

College Athletics Information Evening

December 10, 2008

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Agenda

- Overview of College Athletics
- Introduction to NCAA Eligibility Center
- High School Academic Coursework
- Visiting Colleges / Talking to Coaches
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Website:
https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/student/index_student.html
- Ballston Spa School Code: 330-305

Various Divisions in Intercollegiate Athletics

- NCAA Division I Not all schools have tryouts – Athletic Financial Aid available
- NCAA Division II Schools have tryouts – Athletic Financial Aid available
- NCAA Division III Not all schools have tryouts – No Athletic Aid
- NAIA Tryouts and Athletic Aid
- NJCAA Division I Athletic Aid
- NJCAA Division 3 No Athletic Aid



Timeline for prospective student athletes

8th –12th Grade

- Take Rigorous courses
- Be prepared to meet high school graduation requirements and NCAA initial eligibility requirements
- Understand NCAA's definition of "Core Courses"

NCAA Core Course Requirements

- **DIVISION I**

- **16 Core-Course Rule**
- **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)

- **DIVISION II**

- **14 Core-Course Rule**
- **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)



Timeline for Prospective Student Athletes 11th Grade

- Make sure you are taking appropriate (NCAA Approved) Courses
- Take the SAT and/or ACT and send the scores to the eligibility center (code: 9999)
- Division I and II prospective students should register with the eligibility center.
- At the end of the 6th semester (July after Junior year), send transcript to the eligibility center



Timeline for Prospective Student Athletes 12th Grade

- Complete amateurism questionnaire and request a final amateurism certificate
- Make sure that your core courses are approved by NCAA



Action Steps for Student Athletes

- Play often and with the highest level possible
- Make the grades – do the work!
- Overachieve – the next grade builds on the previous year
- Look for colleges on the internet
- Familiarize yourself with both the Ballston Spa and NCAA Guide For College Bound Athletes
- Register with the Eligibility Center Junior/Senior year
- Develop a player resume and write to the schools of interest
- Produce a video if possible
- Play your sport well!
- Update important information – Playing schedule, Awards, Honors
- Prepare college applications for admission



Action Steps for Student Athletes

- Visit the college campus if possible before senior year
- See the team play and meet the coaches and the players
- Have your high school coach call with a recommendation
- Call the coach at the schools of interest. They want to hear from the student
- Parents should stay involved and in contact with the coach
- Apply early to the schools of interest
- Be realistic in choosing the school



Questions for the Student Athlete to Consider

- How important is the sport to you?
- Are you committed to spending the time and energy necessary to be a successful athlete?
- What type of college experience are you looking for?
- Consider the college location, majors offered, size of the school and campus life



Consider Team/Sport Specifics

- How many players are graduating and what positions will be available?
- What are the time commitments of a student athlete?
- What is the training like in and out of season?
- What are the graduation rates of the school? (All athletes and the team)
- What is it like to be a student athlete?
- What are the academic benefits and special services for athletes?

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***What is the lowest grade that will be used for a course to count as a core course?***
 - Follow your high school's policy regarding its lowest passing grade. If the Eligibility Center does not have this policy, the lowest passing grade that will be used is D.
- ***Are vocational courses acceptable?***
 - No. Traditional vocational courses (e.g., typing, auto mechanics, driver's education and health) are not acceptable.
- ***May a nonstandard ACT/SAT exam be used for initial eligibility?***
 - Yes. Students with diagnosed education-impacted disabilities may take a nonstandard ACT or SAT exam. The test score must be provided to the Eligibility Center from the testing agency, just as any other test score.

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***May college courses count as core courses?***
- College courses may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements if the courses are accepted and awarded credit by the high school for any student and meet all other requirements for core courses. For NCAA Division I only, such courses must be placed on the student's high school transcript. Courses taken at a college will NOT appear on the high school's NCAA List of Approved Core Courses. The high school's NCAA List of Approved Core Courses will include only those courses taught/offered by the high school.
- ***How are courses taken over two years counted?***
- A one-year course that is spread over a longer period of time is considered one course and will receive a maximum of one core-course credit. (Example: Algebra 1, spread over two years, would receive one unit of credit.)

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***How is my core-course GPA calculated?***

Your core-course GPA is the average of your best grades achieved for all required core courses. If you have taken extra core courses, those courses will be used in your GPA, only if they improve your GPA.

- ***How is the NCAA core GPA different from a student's overall GPA?***

The NCAA core-course GPA is calculated using only NCAA-approved core courses in the required number of core units. High school GPAs generally include the grades from most or all courses attempted in grades nine through 12.

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***Will courses taken after my senior year meet core-course requirements?***
- **For Division I, maybe.** Only courses completed in grades nine through 12 will qualify as core courses for Division I. If you graduate from high school on schedule (in eight semesters) with your incoming ninth grade class, you may use **one** core course completed in the year after graduation (summer or academic year). You may complete the core course at a location other than the high school from which you graduated and may initially enroll full time at a collegiate institution at any time after completion of the core course.
- **For Division II, yes.** All core courses completed before your full-time enrollment at any college may be used by the Eligibility Center.
- **For Division I students with diagnosed disabilities, yes.** If you have a properly diagnosed and documented disability, you may use one or more core courses completed after high school but before full-time enrollment in college.

**Thank you for
joining us this
evening...**

Go SCOTTIES!

