sport very carefully or you could disqualify yourself from eligibility
- Pay Registration Fee. You will not be allowed to proceed and you are not registered until you pay the registration fee of \$65.00
- Continue with remainder of registration

Eligibility Rules: Academic Credentials + Amateurism Status = College Eligible

What are the Academic Initial-Eligibility Requirements?

The following requirements must be met in order for a student to be able to practice, play and receive a scholarship at an NCAA Division I or II College or University.

Division I:

1. Graduate from high school;
2. Complete a minimum of 16 core courses;
3. Earn a minimum required grade-point average in your core courses;
4. Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core-course grade-point average and test score sliding scale (for example, a 2.400 core-course grade-point average needs an 860 SAT); and
5. Complete the amateurism questionnaire and request final amateurism certification.

Division I Core-Course Breakdown:

- 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 your 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, comparative religion/philosophy

Requirement to graduate with your high school class

You must complete the 16 core-course requirement in eight semesters, which begins when you initially started high school with your ninth-grade class. If you graduate from high school in eight semesters with your class, you may use **one** core-course unit completed within one year after graduation (summer or academic year) to meet NCAA Division I initial-eligibility requirements.

You may complete the core course at a location other than the high school from which you graduated and may initially enroll full time at a college or university at any time after completion of the core course.

Division I I:

1. Graduate from high school;
2. Complete a minimum of 16 core courses;
3. Present a minimum 2.0 core-course grade-point average (GPA);
4. Present a minimum 820 SAT score (critical reading and math only) or 68 sum ACT score qualifying test score on either the ACT or SAT; and
5. Complete the amateurism questionnaire and request final amateurism certification.

Division II Core-Course Breakdown:

- 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 extra core courses from any category above, or foreign language, comparative religion/philosophy

Class of 2016 and beyond:

College-bound student-athletes first entering a 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.

First, here are three terms you need to know:

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.

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

Here are the *new* requirements:

Full Qualifier must:

1. Complete 16 core courses (same distribution as above);
 - Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
 - Seven of the 10 core courses must be English, math or science.
2. Have a minimum core-course GPA of 2.300;
 - Grades earned in the 10 required courses required before the senior year are “locked in” for purposes of GPA calculation.
 - A repeat of one of the “locked in” courses will not be used to improve GPA if taken after the seventh semester begins.
3. Meet the competition sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score (this is a new scale with increased GPA/test score requirements); and
4. Graduate from high school.

Academic Redshirt must:

1. Complete 16 core courses;
2. Have a minimum core-course GPA of 2.000;
3. Meet the academic redshirt sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score; and
4. Graduate from high school.

Nonqualifier is a college-bound student-athlete who fails to meet the standards for a qualifier or for an academic redshirt.

How Should the Eligibility Process Work?

Grades 9 and 10

Student takes academic college-preparatory courses, preferably one in each of the following areas: English, math, science, social studies and foreign language. The student should compare course selection against the list of NCAA-approved core courses.

Grade 11

- Student continues to take college preparatory courses in the areas listed above.
- Student registers for the SAT and/or ACT, making sure to use code 9999 at the time of registration. Using code 9999 will ensure the score is reported directly to the Eligibility Center.
- Student registers with the NCAA Eligibility Center and completes both the academic information and the amateurism questionnaire.
- At the end of the student's sixth semester (end of junior year), the student request their transcript (or transcripts, if more than one high school) through the Eligibility Center.

Grade 12

- Student continues to take college preparatory courses in English, math, science, social studies and foreign language.
- Student registers for additional ACT/SAT tests if necessary, making sure to use code 9999 at the time of registration.
- On or after April 1 of the senior year, the student goes back into their Eligibility Center account to update their academic and amateurism information and request final amateurism certification.
- After graduation, the school registrar sends the student's final transcript (which needs to include evidence and the date that the student graduated) to the Eligibility Center.