

Sports in College

College Athletic Regulations and Eligibility Requirements

- NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA)
- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS (NAIA)
- NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NJCAA)

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA)

The NCAA is the governing body for sports at all “major” and many small American universities and colleges. Visit the NCAA web site (link to www.ncaa.org) to find out about eligibility requirements, recruitment regulations, signing dates, scholarship opportunities, and more.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS (NAIA)

The NAIA governs small college athletic programs in the United States and Canada. All Frontier Conference members (small colleges in Montana) are members of the NAIA. Visit the NAIA website for a listing of member schools and conferences (link to <http://naia.cstv.com/index.html>).

NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NJCAA)

The NJCAA governs athletics at many 2-year junior and community colleges. For information on eligibility requirements and recruitment policies, visit the NJCAA website (link to www.njcaa.org)

NCAA vs NAIA

The questions you should consider regarding playing a sport in college:
How do I know if I am eligible to play DI or DII?

Eligibility is based on a number of factors including amateur status and academics. Students must have completed 16 core courses by graduation and meet a particular GPA and ACT/SAT score based

on a sliding scale. The list of Graham's approved core courses can be found [here](#) using our high school code 364552. The sliding scale for GPA and test scores can be found [here](#).

How do I register with the NCAA for DI or DII?

You will then need to create an account and register with the NCAA at the end of your junior year or during your senior year of high school.

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

What are the rules regarding the recruitment process?

There are different rules for each division. Check out the recruiting calendar and rules [here](#).

Questions about questions

If you are being recruited, you may not know what is even important to know from the recruiter. Click [here](#) to download a list of questions that may be helpful for you to ask specifically regarding athletics in college. You may also want to consider asking questions geared towards the admissions process, campus life, academic programs, etc., which there is a list of those questions within the College Handbook available for download [here](#).

What if I want to play for a Division III school?

Eligibility for Division III athletics is determined by the individual institution. Division III schools are not permitted to award athletic scholarships to students.

What is the NAIA?

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics or NAIA is another organization like the NCAA that manages collegiate athletics. Some schools may be an NAIA school, so they have their own eligibility procedures. Find out more about which schools are part of the NAIA [here](#). To find out additional information and/or register, go [here](#).

What are my chances of playing at a NCAA DI or DII school or professionally?

Sports have many benefits to students within high school, but the chances of playing at a DI or DII school and especially professionally are much smaller than what many students may think. Check out the stats [here](#).