



Student-Athlete Academic Eligibility

What are NCAA/NAIA/NJCAA?

- Voluntary organizations that govern intercollegiate athletics.
- The NCAA eligibility center certifies initial eligibility for college-bound student-athletes wanting to participate in NCAA Divisions I and II athletics.

What are the different levels that student-athletes can play at?

NCAA Division I:

- Large schools usually with 10,000+ students
- Have the largest recruiting budgets and offer the most scholarships

NCAA Division II:

- Generally medium-sized schools of 3,000-10,000 students
- Most sports offer fewer scholarships than D-I and have smaller athletic budgets

NCAA Division III:

- Generally small private colleges
- Schools do not offer athletic scholarships

NAIA:

- Usually small colleges with 5,000 or fewer students
- Most sports offer fewer scholarships than NCAA D-II and have smaller budgets

NJCAA:

- 2 year public colleges
- Schools do offer athletic scholarships

Eligibility

Student-athletes may not receive athletic scholarships or take official college visits (paid visits) without meeting the NCAA/NAIA academic requirements.

Eligibility is generally determined by 2 criteria:

1. GPA
2. Test Scores



Division I & Division II Requirements

Division I Requirements

Division II Requirements for Class of 2018 and Beyond



Division III

- D-III colleges do not have specific guidelines for gaining eligibility. Each individual institution is responsible for granting admission.
- D-III colleges cannot award athletic scholarships



Eligibility

Student-athletes must meet at least 2 of these 3 criteria:

1. Have an overall cumulative GPA of 2.0
2. Score an 860 SAT or 18 ACT
3. Graduate in the top 50% of his/her class



NJCAA

- NJCAA colleges can award athletic scholarships
- Students who do not make initial eligibility standards for D-I, D-II, or NAIA can gain their eligibility by completing their Associate's Degree.



Website Links

- NCAA Eligibility Center: www.eligibilitycenter.org
- NAIA Eligibility Center: www.playnaia.org
- NCAA Website: www.ncaa.org
- NJCAA Website: www.njcaa.org