

# YOUR PATH TO THE STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE

NCAA Eligibility Center

Expires September 1, 2016





Eligibility Center

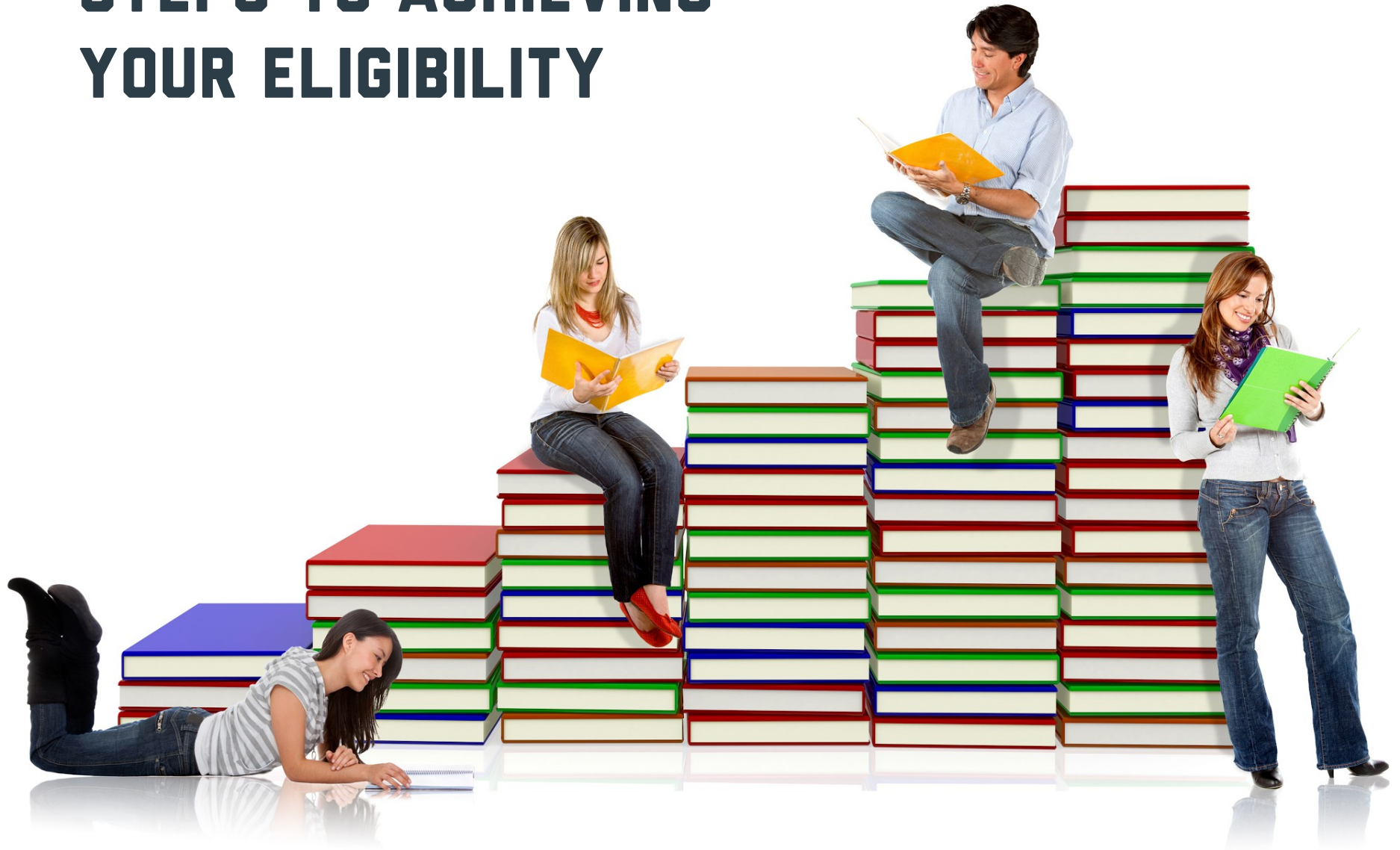
## OVERVIEW

- Steps to Achieving Your Eligibility.
- Initial-Eligibility Requirements.
- Sports Participation.
- Resources.





# STEPS TO ACHIEVING YOUR ELIGIBILITY





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## GRADE 9: PLAN



- ▶ You should start planning now by working hard to earn the best grades possible.
- ▶ Ask your counselor for a list of your school's NCAA core courses to make sure you are taking NCAA-approved courses.
- ▶ Your school's list of NCAA courses can be found at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).



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## GRADE 10: REGISTER

- ▶ Register at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org) at the beginning of your sophomore year.
- ▶ If you fall behind on courses, do not take shortcuts to catch up. Your counselor can help you by finding approved courses or programs that you can take.



# STUDENT REGISTRATION

The screenshot shows the NCAA Eligibility Center website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: [Welcome](#), [About the NCAA](#), [Divisions](#), [Sports](#), [For Parents](#), [Resources](#), and [Contact Us](#). On the right side, there is a **LOGIN** / **NEW ACCOUNT** section with fields for Username (e-mail), Password or PIN, and a **GO** button. A dark blue speech bubble points to the **NEW ACCOUNT** link, containing the text: "Click here to create or log onto your account."

The main content area features a collage of images and text:

- A smartphone on the left displays a "Registered?" message.
- A central document titled "Welcome to the NCAA Eligibility Center. Your student-athlete experience begins here." contains the following text:

At this site, you'll find the tools and information you need to begin your college experience.

Explore this site to learn more about the NCAA, its athletics divisions, its sports and other information.

Click on the phone or use the login box in the top right corner to complete your registration for eligibility.
- A "Checklist:" section lists:
  - Create account
  - Complete registration
- A yellow sticky note reads: "CLASS OF 2016 AND BEYOND... Initial-eligibility standards are changing. **CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**"
- A calendar and a photo of a student-athlete are also visible in the collage.

At the bottom left, there are social media links: "Follow the Eligibility Center on Twitter" and "NCAA Division II on Facebook".



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## GRADE 11: STUDY

- ▶ Students should check with their counselor to make sure they are on track to graduate on time.
- ▶ Students should register to take the ACT, SAT or both. Use the NCAA Eligibility Center code “**9999**” as a score recipient.
- ▶ At the end of the year, upload your students’ official transcripts.

## GRADE 12: GRADUATE



- ▶ Take the ACT or SAT again, if necessary, and make sure to send your scores by using code 9999.
- ▶ Request your final amateurism certification after April 1.
- ▶ After you graduate, ask your counselor to upload your transcript with proof of graduation.



# INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS





## WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

- ▶ A course that qualifies for high school graduation in one or more of the following: English, mathematics, natural or physical science, social science, foreign language or comparative religion or philosophy;
- ▶ Is considered four-year college preparatory;
- ▶ Is taught at or above the high school's regular academic level;
- ▶ For mathematics courses, is at the level of Algebra I or higher; and
- ▶ Is taught by a qualified instructor.



## WHAT ARE NONTRADITIONAL COURSES?

Courses taught through:

- ▶ The Internet (online or virtual);
- ▶ Distance learning;
- ▶ Independent study;
- ▶ Individualized instruction;
- ▶ Correspondence;
- ▶ Computer software programs; or
- ▶ Other similar means.





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## THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE TAKING NONTRADITIONAL COURSES

- ▶ Must include regular ongoing access between the instructor and student.
- ▶ Must have a defined time period for completion (i.e., eight weeks).
- ▶ Should be clearly identified as nontraditional courses on the high school transcript.



# CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION

## Division I

- ▶ From the time you enter the ninth grade, you have four (4) years or eight (8) semesters to complete your core-course requirement. If you fail to complete high school "on time" in eight semesters, core courses taken after the eighth semester will not be counted toward your NCAA academic-eligibility requirements.
- ▶ "On time" also means that if your high school graduation takes place June 1, you must graduate June 1. If you do not graduate June 1 with the rest of your high school class, you have not completed your requirements "on time."

## Division II

You are permitted to use all core courses completed from your ninth-grade year until the time you enroll full time at a college or university.

# WHAT ARE THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS?







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## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Graduate from high school.
- ▶ Complete NCAA-approved courses.
- ▶ Earn a minimum required core-course grade-point average (GPA).
- ▶ Earn a required SAT or ACT sum score.



# EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIERS

Students who meet the following criteria after six semesters will be certified as qualifiers:

**For Division I:** Minimum SAT (math and critical reading) of 900 or minimum sum score of 75 on the ACT; and a core-course GPA of 3.000 or higher in a minimum of 14 core courses:

- 3 English;
- 2 math;
- 2 science;
- 2 additional core courses in English, math or science; and
- 5 additional core courses in any area.

**For Division II:** Minimum SAT (math and critical reading) of 1000 or minimum sum score of 85 on the ACT; and a core-course GPA of 3.000 or higher in a minimum of 12 core courses:

- 3 English;
- 2 math;
- 2 science; and
- 5 additional core courses in any area.



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# **DIVISION I**

## **CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **16 Core Courses**

- ▶ 4 years English.
- ▶ 3 years math (Algebra I or higher).
- ▶ 2 years natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- ▶ 1 year additional English, math or natural/physical science.
- ▶ 2 years social science.
- ▶ 4 years additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).





## SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- ▶ Minimum core-course GPA of 2.300 required;
- ▶ Ten core courses are required before the beginning of senior year; and
- ▶ Seven of the ten core courses must be in the areas of English, math, or science.

The following slides explain these changes in further detail.



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# NCAA DIVISION I INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

There are three possible academic outcomes:

1. **Qualifier** = competition, athletics aid (scholarship), and practice the first year.
2. **Academic Redshirt** = athletics aid the first year, practice in first regular academic term (semester or quarter).
3. **Nonqualifier** = no athletics aid, practice or competition the first year.



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# NCAA DIVISION I QUALIFIER:

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETICS AID, PRACTICE AND COMPETITION

Students will need to meet the following requirements to receive **athletics aid**, **practice** and **compete** their first year:

- ▶ 16 core courses in the following areas:
  - 4 years English;
  - 3 years math at Algebra I level or higher;
  - 2 years natural or physical science (one lab if offered at any high school attended);
  - 1 year additional English, math or natural/physical science;
  - 2 years social science; and
  - 4 years additional from areas above or foreign language, philosophy or comparative religion.
- ▶ Minimum required GPA:
  - Minimum GPA of **2.300** in those 16 core courses.







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# NCAA DIVISION I QUALIFIER:

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETICS AID, PRACTICE AND COMPETITION

- ▶ Core-course progression.
  - Must complete **10** core courses before seventh semester of high school (e.g., senior year).
  - Of the **10** core courses completed, **seven** must be in the area of **English, math, or science**.
  - These 10 core courses become “selected” for the purpose of GPA calculation.
    - A repeat of any of the “selected” courses will not be used if taken after the seventh semester begins.



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## ABBREVIATED DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
2.725	730	60
2.700	740	61
2.675	750	61
2.450	840	70
2.425	850	70
2.150	960	81
2.125	970	82
2.100	980	83
2.075	990	84
2.050	1000	85
2.025	1010	86
2.000	1020	86

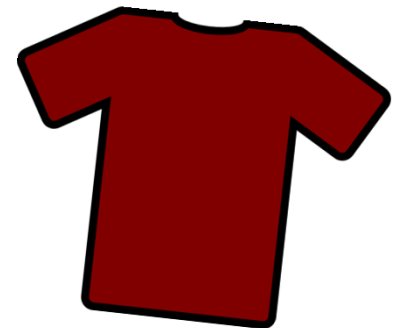
**The full sliding  
scale** can be found  
at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org)  
under Resources.



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## ACADEMIC REDSHIRT: REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND PRACTICE

- ▶ 16 core courses in the following areas:
  - 4 years English,
  - 3 years math at Algebra I level or higher,
  - 2 years natural or physical science (one lab if offered by any school attended);
  - 1 year additional English, math or natural/physical science;
  - 2 years social science; and
  - 4 years additional from areas above or foreign language, philosophy or comparative religion.
- ▶ Minimum required GPA.
  - Minimum GPA of **2.000-2.299** in 16 core courses.
- ▶ Sliding scale.
  - Minimum ACT sum or SAT score (critical reading/math only) that matches the 16 core-course GPA.





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## ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

If you fail to meet the required 10 core courses **before** the start of your seventh semester (seven of which must be in English, math, or natural or physical science), you will be allowed to retake core courses in your seventh and eighth semester, which will be used in your academic certification for the purpose of meeting the academic redshirt requirements.



# SLIDING SCALE FOR ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

## ATHLETICS AID AND PRACTICE ONLY (ABBREVIATED)

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
3.550 & above	400	37
3.500	420	39
3.400	460	42
3.300	500	44
3.200	540	47
3.100	580	49
3.000	620	52
2.900	660	54
2.800	700	57

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
2.700	740	61
2.600	780	64
2.500	820	68
2.400	860	71
2.300	900	75
<b>2.299</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>2.200</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>2.100</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>2.000</b>	<b>1020</b>	<b>86</b>

The full sliding scale can be found at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org) under Resources.





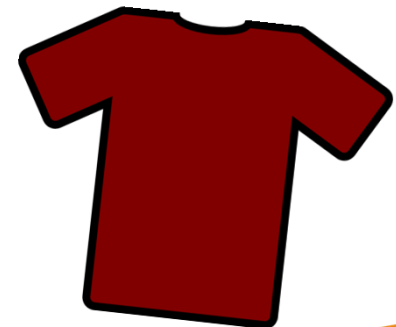


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## ACADEMIC REDSHIRT: REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND PRACTICE (NEW)

If you meet these requirements, you can receive an **athletics scholarship** during your first year at an NCAA Division I college or university.

After the first term is complete, you must successfully complete nine semester hours or eight quarter hours in each applicable term at your college or university to continue to practice for the remainder of the year.





## WHAT IF YOU DO NOT MEET EITHER SET OF REQUIREMENTS?

If you do not meet either set of requirements, you are a **nonqualifier**.

### A **nonqualifier**:

- ▶ Cannot receive athletics aid during the first year at an NCAA Division I college or university.
- ▶ Cannot practice or compete during the first year at a Division I college or university.





# **DIVISION II**

## **CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **16 Core Courses**

- ▶ 3 years English.
- ▶ 2 years math (Algebra I or higher).
- ▶ 2 years natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- ▶ 3 years additional English, math or natural/physical science.
- ▶ 2 years social science.
- ▶ 4 years additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).



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## **DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (PRIOR TO 2018)**

### **Division II**

- ▶ Earn a 2.000 GPA or better in your core courses.
- ▶ Earn a combined SAT sum score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

# NEW NCAA DIVISION II COMPETITION ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 2018)

## Division II

- ▶ Complete the required 16 core courses.
- ▶ Earn a minimum 2.200 GPA or better in your core courses.
- ▶ Earn a Minimum SAT or ACT score that matches the 16 core-course GPA on the full qualifier sliding scale.







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## NEW COMPETITION SLIDING SCALE FOR DIVISION II (ABBREVIATED)

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
3.300 & above	400	37
3.200	440	41
3.100	480	43
3.000	520	46
2.900	560	48
2.800	600	50

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
2.700	640	53
2.600	680	56
2.500	720	59
2.400	760	62
2.300	800	66
2.200	840	70

The full sliding  
**scale** can be found  
at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org)  
under Resources.



## **NCAA DIVISION II PARTIAL QUALIFIER ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (NEW)**

A student-athlete will be allowed to practice and receive athletics aid in first academic year if he or she:

- ▶ Completes the required 16 core courses; and
- ▶ Minimum GPA of 2.000 with corresponding test score on the partial qualifier sliding scale.

## NEW PARTIAL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE FOR DIVISION II ATHLETICS AID AND PRACTICE ONLY (ABBREVIATED)

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
3.050 & above	400	37
3.000	420	39
2.900	460	42
2.800	500	44
2.700	540	47
2.600	580	49

Core GPA	SAT (critical reading/ math only)	ACT Sum
2.500	620	52
2.400	660	54
2.300	700	57
2.200	740	61
2.100	780	64
2.000	820	68

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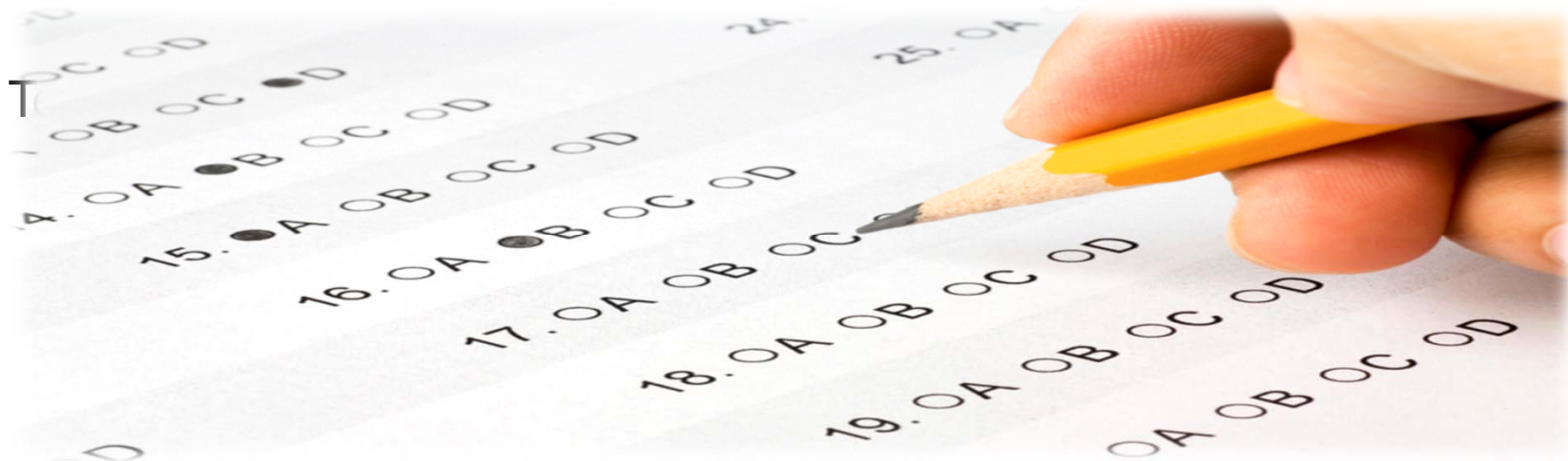


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## TAKING THE ACT AND/OR SAT

Be sure to enter the “**9999**” code when registering for the ACT or SAT.

- ▶ This requests for your official test scores to be sent directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center.





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## YOUR BEST TEST SCORES WILL BE USED TO CERTIFY YOU

Test Score

	<u>Math</u>	<u>Verbal</u>	<u>Total</u>
SAT (10/14)	350	470	820
<u>SAT (12/14)</u>	<u>420</u>	440	<u>860</u>
Scores Used	420	470	890



## DIVISION III CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Unlike Divisions I and II, there is no uniform set of eligibility requirements for Division III schools.
- ▶ Eligibility for admission, financial aid, practice and competition is determined by the college or university.
- ▶ The NCAA Eligibility Center does not perform certifications for Division III college-bound student-athletes.



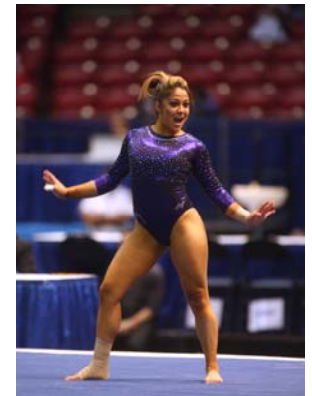
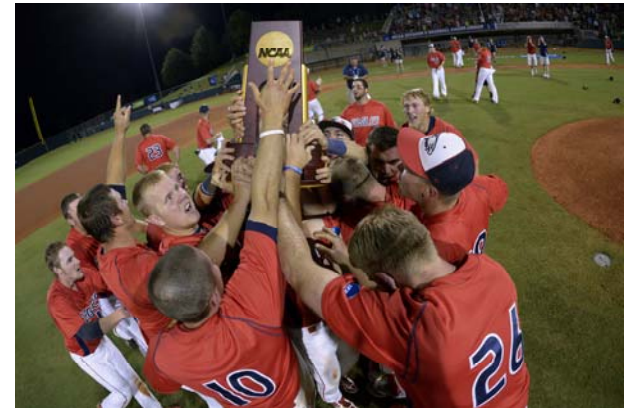
# AMATEURISM

(Sports Participation)



# WHAT ABOUT SPORTS PARTICIPATION?

The NCAA Eligibility Center encourages you to update your sports participation (amateurism) information often, especially if you participate in events outside of the normal high school season. Stay college eligible – always ask before you act!






# REQUEST FINAL AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION

- ▶ During your senior year, you will be asked to make sure all of your sports participation information is complete and accurate.
- ▶ You will be able to request your final amateurism certification to be completed beginning April 1 (for fall enrollees) or October 1 (for spring enrollees).



A still life photograph featuring a bright green apple perched on a tall stack of old, yellowed books. The books are stacked on a wooden surface. In the background, more books are visible, some with white labels. A yellow pencil lies on the wooden surface in the foreground. The background is a dark, textured wall.

Once you are certified from  
an academic and amateur  
perspective,  
you may practice,  
compete and receive  
athletics aid.



# LEARN MORE

- ▶ [NCAA.org/eligibilitycenter](https://ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter)
- ▶ [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org) (NCAA Eligibility Center student registration site).
- ▶ [Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete](#)
- ▶ [Initial Eligibility Brochure](#)
- ▶ [NCAA Division I Academic Standards Guide](#)
- ▶ [NCAA Division II Academic Standards Guide](#)

Please contact the NCAA Eligibility Center customer service staff at 877/262-1492.

