



# 2010-11 Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete

Your Path to the Student-Athlete Experience





Eligibility  
Center



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## NOTICE

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**For more information, see [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).**

# The NCAA and NCAA Eligibility Center

## How to Use this Guide...

The Guide addresses issues for three important groups of readers:

- High school students who hope to participate in college athletics at an NCAA college or university;
- Parents and legal guardians; and
- High school counselors and athletics administrators.

## What is the NCAA?

The NCAA, or National Collegiate Athletic Association, was established in 1906 and serves as the athletics governing body for more than 1,300 colleges, universities, conferences and organizations. The national office is in Indianapolis, but the member colleges and universities develop the rules and guidelines for athletics eligibility and athletics competition for each of the three NCAA divisions. The NCAA is committed to the student-athlete and to governing competition in a fair, safe, inclusive and sportsmanlike manner.

The NCAA membership includes:

- 335 active Division I members;
- 288 active Division II members; and
- 432 active Division III members.

One of the differences among the three divisions is that colleges and universities in Divisions I and II may offer athletics scholarships, while Division III colleges and universities may not.

## What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?

The NCAA Eligibility Center will certify the academic and amateur credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics.

To assist with this process, the Eligibility Center staff is eager to foster a cooperative environment of education and partnership with high schools, high school coaches and college-bound student-athletes. Ultimately, the individual student-athlete is responsible for achieving and protecting his or her eligibility status.

## How to find answers to your questions

The answers to most questions can be found in this guide or by:

- Accessing the Eligibility Center's resource page on its Web site at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org), clicking on "Resources" and then selecting the type of student you are. You can then navigate through the resources to find helpful information.
- Contacting the Eligibility Center at the phone number on this page.

In addition, if you are sending transcripts or additional information to the Eligibility Center or have questions, please use the following contact information.

## Eligibility Center Contact Information

### NCAA Eligibility Center:

Certification Processing  
P.O. Box 7136  
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7136

### Package or overnight delivery:

Certification Processing  
1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

### Web address:

[www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

### Eligibility Center customer service:

U.S. callers (toll free): 877/262-1492

International callers: 317/223-0700

Fax: 317/968-5100

## When to call the NCAA

Please contact the NCAA when you have questions such as these:

- What are the rules and regulations related to initial eligibility?
- What are the rules and regulations related to amateurism?
- What are the regulations about transferring from one college to another?
- What are the rules about athletics scholarships and how can they be reduced or canceled?
- I have an education-impacting disability. Are there any other requirements for me?

NCAA

P.O. Box 6222

Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

317/917-6222 (customer service hours: Monday – Friday, noon – 4 p.m. Eastern time)



**Dear College-Bound Student-Athlete:**

**This Guide has been designed to help you, your family and your high school administrators understand the NCAA initial-eligibility process and to prepare you for transitioning from high school to becoming an NCAA Division I or II student-athlete.**

**With more than 1,000 colleges and universities across three divisions, NCAA schools offer a variety of academic and athletics programs to meet your needs. From the smallest college towns to the largest metropolitan cities, NCAA member schools provide the opportunity for education and growth in dynamic learning environments. With so many choices available, it is never too early to start doing your homework. Work closely with your high school counselors, talk to college admissions officers, listen to your parents and mentors, and then choose wisely. You will be glad you did.**

**Your participation as a student-athlete will complement your academic education while teaching you life skills not available in the classroom. Growing as a person, both on and off the field, and getting your degree should be your top priority. This new phase of your life can be a wonderful experience if you work hard and prepare for it.**

**As the “front porch” of the NCAA and the first stop on your way to becoming an NCAA student-athlete, the NCAA Eligibility Center continually strives to make your registration and certification experience positive and beneficial. We are here to help you. So, do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything.**

**The NCAA Eligibility Center**

