

## NAVIGATING INITIAL ELIGIBILITY DURING COVID-19

For Houston ISD Coaches and Administrators



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and Strategic Partnerships



#### **AGENDA**

- COVID-19 FAQ.
- What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?
- Registration.
- Core Course.
- Alternative Standards.
  - Division I.
  - Division II.
- Distance or E-Learning.
- Sports Participation.
- Resources.





#### NCAA Eligibility Center COVID-19 Response FAQs

For Students Initially Enrolling Full Time in the 2021-22 or 2022-23 Academic Year

Given the continuing impact of COVID-19 on the educational environment, the NCAA Eligibility Center has partnered with the NCAA membership to identify the following changes to the initial-eligibility certification process for students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA Division I or II school during the 2021-22 or 2022-23 academic year. The Eligibility Center will continue to monitor the environment and make necessary adjustments to prioritize health, safety and fairness for all prospective student-athletes.

#### **FAQ Topics—Quick Links**

Academic Evaluations Auto Waiver Criteria—2021-22 or 2022-23 Subsequent Classes

Prior Classes Enrollment Timing

Submission of Academic Documents

#### COVID-19 Automatic Waiver Criteria for 2021-22 or 2022-23 Enrollment

- Q1: Given the unique circumstances due to COVID-19, will there be any flexibility in the initial-eligibility standard for students who initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution during 2021-22 or 2022-23?
- A1: Yes. Students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA Division I or II school during 2021-22 or 2022-23 will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver in the academic certification process that provides the highest level of relief for which they are eligible, per the criteria below:





#### WHAT IS ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

- A unit within the NCAA responsible for evaluating and certifying college-bound student-athletes for collegiate competition at Division I and II schools.
- We focus on:
  - Academic preparedness.
  - ▶ Sports participation.
  - High school courses.
  - Customer service.
- If your students want to compete at a Division I or II school, they must meet NCAA Eligibility Center:
  - Academic initial-eligibility requirements.
  - Amateurism requirements.

#### NCAA FAST FACTS

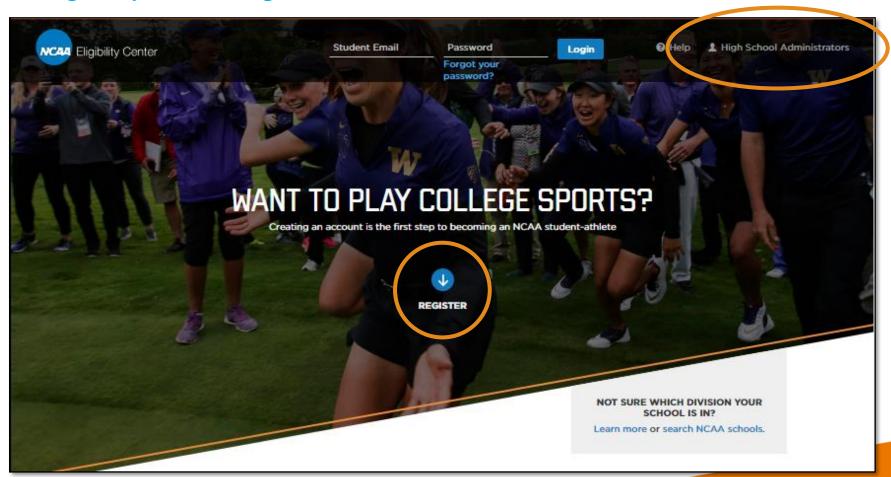
- 1,100+ colleges and universities.
- 98 voting athletics conferences.
- 39 affiliated organizations.
- > 500,000 student-athletes.
- 19,500 teams.
- 90 championships.
- 24 sports.
- Three divisions.





#### TWO ACCOUNT TYPES

Register for a Profile Page or a Certification account at eligibilitycenter.org.





#### PROFILE PAGE ACCOUNT



Students interested in a Division III school or are not sure in which division they want to compete.



There is no registration fee to create a Profile Page account.



Transition to a Certification account at any time your students wish to pursue a Division I or II path.



#### **CERTIFICATION ACCOUNT**



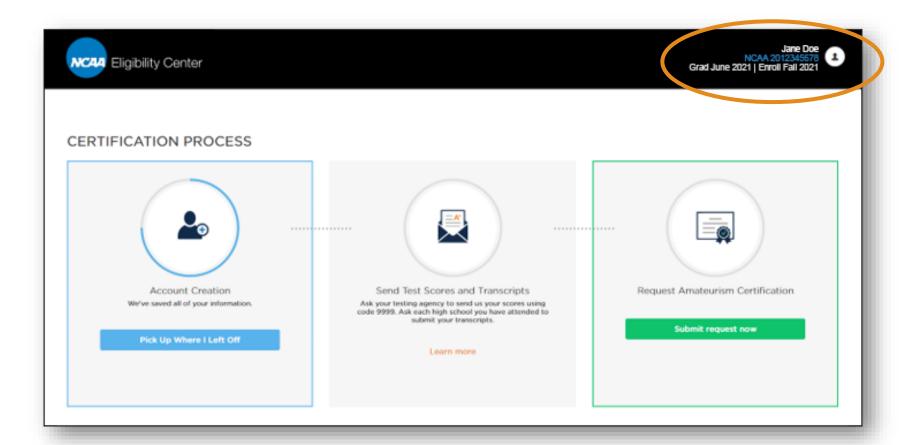
Students must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to compete at a Division I or II school.



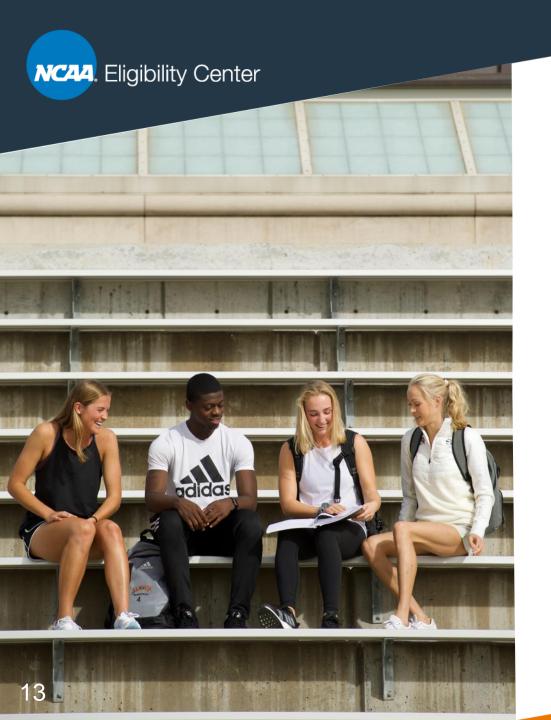
The registration fee for domestic students is \$90. The fee for international students is \$150.



Before students take official visits or sign an NLI, they must have a complete Certification account.



- Review their Dashboard for open tasks.
- Update their graduation or Edit their account, schools enrollment dates if needed.
- View their receipt of transcripts on file.
- or sports information.



### **COLLEGE ADMISSIONS**

- Student-athletes must apply and be accepted to their NCAA DI or II school before they can compete on campus.
- Student-athletes should ask their NCAA school for more information about cost of attendance and financial aid.





Students must be on an NCAA DI or II school's institution request list to get a certification.





#### WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

**ADDITIONAL** NATURAL/ **COURSES PHYSICAL** MATH SOCIAL (Any area listed SCIENCE **ENGLISH** (Algebra I **SCIENCE** to the left, foreign (Including one or higher) language or year of lab, comparative if offered) religion/philosophy)

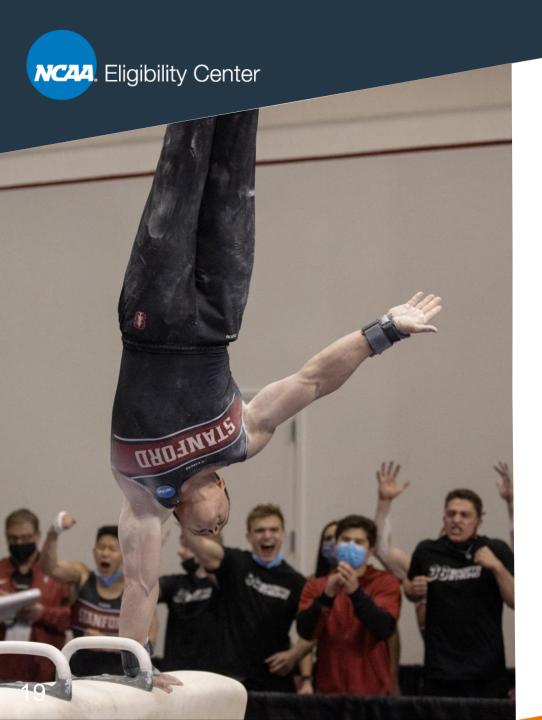
- NCAA core courses are:
  - ▶ On your school's list of NCAA-approved core courses.
  - ▶ Taught at or above the high school's regular academic level.
  - Taught by a qualified instructor.
  - Considered four-year college preparatory.





Find your school's list of NCAA-approved core courses by going to eligibilitycenter.org/courselist.





#### DIVISION I: ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

- Four possible academic certification outcomes for student-athletes:
  - ▶ Early academic qualifier.
  - Qualifier.
  - Academic redshirt.
  - ▶ Nonqualifier.



#### DIVISION I EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23





Practice



Compete

Note: DI early academic qualifier status is based on the student's pre-seventh semester academic record.



Complete 14 core-course units in the required subject areas.



Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 3.0 in the required subject areas.



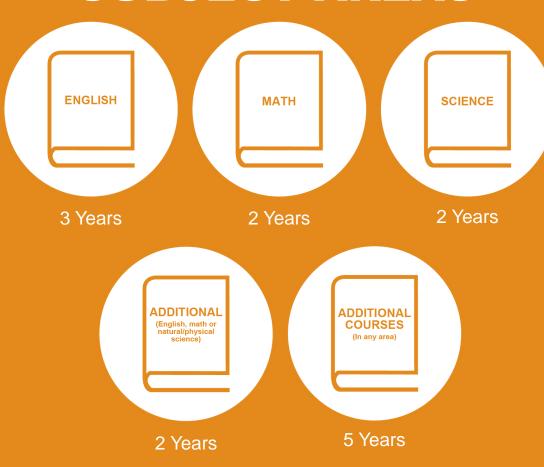
#### DIVISION I EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23







#### SUBJECT AREAS





#### DIVISION I QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23



**Athletics Aid** 



**Practice** 



Compete



Meet core-course progression before starting the 7th semester.

*Note:* Students certified based solely on international credentials are exempt from core-course progression.



Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.



Earn a core-course GPA  $\geq$  2.3 in the required subject areas.



Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.



#### DIVISION I QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23







#### SUBJECT AREAS





#### DIVISION I ACADEMIC REDSHIRT 2021-22 2022-23



First Year Athletics Aid



First Term Practice



Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.



Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.0 in the required subject areas.



Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.



#### DIVISION I ACADEMIC REDSHIRT 2021-22 2022-23





#### SUBJECT AREAS





#### DIVISION I NON-QUALIFIER





DI nonqualifiers are not eligible to receive athletics aid, practice or compete their first year.





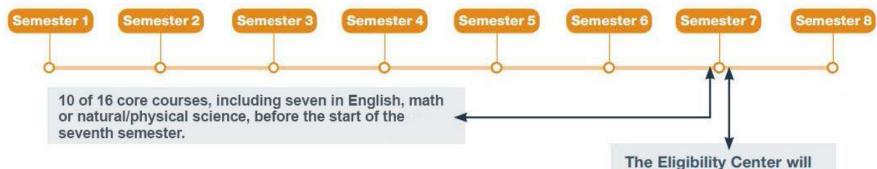
**Test Scores** 

Standardized test scores are excluded from NCAA initial-eligibility criteria for students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during the 2020-21, 2021-22 and/or 2022-23 academic years.

However, colleges and/or scholarship programs may still require test scores.



#### DIVISION I: CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION

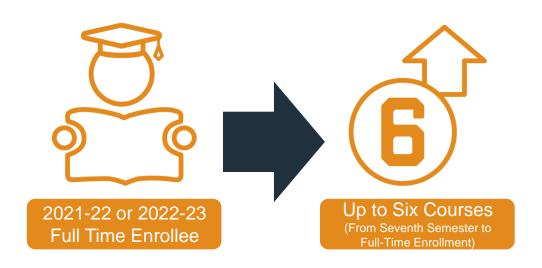


- When students enter ninth grade, they have four years (eight semesters) to complete their core-course requirement.
- They must graduate on time, with their class.

The Eligibility Center will use the best combination of courses to meet the 10/7 requirement. Courses can be repeated or replaced so long as they are not needed to meet the 10/7 requirement.



#### DIVISION I: CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION



Note: This approach will allow students impacted by school closures to complete additional core courses toward their initial eligibility.



#### EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

How to plan your high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement:



#### **S**TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional
- **4 CORE COURSES**

#### 10 TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional
- **4 CORE COURSES**

#### 11 TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional
- 4 CORE COURSES

#### 12TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional
- **4 CORE COURSES**



#### DIVISION II: ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

- Three possible academic certification outcomes for student-athletes:
  - ▶ Early academic qualifier.
  - Qualifier.
  - ▶ Partial qualifier.



#### DIVISION II EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23



**Athletics Aid** 



**Practice** 



Compete

Note: DII early academic qualifier status is based on the student's pre-seventh semester academic record.



Complete 14 core-course units in the required subject areas.



Earn a core-course GPA  $\geq$  2.5 in the required subject areas.



# DIVISION II EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23







#### SUBJECT AREAS





#### DIVISION II QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23



**Athletics Aid** 



Practice



Compete



Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.



Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.2 in the required subject areas.



Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.



#### DIVISION II QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23







#### SUBJECT AREAS





## **DIVISION II**PARTIAL QUALIFIER





**Practice** 

Note: Student-athletes that do not meet DII qualifier standards will be deemed a partial qualifier.



Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.





**Test Scores** 

Standardized test scores are excluded from NCAA initial-eligibility criteria for students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during the 2020-21, 2021-22 and/or 2022-23 academic years.

However, colleges and/or scholarship programs may still require test scores.



# FLEXIBILITY IN INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY



Students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during 2021-22 or 2022-23 must meet specific criteria to be eligible.



# INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL OTHER CLASSES



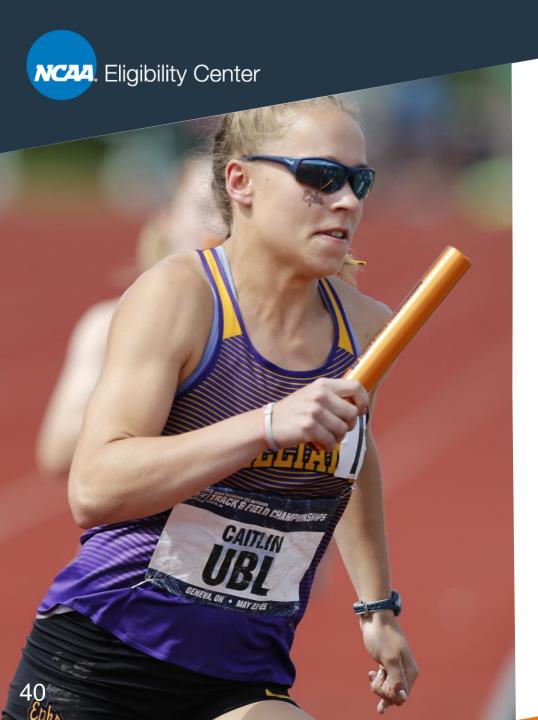




DI Academic Requirements



DII Academic Requirements



### **DIVISION III**

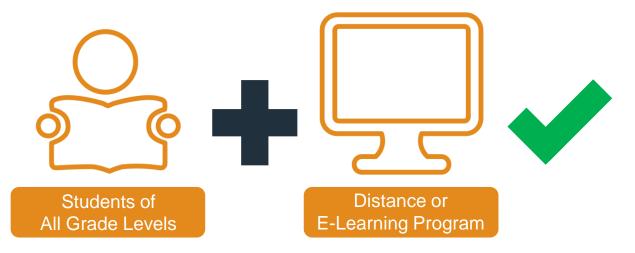
- Each Division III college or university determines its own eligibility for:
  - Admission.
  - Financial aid.
  - Practice and competition.
- The NCAA EC does not perform certifications for Division III college-bound student-athletes.
- Division III studentathletes may register for a free Profile Page, but it is not required.





### DISTANCE OR E-LEARNING

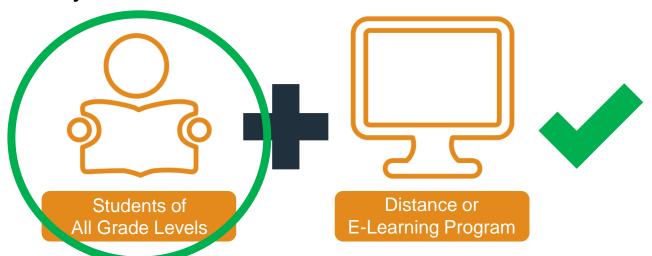
► The Eligibility Center will not require a separate review of distance or e-learning programs used during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic calendars in response to closures due to COVID-19.



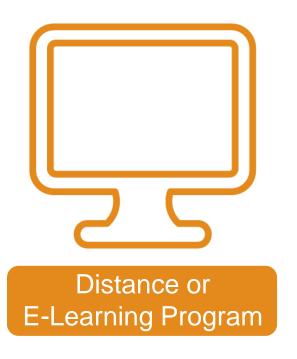


## DISTANCE OR E-LEARNING

Note: This policy will apply to students from all grade levels (e.g., freshmen, sophomores) who complete distance or e-learning courses during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years.







Taking online or hybrid courses does not necessarily mean your students are home schooled.





Home school students can also meet the COVID-19 Automatic Waiver criteria for 2022-23 enrollment. Review our Home School Toolkit for questions about home schooling.



# SPORTS PARTICIPATION

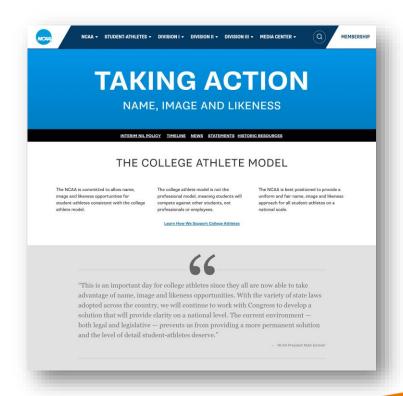
- When students register for a Certification account, they must:
  - Select the sport(s) they would like to play in college.
  - Update their information frequently if they play for multiple teams or attend events outside the traditional high school setting.
  - Request final amateurism before they enroll full time at a DI or II school.
- Note: Over 94% of students do not require additional questions from the EC after they request final amateurism.





## NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS: GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION

- NCAA student-athletes now have the opportunity to benefit from their name, image and likeness.
- All three divisions have adopted a uniform, interim policy suspending NCAA NIL rules for all incoming and current student-athletes in all sports.
- For more NIL resources:
  - ▶ Visit <u>ncaa.org/nil</u>.
  - Contact your student's NCAA school's compliance office.
  - Follow the EC on social media.







If your students have questions, encourage them to contact us before acting. Their actions may impact their future NCAA eligibility.



## PROACTIVE STUDENT ACTIONS

- If students want to play sports in college, they must:
  - Share their NCAA ID with schools recruiting them.
  - Apply to schools of their choosing to be accepted.
  - ▶ Request final amateurism certification before they enroll full time in college.
    - Starting April 1 (fall).
    - Starting Oct. 1 (winter/spring).
  - Ask their counselor to submit their final transcript with proof of graduation.
- Know that considerations are given to students with documented <u>education-impacting disabilities</u>.





### RESOURCES

- Review our COVID-19 FAQ.
- Visit our websites:
  - ▶ ncaa.org/playcollegesports.
  - eligibilitycenter.org.
- Visit <u>nationalletter.org</u> to learn about the NLI.
- Download our resources:
  - ► Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
  - ► <u>Initial-Eligibility Flyer</u>.
  - ▶ DI Academic Requirements.
  - ▶ DII Academic Requirements.











## SOCIAL MEDIA









Follow the EC on Instagram



Follow the EC on Twitter



Like the EC on Facebook





### "What if I still have questions?"

- High school administrators:
  - ▶ Call 877-622-2321.
  - ▶ M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern.
- Students and parents:
  - ▶ Call 877-262-1492.
  - ▶ M-F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern.



## THANK YOU

#### Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center.

- High school administrators:
  - Call 877-622-2321.
  - ▶ M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern.
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