

Lincoln Public Schools Presentation

November 9, 2015

Initial Eligibility and Recruiting

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Session Overview



- ❑ NCAA and NAIA Institutions
- ❑ NCAA Eligibility Center
- ❑ NAIA Eligibility Center
- ❑ Academic Requirements for Freshman Eligibility
- ❑ Qualification Status (NCAA)
- ❑ Certification Process (NCAA)
- ❑ Amateurism Certification (NCAA)
- ❑ Recruiting Information (NCAA)
- ❑ Athletic Scholarships (NCAA)
- ❑ Questions

NCAA and NAIA INSTITUTIONS

NCAA and NAIA Institutions



Colleges and Universities in Nebraska

National Collegiate Athletic Association – NCAA

- **Division I (scholarships)** – UNL, UNO and Creighton
- **Division II (scholarships)** – UNK, Wayne State, Chadron State
- **Division III (no scholarships)** – Nebraska Wesleyan(select sports)-
Moving to Division III in all sports in 2016-17.

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics – NAIA

Hastings College, Midland University, Concordia University, Doane College, Nebraska Wesleyan (select sports) and Peru State.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

NCAA Eligibility Center

What is the **NCAA** Eligibility Center?

- The NCAA Eligibility Center is the office of the NCAA that certifies **academic** and **amateurism** credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete at the NCAA Division I or Division II level.
- *NOTE: Registration Fee is \$75*
(If you receive a fee waiver for the ACT/SAT you qualify for this fee waiver. See your guidance counselor.)

NAIA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

NAIA Eligibility Center



What is the **NAIA** Eligibility Center?

Explore the world of NAIA college sports.

Build your customized personal profile.

Connect with NAIA college coaches and admissions officers.

Register so you are ready to play college sports.

NOTE: Registration Fee is \$75

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Academic Requirements

Terms used in NCAA initial eligibility:

- Core course – A high school course that meets the following criteria:
 - a. Is an academic course in English, math, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy;
 - b. Is a four-year college prep course; and
 - c. Is taught at or above your high school's regular academic level (no remedial)

See your guidance counselor to obtain the list of approved courses at your high school.

Academic Requirements

- Sliding Scale – Scale in Division I of core course grade point average and ACT/SAT scores and what criteria needs to be achieved for eligibility. (Division II will begin using a sliding scale in 2018).
- Sum score – The sum of the best score from each section in the ACT and/or SAT.
 - The NCAA does not use the composite score for the ACT or SAT.
 - Test score does not have to be achieved on the same test.

Academic Requirements

October 2015 ACT

April 2016 ACT

English 21

Math 24

Reading 23

Science 25

English 22

Math 22

Reading 25

Science 26

SUM Score: 97

Academic Requirements

To compete at the **NCAA Division I level** as a freshman:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete 16 core courses:
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of math (Algebra I or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered);
 - 1 extra year of English, math or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 4 years of additional core courses (from category above or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy)

Academic Requirements



NCAA Division I Continued....

- Earn a minimum of a 2.3 gpa in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core course grade point average and test score sliding scale.

Sliding scale included in packet.

Academic Requirements



To compete at the **NCAA Division II level** as a freshman:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete 16 core courses:
 - 3 years of English
 - 2 years of math (Algebra I or higher)
 - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered);
 - 3 additional years of English, math or natural or physical science
 - 2 years of social science
 - 4 years of additional core courses (from category above or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy)

Academic Requirements



NCAA Division II Continued....

- Earn a minimum grade point average of 2.0 in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

Academic Requirements



To compete at an **NAIA school** as a freshman you must graduate from high school and:

- **Must meet two of the following:**
 - Minimum of 18 on ACT or 860 on SAT;
 - Overall high school gpa of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; or
 - Graduate in the top 50% of your high school class.

QUALIFICATION STATUS

Qualification Status

Division I

Qualifier – Have met all criteria. During first year:

- May practice
- May compete
- May receive athletically related financial aid

Academic Redshirt– Have not met criteria for a Qualifier. During first year:

- May practice
- May NOT compete
- May receive athletically related financial aid

Non-Qualifier – Have not met any criteria. During first year:

- May NOT practice
- May NOT compete
- May NOT receive athletically related financial aid

Qualification Status

Division II

Qualifier – Have met all criteria. During first year:

- May practice
- May compete
- May receive athletically related financial aid.

Partial Qualifier – Have graduated, met core courses and met at least the test score or gpa requirement (but not both). During first year:

- May practice
- May receive athletically related financial aid
- May NOT compete

Non-Qualifier – Have not met any of the requirements. During first year:

- May NOT practice
- May NOT compete
- May NOT receive athletically related financial aid

Qualification Status

QUALIFIER REQUIREMENTS – 2016 & beyond

Practice, Competition & Athletics Aid

- Minimum core-course gpa of 2.300;
- Earn 10 core courses before senior year;
- Seven (7) of those 10 core courses must be in English, Math or Science;
- Those 10 core courses will be 'locked in' for your gpa*; and
- Meet new GPA/test score index on the new sliding scale.

**A repeated course taken after your seventh (7th) semester will not be used in your gpa calculation.*

Qualification Status

ACADEMIC REDSHIRT REQUIREMENTS – 2016 & beyond

Practice & Athletics Aid

- 16 core courses;
- Minimum core-course gpa of 2.0;
- Meet gpa/test score index on the sliding scale; and
- In your first semester in college you must pass nine (9) hours to be eligible for practice in the second semester.

Note: If you don't meet the qualifier requirements you may use repeated courses taken beyond the seventh (7th) semester to increase your core-course gpa

Qualification Status



Other Notes on Qualification Status:

- NCAA qualification status is just for the first year at a four-year school. After the first year, other NCAA rules will determine eligibility.
- If a student-athlete attends a two-year college after high school and then transfers to an NCAA institution, the qualification status will determine what transfer rules the student-athlete will need to meet.

PROCESS FOR CERTIFICATION

Process for Certification

- Register with NCAA Eligibility Center during 11th grade. www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org
- Request ACT or SAT scores be sent to the NCAA and/or NAIA Eligibility Center.
www.actstudent.org or www.sat.collegeboard.org.
 - Code for NCAA Eligibility Center is 9999
 - Code for NAIA Eligibility Center is 9876
 - When you register for the ACT or SAT, include the appropriate Eligibility Center

Process for Certification



- At the end of your junior year, request your guidance counselor to send your six-semester transcript to the Eligibility Center;
- At the end of your senior year, request your final transcript, with proof of graduation, be sent to the Eligibility Center; and
- When Eligibility Center receives final transcript, a final certification will be performed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional Information

- Division I – You may take up to one additional core course after high school graduation but before full-time enrollment in college.
- Non-Traditional Courses – Any course not taught in a traditional manner must meet criteria to be used as a core course. Check with your guidance counselor or the Eligibility Center.
- A non-standard ACT/SAT test may be used for your eligibility if you have a documented learning disability. You will need to submit information to the NCAA Eligibility Center. See your guidance counselor.
- You must still be admitted to the college or university. Check those admission requirements.

AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION

Amateurism Certification



- The NCAA will also certify your amateurism status;
- You will answer questions about your competitions and teams at the time of registration;
- In April of your senior year, you will request your amateurism be finalized. The NCAA will then determine if you are an amateur.

Amateurism Certification

Areas to be reviewed

1. Contracts with a professional team.
2. Salary for participating in athletics.
3. Prize money.
4. Play with professionals.
5. Tryouts, practice or competition with professional teams.
6. Benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
7. Agreement to be represented by an agent.
8. Delayed initial full-time enrollment to participate in organized competition.
9. Any financial assistance based on athletics skill or participation.

Questions?



RECRUITING

Recruiting

Official Visit – Expenses paid by institution (travel, lodging, food, game admissions, permissible entertainment)

- May begin visits on or after first day of senior year;
 - *Exception: Men's basketball – January 1 of junior year*
- Each prospect may have five official visits (only one per institution);
- Institution must notify you in writing that you will use one of your five visits;
- May be on the visit for a maximum of 48 hours;
- Must register with the Eligibility Center and be placed on the institution's list; and
- Institution must have a copy of the transcript and test score (can use PSAT or PLAN if not yet taken ACT or SAT).

Recruiting

Unofficial Visit – Expenses cannot be paid

- May take at any time during high school, except during a dead period (which is a time that coaches/staff may not have in-person contact with you);
- No limitations on number of visits or number of visits to one school; and
- May receive complimentary admissions to institution's home athletic contests.

Recruiting

National Letter of Intent (NLI)

What is the NLI?

An agreement between the institution and the prospective student-athlete that he/she will attend the university or college for one academic year in exchange for an athletics scholarship.

Note: The NAIA and NCAA do not recognize each other's NLI program.

Recruiting



Who is eligible to sign an NLI?

- High school seniors;
- Two-year college transfers (including those previously at a four-year school)

Can a walk-on sign an NLI?

- No, an athletically related financial aid agreement must accompany the NLI.

When can the NLI be signed?

- There are designated times throughout the year in which NLI's can be signed.

Recruiting

Tryouts

Division I – Tryouts for prospects are not permitted;

Exception: Men's Basketball (specific conditions)

Division II – Tryouts for prospects are permitted under the following conditions:

1. One tryout per institution per sport;
2. Must be a senior and enrolled in term other than which the sport competes in high school (ex: volleyball is in the fall in high school, tryout must be in the spring);
3. Must have a medical examination;
4. May include tests to evaluate strength, speed and skill (football, no helmets or pads);
5. May compete against the team; and
6. No longer than two hours.

Recruiting

Tips from Division I Coaches

1. Keep your grades up.
2. Be a good citizen.... Stay out of trouble at school and in the community.
3. Research the schools that would be a good 'fit' for you – size, location and academic programs offered.
4. Visit campuses.
5. Go to college games to see the level of play.
6. Spend more time practicing and training than trying to get recruited (i.e., emailing coaches, social media, highlight videos)
7. Play at the highest competitive level you can.
8. Understand the recruiting timeline in your sport. Ex: Major Division I softball programs are already looking at high school freshmen.
9. Make yourself known to all levels you would be interested in (not just the highest level). If you are not offered an opportunity at the highest level you want to still have other opportunities.
10. Be cautious of coaches who make promises about playing time.

Questions?

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Athletic Scholarships

The NCAA limits the number of scholarships that a sport may award. There are two classifications of scholarships for sports:

1. Head Count – Full scholarships only.
 - Division I Only – Football, Men’s Basketball, Women’s Basketball, Volleyball, Women’s Gymnastics and Women’s Tennis
2. Equivalency – Partial Scholarships (may still receive full scholarship)
 - Division I sports not listed above and all of Division II sports.

Athletic Scholarships

Notes on Scholarships

- Division I – multi-year scholarships may be awarded.
- Division II – scholarships can only be offered for one academic year and are renewable.
- Division I - Scholarships include only tuition, fees, room, board required textbooks and other expenses related to attendance.
- Division II – Scholarships include tuition, fees, room, board and required textbooks.
- Other scholarships may be countable toward the team maximum so check with the institution.

Questions?

Resources



NCAA Website www.ncaa.org

NCAA Eligibility Center
www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org

NCAA Guide for College Bound Student-Athletes
www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA15.pdf

National Letter of Intent www.national-letter.org

NAIA Website www.naia.org

NAIA Eligibility www.playnaia.org