

# INITIAL ELIGIBILITY

Initial-eligibility standards help ensure you are prepared to succeed in college. The eligibility process also protects the fairness and integrity of college sports by ensuring student-athletes are amateurs.

If you want to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year at a Division I or II school, the NCAA Eligibility Center must certify you as eligible. (Eligibility for Division III is determined on campus.) Throughout the process, NCAA Eligibility Center staff members partner with students and their families, as well as high school administrators and coaches, to guide you on your journey.

## Get Ready. Get Set. Go!

### REMEMBER ...

***As a college-bound student-athlete, you are responsible for your eligibility — that means planning ahead, taking high school classes seriously and protecting your amateur status. It can be a difficult first step, but the benefits of being a student-athlete are worth the effort.***

#### GRADE 9

##### Plan

- Start planning now!* Take the right courses and earn the best grades possible.
- Ask your counselor for a list of your high school's NCAA-approved core courses to make sure you take the right classes.
- Sign up for a free Profile Page at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org) for information on NCAA academic and amateurism requirements.

#### GRADE 10

##### Register

- If you fall behind academically, ask your counselor for help finding approved courses you can take.
- Register for a Profile Page or Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).

#### GRADE 11

##### Study

- Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved courses.
- Take the ACT or SAT and submit your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code **9999**.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor to upload your official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center. If you took classes at more than one high school or program, ask each school to submit an official transcript.
- Make sure you are on track to graduate on time with your class.

#### GRADE 12

##### Graduate

- Complete your final NCAA-approved core courses as you prepare for graduation.
- Take the ACT or SAT again, if necessary, and submit your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code **9999**.
- Request your final amateurism certification beginning April 1 (fall enrollees) or Oct. 1 (winter/spring enrollees) in your NCAA Eligibility Center account at [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org).
- After you graduate, ask your counselor to send or upload your final official transcript with proof of graduation to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Reminder:* Only students on an NCAA Division I or II school's institutional request list will receive a certification.