



Eligibility Center

September 10, 2012

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www.eligibilitycenter.org

Dear High School Principal:

Welcome back to a new school year! The NCAA Eligibility Center staff understands what an exciting and hectic time this is, and wishes to say thank you for all you do for students.

The NCAA Eligibility Center would like to let you know about new and upcoming academic rule changes that impact the classes of 2013 and 2016 and beyond, and whether your college-bound student-athletes will be eligible for practice, competition and financial aid in their first year at an NCAA Division I or II college or university.

Division I Changes—Overview

1. Increase in the minimum required core-course grade-point average (GPA) from 2.000 to 2.300.
2. Ten of the 16 required core courses must be completed before the beginning of the seventh semester (senior year).
 - a. Seven of these 10 required courses must be English, math or natural/physical science.
 - b. A repeat of one of the "locked in" courses will not be used if taken after the seventh semester begins.
3. Increase in the overall core-course GPA as it relates to the ACT or SAT score, which results in a new sliding scale.

Who does this impact? Your incoming ninth grade class (class of 2016) must meet these new requirements if they plan to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division I level.

Division II Change--Reminder

- Increase in the number of required core courses from 14 to 16.
 - a. One additional course in English, math or science.
 - b. One additional course in any core academic area (English, math, science, social science) or foreign language, comparative religion/philosophy.

Who does this impact? Your current seniors (class of 2013) must meet this new rule if they plan to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division II level.

Where to Find Information

1. See the Quick Reference Guide or the Initial Eligibility Brochure included in this mailing.
2. See the NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete, available on the Resources page at www.eligibilitycenter.org.
3. See the Resources page on the High School Portal at www.eligibilitycenter.org (click on the High School Administrators tab to access this resource).

National Collegiate Athletic Association

An association of more than 1,200 members serving the student-athlete
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4. The NCAA Eligibility Center also offers a free course on the initial-eligibility requirements specifically designed for high school administrators and coaches, which is offered online at www.nfhslearn.com.

Who Else Needs to Know

1. Students;
2. Coaches;
3. High school counselors;
4. Middle school or junior high principals, counselors and activities directors;
5. Athletics or activities directors; and
6. Parents.

Please help spread the word about these new rules to these groups. Share the documents included in this mailing, or let them know how to find the resources on the website that has been mentioned.

How You Can Help Your Student-Athletes

1. Ensure that your high school counselors update your school's List of NCAA Courses annually. If you are new to the process, or need a refresher, go to the Resources page of the High School Portal mentioned earlier. There is a section on how and when to update your school's list, which will help you through the process.
2. Ensure that your high school counselors send transcripts for registered students. Information regarding transcripts (including e-transcripts) may be found on the Resources page.
 - a. Registered juniors who have completed three years (six semesters); and
 - b. Graduated seniors.

Academic preparation is key to student success in college. Making sure a college-bound student-athlete is academically prepared for college is a significant undertaking that requires as much attention from parents, teachers, guidance counselors and coaches as athletics preparation.

In the coming weeks, the NCAA Eligibility Center will also be sending posters, which you can use as a visible reminder concerning the importance of academic preparation for your student-athletes. With your help and the help of your colleagues, the NCAA Eligibility Center hopes to spread the word regarding the importance of academics and these new rules.

Also, in order to assist the NCAA Eligibility Center in determining how it can better outreach to and inform the high school community about the initial-eligibility standards, please log on to <http://tinyurl.com/NCAAHSSURVEY> to complete a short survey.

If you have questions, please browse through the Resources page or give the NCAA customer service staff a call (toll free) at 877/622-2321.

Again, thank you for all you do to help students.

Sincerely,

The NCAA Eligibility Center

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Divisions I and II Initial-Eligibility Requirements

Core Courses

- **NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses. NCAA Division II currently requires 14 core courses.** Division II will require 16 core courses for students enrolling on or after August 1, 2013. See the charts below.
- **NCAA Division I will require 10 core courses** to be completed **prior to the seventh semester** (seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become "locked in" at the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
 - *Beginning August 1, 2016, it will be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.*

Test Scores

- **Division I** uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA). The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on Page No. 2 of this sheet.
- **Division II** requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- **When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.**

Grade-Point Average

- **Be sure** to look at your high school's List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Only courses that appear on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- **Division I** students enrolling full time **before August 1, 2016**, should use Sliding Scale A to determine eligibility to receive athletics aid, practice and competition during the first year.
- **Division I** GPA required to receive **athletics aid and practice on or after August 1, 2016**, is 2.000 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **Division I** GPA required to be eligible for **competition on or after August 1, 2016**, is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **The Division II** core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

DIVISION I 16 Core Courses

- 4 years of English.
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II 14 Core Courses

- 3 years of English.
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II 16 Core Courses (2013 and After)

- 3 years of English.
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

Sliding Scale A			
<i>Use for Division I prior to August 1, 2016</i>			
NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE			
3.550 & above	400	37	
3.525	410	38	
3.500	420	39	
3.475	430	40	
3.450	440	41	
3.425	450	41	
3.400	460	42	
3.375	470	42	
3.350	480	43	
3.325	490	44	
3.300	500	44	
3.275	510	45	
3.250	520	46	
3.225	530	46	
3.200	540	47	
3.175	550	47	
3.150	560	48	
3.125	570	49	
3.100	580	49	
3.075	590	50	
3.050	600	50	
3.025	610	51	
3.000	620	52	
2.975	630	52	
2.950	640	53	
2.925	650	53	
2.900	660	54	
2.875	670	55	
2.850	680	56	
2.825	690	56	
2.800	700	57	
2.775	710	58	
2.750	720	59	
2.725	730	59	
2.700	730	60	
2.675	740-750	61	
2.650	760	62	
2.625	770	63	
2.600	780	64	
2.575	790	65	
2.550	800	66	
2.525	810	67	
2.500	820	68	
2.475	830	69	
2.450	840-850	70	
2.425	860	70	
2.400	860	71	
2.375	870	72	
2.350	880	73	
2.325	890	74	
2.300	900	75	
2.275	910	76	
2.250	920	77	
2.225	930	78	
2.200	940	79	
2.175	950	80	
2.150	960	80	
2.125	960	81	
2.100	970	82	
2.075	980	83	
2.050	990	84	
2.025	1000	85	
2.000	1010	86	

Sliding Scale B			
<i>Use for Division I beginning August 1, 2016</i>			
NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE			
3.550	4.000	400	37
3.525	3.975	410	38
3.500	3.950	420	39
3.475	3.925	430	40
3.450	3.900	440	41
3.425	3.875	450	41
3.400	3.850	460	42
3.375	3.825	470	42
3.350	3.800	480	43
3.325	3.775	490	44
3.300	3.750	500	44
3.275	3.725	510	45
3.250	3.700	520	46
3.225	3.675	530	46
3.200	3.650	540	47
3.175	3.625	550	47
3.150	3.600	560	48
3.125	3.575	570	49
3.100	3.550	580	49
3.075	3.525	590	50
3.050	3.500	600	50
3.025	3.475	610	51
3.000	3.450	620	52
2.975	3.425	630	52
2.950	3.400	640	53
2.925	3.375	650	53
2.900	3.350	660	54
2.875	3.325	670	55
2.850	3.300	680	56
2.825	3.275	690	56
2.800	3.250	700	57
2.775	3.225	710	58
2.750	3.200	720	59
2.725	3.175	730	60
2.700	3.150	740	61
2.675	3.125	750	61
2.650	3.100	760	62
2.625	3.075	770	63
2.600	3.050	780	64
2.575	3.025	790	65
2.550	3.000	800	66
2.525	2.975	810	67
2.500	2.950	820	68
2.475	2.925	830	69
2.450	2.900	840	70
2.425	2.875	850	70
2.400	2.850	860	71
2.375	2.825	870	72
2.350	2.800	880	73
2.325	2.775	890	74
2.300	2.750	900	75
2.275	2.725	910	76
2.250	2.700	920	77
2.225	2.675	930	78
2.200	2.650	940	79
2.175	2.625	950	80
2.150	2.600	960	81
2.125	2.575	970	82
2.100	2.550	980	83
2.075	2.525	990	84
2.050	2.500	1000	85
2.025	2.475	1010	86
2.000	2.450	1020	86
	2.425	1030	87
	2.400	1040	88
	2.375	1050	89
	2.350	1060	90
	2.325	1070	91
	2.300	1080	93

For more information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at www.eligibilitycenter.org.