



MPS College Orientation Program

To get recruited, and be in line for college sports scholarships you **MUST** become known to the college coaches. Your sporting ability can only get you recruited if you tell the coaches who you are, and what you can do in the form of a resume or profile. There are no "secrets" in the recruiting process, it's simply a marketing exercise and you, the athlete, are the product.



The NCAA allows each division 1 soccer program 9.9 scholarships for Men and 11 for Women, and in division 2 the ratio is 9 for men and 9.9 for women.



MPS as Resource/Asset



Online Resource/Tool



Test Your Recruiting IQ

Think you know about recruiting? Take this test! You may be surprised!

The earliest a college coach can meet with a student athlete and his or her parents is July 1 after the student-athletes junior year.

True False

A Division III college or university can offer an official visit with round trip transportation for the student athlete and parents (except for parents airline tickets), meals and lodging for up to 48 hours.

True False

The average college coach has more than \$1000 in their recruiting budget.

True False

The average high school coach has personal contacts with at least 5 college programs or more.

True False

Over 50 % of the Big 10 Men's Basketball scholarship athletes drop out or transfer by the end of their sophomore year.

True False

A prospect can start taking un-official visits only after September 1st of their junior year in high school.

True False

College coaches often can wave application fees for a student athlete.

True False

Division 1A football coaches identify over 50 % of their scholarship athletes by the end of their sophomore year.

True False

A college coach would prefer to be contacted by the parent of a student-athlete rather than the student athletes themselves.

True False

Division 3 colleges and universities offer scholarship packages worth more than their counterparts at Division 1 and 2.

True False



Recruiting IQ Test Answers:

False: The truth is that if the student-athlete initiates contact a college coach can talk to a student-athlete anytime

True: All schools can offer official visits

False: There are over 50,000 college athletic teams where you average it out. The average coach has less than \$500 a year to recruit the best talent as possible.

False: Most High School coaches have personal contacts at less than 3 colleges or universities.

True: Just ask Jim Delaney – Commissioner of the Big 10 Conference.

False: Unofficial visits can be made any time.

True: If a coach does not wave your application fee, how interested do you think they are in you?

True: Extension surveys with DIA coaches tell us 30% identify as freshman, 45% sophomore, 25% juniors and 0% seniors.

False: If you were a college coach who would you rather talk to, the student-athlete who will play and practice for you in the next 4-5 years and who you are considering offering money or mom and dad.

True: Check the numbers some of the most endowed colleges and universities are at the division III level. According to the US News and World Report, more than half of the top 25 colleges and universities are division III or IAA non-scholarship programs.

Men's College Soccer



Number of participating NCAA Schools:

Div. 1-- 202 Div. II--161 Div. III--369 Total-732

Number of players from HS teams that earn soccer scholarships: < 3%

Eligibility Index:

| GPA | Division I | ACT |
|-----|-------------|-----|
| | SAT | |
| 2.5 | 820 | 68 |
| 2.3 | 900 | 75 |
| 2.1 | 970 | 82 |
| 2.0 | 1010 | 86 |
| | | |
| 2.0 | Division II | 68 |
| | 820 | |

Women's College Soccer

Number of participating NCAA Schools:

Div. 1-- 287 Div. II--200 Div. III--391 Total-878

Number of players from HS teams that earn soccer scholarships: < 4%

Eligibility Index:

| GPA | Division I | ACT |
|-----|-------------|-----|
| | SAT | |
| 2.5 | 820 | 68 |
| 2.3 | 900 | 75 |
| 2.1 | 970 | 82 |
| 2.0 | 1010 | 86 |
| | | |
| 2.0 | Division II | 68 |
| | 820 | |



Are You Being Recruited and By Whom

D.1 recruiting guidelines

Qualifications

National ODP Team

Regional ODP Team

State ODP Team

Premier Club Experience

Events for coaches to make evaluations

ODP Regional Tournaments

National Club Tournaments

Club Tournaments

- Disney (Orlando, FL)
- Raleigh Shootout (Raleigh, NC)
- Surf Cup (San Diego, CA)
- Houston Shootout (Houston, TX)
- Bluechip (Cincinnati, OH)



There are many others.

Preferred Grades

3.0+ GPA, 24+ act, 1000+ sat

(no scores needed for underclassmen)

Courtesy of Marquette University

Soccer By the Numbers

| Schools Offering Soccer | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Varsity | Men | Women |
| NCAA Division 1 | 202 | 287 |
| NCAA Division 2 | 161 | 200 |
| NCAA Division 3 | 369 | 391 |
| NAIA | 234 | 219 |
| Junior College | 178 | 131 |
| Other | 55 | 17 |
| Total | 1,201 | 1,234 |
| Athletic Scholarship Opportunities | | |
| NCAA Division 1 (per school) | 9.9 | 11 |
| NCAA Division 2 (per school) | 9 | 9.9 |
| Student-Athlete Participation | | |
| NCAA Division 1 | 5,265 | 6,779 |
| NCAA Division 2 | 4,018 | 4,104 |
| NCAA Division 3 | 8,810 | 7,665 |
| High School | 332,750 | 292,086 |

* Note: Division 3 schools offer merit, academic, and need-based scholarships

(NCAA Data 2003)



NCAA Division I & Division II Rules to Follow: Sample List ONLY

Active Link: <http://www1.ncaa.org/eprise/main/parent-prospect/index.html>

Coaches may not contact prospective recruits before Sept. 1st of the players' junior year in high school. You can call or write but they cannot call you or send any promotional softball material about their program.

Coaches may not contact you by phone or in person before July 1st after your junior year.

Coaches may not talk to senior players at tournaments until their team has been eliminated. They can talk to a family member, which will constitute an official contact.

Coaches may only call prospective student athletes once a week. (You may call them as often as you like.)

Coaches can only have 3 in person official contacts with a player. (Parents talking to a coach is a contact.)

A player can only have 5 official visits. (You must be in your senior year to take an official visit.)

Please remember it's great to receive letters from schools and coaches, but most schools send out hundreds of letters to athletes. This is only the first step in the recruiting process. So don't slow down on marketing yourself because you are receiving some letters, no matter how interested the coach seems. They are sending the same letter out to a lot of other athletes. There are some athletes that will receive 50 to 100+ letters from different colleges, and some schools do heavy recruiting knowing they don't have enough scholarship money to go around. Most programs will only be recruiting 3 to 4 players a year.

Colorado College Soccer
(Sample)



Name:
Email:
Graduation Year:
Phone Number:
Date of Birth:
Height:
Weight:
Street Address:
City, State:
Zip Code:
Father's Name:
Father's Occupation:
Father's Work Phone Number:
Mother's Name:
Mother's Occupation:
Mother's Work Phone Number:

Academic Information

Grade Point Average:
Class Rank:
ACT:
SAT:
Desired College Major:
High School:
High School Code No. (NCAA):
High School Address:
High School City:
High School State:
High School Zip:
High School Phone:

Soccer Information

Position:
High School Coach:
Coach's Phone Number:
Jersey Number:
Club Team
Club Coach





Questions – Just a few...

What is the SAT exam, and how do I find out when and where to take it?

What high school grades are needed for me to get into college?

How long is my athletic scholarship for?

Do athletic scholarships last for four years?

What is an official recruiting trip and how many can I have?

What is the NCAA clearinghouse and what does it require?

What is a NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT?

What does REDSHIRTING mean?

Can my athletic scholarship be reduced if I don't perform?

How many schools offer athletic scholarships in my sport?

What schools offer athletic scholarships to 5th year seniors?

What schools offer athletic scholarships for summer school?

What college coaches will allow you to return home for important meets and holiday breaks?

The Student is first, the Player is second.



Academics

Of course academics play a big role in the recruiting process.

Some coaches view your academic standings as a reflection of your character. If your not committed academically in high school, why would it be any different in college?

But there are exceptions in academics through athletics. A non-revenue coach from a highly regarded academic school told a National Media outlet that the admission standards are considerably lower for athletes than for the regular student. Whereas the schools admissions standards for the general student was a 3.7+ GPA, 1300+ SAT, and 30+ ACT and the standards for prospective athletes were 2.75+ GPA, 900+ SAT, and 20+ ACT.

That fact should NOT encourage you to not work as hard academically, but does play to your advantage.

Scholarships

College recruiting is a business. In most sports, coaches have to be careful and conservative with their scholarships. A Division 1 baseball coach only has a maximum of 11.7 athletic scholarships available for the 25-30 guys on the team.

Have a Game Plan (what you think you know – see test)

Are You Being Recruited and By Whom? (see above)
Priorities and Responsibilities

College Evaluation

How Colleges Really Recruit

Coach Correspondence - Making a Coach Address Book
Letters from the Coach - What the Coach is Really Saying
The Importance of Responding to Coaches
Questions
Videotapes
The NCAA Clearinghouse

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

College Visits

Financial Aid

Get a Financial Aid Guide

(<http://www.finaid.org/calculators/finaidestimate.phtml>)

Federal Aid Programs

Get an Aid Book

Scholarship Application Tips

Negotiating Your Scholarship

A screenshot of the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse website. The header features the text "NCAA INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE" in a blue and white banner. Below the banner, there are three small portrait photos of individuals. The main content area has a yellow background on the left with the NCAA logo. The right side has a white background with text. The text includes a welcome message, a notice about new legislation regarding ACT or SAT scores, and a list of three main constituent groups: Prospective Student-Athletes, High School Administration, and Member Institutions. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice for 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Welcome to the NCAA Clearinghouse website. This site will provide you with information about initial-eligibility Division I and II member colleges and universities.

Attention 2007 high school graduates! The NCAA has adopted new legislation that will require prospective student-athletes at NCAA Division I and Division II institutions to supply ACT or SAT scores to the Clearinghouse directly to agencies. **Test scores on an official high school transcript will no longer be usable for NCAA purposes.** Test scores on an official high school transcript will no longer be usable for NCAA purposes. This website under "News and Views."

The Clearinghouse serves three main constituent groups: prospective student-athletes, high school administration, and member institutions. Some of the pages accessed from this site require pre-registration or PIN-protected access. For more information regarding one of our constituent groups, please click on the appropriate area below:

- **Prospective Student-Athletes**
- **High School Administration**
- **Member Institutions**
- **General Information (including eligibility rules)**

Site Content and Development copyright © 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association





Resources

MPS Coach
 MPS
 H.S. Coach
 School
 NCAA Clearing House (www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)
 Recruiting



Knowledge About You

It all starts here. The colleges need to know about you before the recruiting process can take place. You need to be exposed to as many schools as possible. You make the choices and you create your own marketing plan.



Camps are great for improving your athletic ability, but they don't help a great deal in creating exposure. If you attend camp at your local college or university, how many coaches are going to be there from other schools?

Student-athlete internet databases and national recruiting magazines can also be helpful, but you need to consider the recruiting budget available for the coach. Typically football and basketball programs receive the most money from the athletic department for recruiting (see the Georgia Tech Recruiting Budget on this page). The coaches in non-revenue sports may not be able to afford such services.

- Academics
- Personal Letters to the Coach
- Attend Camps at the School You are Interested in.
- Travel and H.S. Contacts and References
- Personal Family Network



MPS McLEAN FC

[Reload Page](#)

[home](#) | [contact us](#)

McLean FC Links

[Coaching](#)
[History](#)
[Pictures](#)
[Tournament Plans](#)
[Info Request](#)

Soccer Links

[McLean \(MPS\)](#)
[Super Y-League](#)
[USYSA Region 1](#)
[VYSA](#)

MPS McLean FC



2006 Potomac Memorial Tournament Finalist
2006 Jefferson Cup Finalist
2006 SC Del Sol Semi-Finalist
2005 Tampa Bay Sun Bowl Champs

MPS McLean FC

- 1 [Chris Fenner](#)
- 2 [Derek Markheim](#)
- 3 [Lonnie Carter](#)
- 4 [Will Ruppe](#)
- 5 [Chris Kaufman](#)
- 6 [Andy Riemer](#)
- 7 [Sean Blackwood](#)
- 8 [Austin Phillips](#)
- 9 [Uche Onyeador](#)
- 10 [Ryan Gracia](#)
- 11 [Axel Levry](#)
- 12 [Alex Stom](#)
- 13 [Kevin Maslyn](#)
- 14 [Jason Gannon](#)
- 15 [Bryan Rodriguez](#)
- 16 [Anatole Doak](#)
- 17 [Chris Lazenby](#)
- 18 [Sam Prager](#)
- 19 [Trey Messiah](#)
- 20 [John Tiernan](#)
- 22 [Sol Mourtaza](#)
- 23 [Kurt Freemyer](#)

[home](#) | [contact us](#)



MPS McLEAN FC

[Reload Page](#)

[home](#) | [contact us](#)

Chris Fenner

Chris Fenner
1



Position: Goalkeeper
Height: 6 ft. 3 in.
Weight: 190 lbs.
Date of Birth: 05/21/90

Year in School: Junior
High School: Osbourn High School, Manassas, VA
GPA: 3.5

Athletic Achievements:

- ◆ 2006 DC United U17 Super Y League Team
- ◆ 2005 DC United U15 Super Y League Team
- ◆ 2004 Mid-Atlantic Region U14 Super Y League ODP Team
attended Super Y League ODP National Camp
- ◆ 2004 DC United U14 Super Y League Team
Mid-Atlantic Division Champions
- ◆ Varsity Soccer - Osbourn High School (AAA)

MPS McLean FC

- 1 [Chris Fenner](#)
- 2 [Derek Markheim](#)
- 3 [Lonnie Carter](#)
- 4 [Will Ruppe](#)
- 5 [Chris Kaufman](#)
- 6 [Andy Riemer](#)
- 7 [Sean Blackwood](#)
- 8 [Austin Phillips](#)
- 9 [Uche Onweador](#)
- 10 [Ryan Gracia](#)
- 11 [Axel Levry](#)
- 12 [Alex Stom](#)
- 13 [Kevin Maslyn](#)
- 14 [Jason Gannon](#)
- 15 [Bryan Rodriguez](#)
- 16 [Anatole Doak](#)
- 17 [Chris Lazenby](#)
- 18 [Sam Prager](#)
- 19 [Trey Messiah](#)
- 20 [John Tiernan](#)
- 22 [Sol Mourtaza](#)
- 23 [Kurt Freemyer](#)

[home](#) | [contact us](#)

McLean
Coaching
History
Pictures
Tournam
Info Reg

Soccer
McLean
Super Y-
USYSA R
VYSA



Ability Level

Once a coach knows that you are interested in their program, they will assess your ability level. Coaches will look for three things - Athletic Ability (including size and speed), Academic Ability, and Attitude. If the coach feels that you don't have the ability, the recruiting process with that particular school will most likely stop here. If you do qualify at the school, the process will continue.

This is also an important level for the student-athlete. You need to make an honest, accurate assessment of your own abilities. For example, there will be about 700,000 high school athletes playing soccer this year, all with the aspiration to continue playing in college. You can improve your chances by having realistic expectations of where you fit in.

Roster Openings

After evaluating your ability, the coach will then check to see if they have a position on the roster available for you.

Versatility could be key. Coaches are always looking to bring in the best athletes. A coach may want you to play a different position. This tends to happen often in soccer a lot, so be open-minded.



Questionnaires

This may be the most important step in the recruiting process. If the coach sends you a questionnaire, he/she is expressing some kind of interest in you.

Coaches like recruiting student-athletes that they know are interested in their program. If you return the questionnaire, you will most likely be added to their recruiting board. If you do not return the questionnaire, it will be assumed that you are not interested in their program and the coach will stop actively recruiting you.

Coaches may stop recruiting you if the questionnaire is not returned.

Phone Calls

Student-athletes can start receiving phone calls from college coaches as early as July 1st prior to their senior year.

However, you may call a coach at your own expense at any time. Questionnaires and letters from coaches often include a phone number if you have any questions, get on the phone and talk to the coach. Be prepared and have a list of questions available to ask the.

Film/Game Tape



Most coaches will want to see you play, however since most coaches won't be able to evaluate you in person, they will ask for game film.

This is a key step in the coach's evaluation process, so be sure to have a game tape available. Your tape should include game film, a skills tape (if available) and highlights (if applicable).

Do not send film if it is not requested by the coach. It will most likely be a waste of time and money. If the coach wants your tape, he/she will ask for it.

If the coach requests a specific format, follow it exactly.



Invite

Towards the end of the recruiting process, college coach will invite you to visit their campus.

An official visit is classified as any visit where the school covers any expenses (from travel to food). The NCAA allows only 5 official visits, so be sure to use them wisely.

There are no limitations on the number of unofficial visits you can take. Visit as many schools as you can.

Offer

Typically, during or shortly after an official visit, a scholarship is offered. Do not rush into a decision. Consider the value of the offer and offers from other schools before making a final decision.

This is one of the most important decisions you will ever make, take all your options into consideration and make a sound, confident decision.

Recruiting Budget

Typically recruiting budget monies go to the revenue sports. Football programs and men's basketball programs almost always makes the most money, therefore those sports get the most money for recruiting.

Georgia Tech Recruiting Budget

In a recently released survey, Georgia Tech reported they spent 50% of their \$770,000 recruiting budget on football. Half of their budget went to just the football team. An additional 30% of the budget was earmarked for the men's basketball team. That left just \$154,000 left for the remaining men's teams and the all the women's teams, of which 12.5% went to the men's teams and only 7.5% went to the women's teams. Georgia Tech spent almost 7 times more on the football team than the entire women's athletic program.



The Package

Financial Aid Packages

Financial aid usually comes in a "package," or a combination of different kinds of monies from different sources. Financial aid is awarded based on your financial need and the availability of funds.

The idea behind "need-based" aid is that it should cover what the family cannot. Eligibility for need-based aid requires completion of a need analysis application.

Need-based aid theoretically allows you to choose your college based foremost on how it will meet your academic and professional needs. Need-based aid attempts to create parity in actual costs paid by the family even for schools with different costs.

Your college's financial aid office will develop a financial aid package with consideration to all of the financial options available to you. You may be able to receive different levels of aid based on the colleges' financial aid funding base and abilities.

In today's atmosphere of rising tuition costs, it is important that you and your family make informed financial choices about college.

One thing to keep in mind is that students typically end up owing about the same amount after graduation whether they attend a public or private institution.

Note: No matter what your family income is, you may be eligible for some type of financial aid. For example, high income families can seek merit-based awards that are given independently of the family's ability to pay for college. These can include a variety of scholarships for individual talents or abilities (athletics, academics, leadership, etc.) or group affiliations (clubs, business, etc.).



Scholarships & Grants

Scholarships and grants are outright gifts of money that do not have to be repaid. They are available from many sources, including the Federal government, state agencies, professional and service agencies, private foundations and individual schools.

Loans

Loans are a great way to afford the school of your choice. Loans may come from the Federal government by way of the school or from private financial institutions. Interest rates for most student loans are reasonable. Depending on the loan program, money is loaned either directly to the student or to the parents. Generally, students are required to repay their loans after graduation from college. If the loans are made to parents, then they must begin paying back the loans upon receiving them.

Work Study

Work-study programs let students earn money toward their education while they are going to school. Students sometimes can find jobs related to their program of study. Work-study wages are based on Federal minimum wage guidelines, but they may vary according to the skill and experience needed for the job.



Frequently Asked Questions (Finances)

What is the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?

The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the amount your family is expected to contribute towards your college expenses. The EFC is determined by the federal government based on the information you provided on the FAFSA. Once you have the EFC, you subtract the amount from the total of your expected college expenses to find out your financial need. The EFC is the same no matter what the cost of your schooling. However, the financial aid needed will vary depending on the cost of your schooling.

What is a Pell Grant?

A Federal Pell Grant is a monetary gift to qualified undergraduate students, primarily with the most financial need. Eligibility is determined by the FAFSA. The Federal Pell Grant is a fixed amount determined each year by federal budget appropriations and is awarded to all eligible students. Your school can either apply the Pell Grant funds to your school costs, pay you directly (usually by check), or combine these methods. The school must tell you in writing how and when you will be paid and how much your award will be. Schools must pay you at least once per term. Schools that do not use formally defined, traditional terms must pay you at least twice per academic year.

What is the FAFSA?

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It asks for your family's financial information so it can determine financial need. Financial need is defined as the difference between college expenses and your family's contribution. To determine your family's contribution the federal government uses a formula called the Federal Methodology which takes in to account your family's income, assets, debts, size of family, number of member's in college, age to retirement, and other expenses.

You must fill out the FAFSA in order to start the financial aid process. Schools use the federal government's determination of financial need to determine the award package from the school.



What is an SAR?

Within four to five weeks after mailing your FAFSA, a Student Aid Report (SAR) will be sent to you with Federal Pell Grant eligibility information and the results of your financial aid need analysis. It will state your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). When you receive the SAR, check it for accuracy and then make sure the financial aid office of each school you are applying to has received a copy.

Each school will subtract the Pell Grant and EFC from the cost of attending their school to determine the amount of financial need you have for their school. Once they determine your need, they will create a financial aid award based on grants, loans, and work study to meet that need.

Why should I apply for financial aid?

The cost of a college education is very expensive and becoming more so every year. It is worth your time and effort to find out if you qualify for aid. The formula for financial aid, called the Federal Methodology, is very complicated and takes in to consideration such factors as, income, assets, debts, size of family, the parents' age, other children in college, and other expenses you might have. Therefore, you should always make the effort to see if you are eligible for help in financing your education.

What are the differences between the Perkins and the Stafford loans?

The Federal Perkins Loan is a fixed-interest-rate loan administered by the college financial aid office. Repayment begins nine months after the student graduates, leaves school or drops to less than half-time status. The Stafford Loans are federal government insured low, annually adjusted, variable rate, interest loans offered by private lenders such as banks, financial institutions and in the case of Direct Loans, your school.

Repayment of principal begins six months after graduation or when enrollment drops below half-time. The government pays interest for the subsidized version until repayment begins. The borrower pays all interest charges for the unsubsidized version, which may be deferred and capitalized (at extra cost to the borrower.) The amount you may borrowed is fixed and is determined by your grade in school.

Visit www.FinAid.org and fill out their Financial Aid Estimation Form. It won't give the exact number that you'll receive from your FASFA Form, but it is a great place to get started.



National Letter of Intent Signing Dates

Signing Dates for the 2007-2008 Academic Year
Do not sign prior to 7:00 a.m. (local time) on the following
dates or after the final signing date listed for each sport.

| Sport | Initial Signing Date | Final Signing Date |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| Basketball (Early Period) | November 8, 2006 | November 15, 2006 |
| Basketball (Late Period) | April 11, 2007 | May 16, 2007 |
| Football (Midyear JC Transfer) | December 20, 2006 | January 15, 2007 |
| Football (Regular Period) | February 7, 2007 | April 1, 2007 |
| Field Hockey, Soccer, Men's Water Polo* | February 7, 2007 | August 1, 2007 |
| All Other Sports(Early Period) | November 8, 2006 | November 15, 2006 |
| All Other Sports(Late Period) | April 11, 2007 | August 1, 2007 |

<http://www.national-letter.org/dates/>

When to Start?



Freshman Year

Get settled in high school. Concentrate on a solid high school Curriculum.

Talk to your coaches H.S. and Travel soccer aspirations.

Setup a workout schedule allowing comfortable time for academics and sports.

If you think you are interested in attending a college for a sport, send an introduction letter in your freshman year.

Send an update at the end of the season, along with your Travel schedule.

Register with the NCAA Clearinghouse (it's never too early, but it can be too late). Prepare your athletic résumé.

Sophomore Year

Continue striving for academic success. Research NCAA academic requirements.

Make sure that you are "on target" for all core requirements.

Stay active in Travel and High School soccer.

Visit your High School career center or counselors office and start investigating colleges and their admission requirements.

During the summer between the Sophomore and Junior years, prepare your athletic resume.

Prepare to send out your initial contact letters with resumes. Include high school and travel playing schedules, if available. If schedules are not available, mail a follow-up letter and schedule as soon as they become available, but still send out initial letters.

Update academics with Clearinghouse. Monitor the academic requirements of the universities you want to attend. During the fall season, go to the college matches (if they are local) and talk to some of the players, the coaches, etc...or during the summer before your junior year, make unofficial visits to the colleges.



The Ending Sophomore, Beginning Junior Year Checklist:



Involve your parents in your decision-making process.

Decide how close you want to be to your home and parents.

Decide on what level (Division I, II, III) you can compete in college.

Ask your high school and travel league coaches for an evaluation of your ability.

Write introductory letters to college coaches.

Personalize each letter. (College coaches are turned off by form letters)

Return all questionnaires sent by college coaches as soon as possible. Delay indicates lack of interest.

Make a skills videotape. (Many college coaches will request a videotape)

Send high school, league, and tournament schedules to college coaches.

Be conscious of your high school grades, the level of courses you take, the correct number of courses and your rank in your class.

Schedule yourself to take the SAT's. Have your PSAT scores available.

Decide on which colleges have your areas of study or interest.

Be aware of "college nights" in your area.

Start your initial-eligibility clearinghouse.
The National Collegiate Athletic Association
6201 College Boulevard
Overland Park, Kansas 66211-2422
913-339-1906
www.ncaaclearinghouse.net





The Ending Junior, Beginning Senior Year Checklist:

Take or retake your SAT's.

Start collecting college applications. Be aware of deadlines. Complete and mail applications early.

Let coaches know you have applied. Follow up your contact with college coaches with a phone call or note.

Narrow your choice of colleges to five or six. Decide on what colleges to visit (remember - you may only make five official (paid) visits)

Do not make a decision unless you have visited the campus and met the coach.

What To Ask During Recruitment Visits

Playing Soccer for your College:

What positions will I play on your team?? It's not always obvious. Most coaches want to be flexible so that you are not disappointed.

Describe the other players competing at the same position. If there is a former high-school all-American at that position, you may want to take that into consideration. This will give you clues as to what year you might be a starter.

Can I "red-shirt" my first year?? Find out how common it is to red-shirt and how that will affect graduation. Does the school red-shirt you if you are injured?

What are the physical requirements each year? Philosophies of strength and conditioning vary by institution.



The Ending Junior, Beginning Senior Year Checklist: cont...



How would you best describe your coaching style? Every coach has a particular style that involves different motivational techniques and discipline. You need to know if a coach's teaching style does not match your learning style.

What is the game plan? For team sports, find out what kind of offense and defense is employed.

When does the head coach's contract end? Don't make any assumptions about how long a coach will be at a school. If the coach is losing and the contract ends in two years, you may have a new coach.

Describe the preferred, invited and uninvited walk-on situation. How many make it, compete and earn a scholarship? Different teams treat walk-ons differently.

Academics:

How good is the department in my major? Smaller colleges can have very highly rated departments. A team's reputation is only one variable to consider.

What percentage of players on scholarship graduate in 4 years? This will tell you about the quality of their commitment to academics. The team's grade-point average also is a good indicator of the coach's commitment to academics.

Describe the typical class sizes. At larger schools, classes are likely to be larger and taught by teaching assistants. Average class size is important to the amount of attention you receive.

Describe in detail your academic support program. For example: Study-hall requirements, tutor availability, staff, class load, faulty cooperation. This is imperative for marginal students. Find a college that will take the 3.000 students and help them get a 3.500 GPA.

Describe the typical day for a student-athlete. This will give you a good indication of how much time is spend in class, practice, studying and traveling. It also will give you a good indication of what coaches expect.



The Ending Junior, Beginning Senior Year Checklist: cont...



What are the residence halls like? Make sure you would feel comfortable in study areas, community bathrooms and laundry facilities. Number of students in a room and coed dorms are other variable to consider.

Will I be required to live on campus for all five years? If the answer is yes, ask whether there are exceptions. Apartment living may be better than dorm living.

Financial Aid:

How much financial aid is available for summer school? There is no guarantee. Get a firm commitment. You may need to lighten your normal load and go to summer school in order to graduate in four years. You can take graduate courses and maintain your eligibility.

What are the details of financial aid at your institution? What does my scholarship cover? What can I receive in addition to the Scholarship and how do I get more aid?

How long does my scholarship last? Most people think a "full ride" is good for four years. Financial aid is available on a one-year renewable basis.

If I'm injured, what happens to my financial aid? A grant-in-aid is not guaranteed past a one-year period even for injuries. It is important to know if a school has a commitment to assist student-athletes for more than a year after they have been injured.

What are my opportunities for employment while I'm a student? Find out if you can be employed in-season, out-of-season or during vacation periods: NCAA rules prohibit you from earning more than the value of a full scholarship during the academic year.



Some Useful Places To Start

All About College

<http://www.allaboutcollege.com/>

NCAA Clearinghouse

<http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net/ncaa/NCAA/common/index.html>

ACT

<http://www.act.org/>

FAFSA

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

FinAid

www.FinAid.org

MPS Website (this presentation)

<http://www.mcleansoccer.org>



Q & A with some Great College Coaches



Greg Andrulis
Head Coach, Men's Soccer

Kristopher Kelderman
Asst. Coach, Men's Soccer



George Lidster
Head Coach, Men's Soccer