

# Division I Academic Standards

Division I schools require you to meet academic standards. To be eligible to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in your first year of full-time enrollment, you must meet the following requirements:



DIVISION I

1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>MATH</b> (Algebra I or higher)	<b>SCIENCE</b> (Including one year of lab, if offered)	<b>EXTRA</b> (English, math or science)	<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>OTHER</b> Any area listed to the left or courses listed in additional discipline (world language, comparative religion or philosophy)
4 years	3 years	2 years	1 year	2 years	4 years

2. Complete your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in eight academic semesters or four consecutive academic years from the start of ninth grade. If you graduate from high school early, you still must meet core-course requirements.
3. Complete 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, including seven in English, math or science, before the start of your seventh semester. Once you begin your seventh semester, any course needed to meet the 10/7 requirement cannot be replaced or repeated.
4. Earn a minimum 2.3 **core-course GPA**.
5. Ask your high school counselor to upload your **final official transcript** with proof of graduation to your Eligibility Center account.

## EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

If you meet **specific criteria** after six semesters of high school, you may be deemed an early academic qualifier for Division I and may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.

## QUALIFIER

You may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.

## ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

You may practice during your first regular academic term and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment but may NOT compete during your first year of full-time enrollment. You must pass either eight quarter or nine semester hours to practice in the next term.

## NONQUALIFIER

You will not be able to practice, compete or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.



GRADE  
**9**  
REGISTER

- » If you haven't yet, [register](https://eligibilitycenter.org) for a free Profile Page account at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org) for information on NCAA initial-eligibility requirements.
- » Use NCAA Research's [interactive map](#) to help locate NCAA schools you're interested in attending.
- » Find your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses at [eligibilitycenter.org/courselist](https://eligibilitycenter.org/courselist) to ensure you're taking the right courses, and earn the best grades possible!

GRADE  
**10**  
PLAN

- » If you're being actively recruited by an NCAA school and have a Profile Page account, [transition](#) it to the required [certification account](#).
- » Monitor the [task list](#) in your NCAA Eligibility Center account for next steps.
- » At the end of the school year, ask your high school counselor from each school you attend to upload an official transcript to your Eligibility Center account.
- » If you fall behind academically, ask your high school counselor for help finding [approved courses](#) you can take.

GRADE  
**11**  
STUDY

- » Ensure your [sports participation](#) information is correct in your Eligibility Center account.
- » Check with your high school counselor to make sure you're on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved [core courses](#) and graduate on time with your class.
- » Share your [NCAA ID](#) with NCAA schools recruiting you so each school can place you on its [institutional request list](#).
- » At the end of the school year, ask your high school counselor from each school you attend to upload an official transcript to your Eligibility Center account.

GRADE  
**12**  
GRADUATE

- » [Request your final amateurism certification](#) beginning April 1 (fall enrollees) or Oct. 1 (winter/spring enrollees) in your Eligibility Center account at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org).
- » Apply and be accepted to the NCAA school you plan to attend.
- » Complete your final NCAA-approved [core courses](#) as you prepare for graduation.
- » After you graduate, ask your high school counselor to upload your final [official transcript](#) with proof of graduation to your Eligibility Center account.

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

**4 x 4 = 16**

**9<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**10<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**11<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**12<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**CONTACT THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER**

U.S. and Canada (except Quebec):  
877-262-1492 (toll free), Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time  
International (including Quebec):  
[on.ncaa.com/IntlContact](https://on.ncaa.com/IntlContact)



[@ncaaec](#) [@ncaaec](#) [@ncaaec](#) [@playcollegesports](#)

