



The Role of the Counselor in NCAA Initial-Eligibility



AGENDA

- ▶ What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?
- ▶ The Role of the School Counselor
- ▶ Initial-Eligibility Requirements
- ▶ High School Review-Highlighted Topics
- ▶ Resources

WHAT IS THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

- ▶ The NCAA Eligibility Center evaluates and certifies prospective student-athletes for collegiate competition at Division I and II schools.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

We focus on:

- ▶ Academic preparedness.
- ▶ Sports participation.
- ▶ High school courses.
- ▶ Customer service.

Students who want to compete at NCAA Division I or Division II schools need to meet NCAA Eligibility Center:

- ▶ Academic initial-eligibility requirements.
- ▶ Amateurism requirements.

THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- ▶ How can you, as a school counselor, assist student-athletes in navigating the initial-eligibility process?

ONGOING

- ▶ Maintain your school's list of NCAA-approved core courses to ensure it is accurate and up-to-date.
- ▶ Be mindful of approved and non-approved courses when helping students develop their schedules.
- ▶ Validate student registration fee waivers via the NCAA High School Portal when applicable.
- ▶ Respond to requests for more information from the NCAA Eligibility Center as needed.



FALL

- ▶ Ensure any nontraditional programs (credit recovery, virtual or online courses, etc.) offered at your school have been reviewed. Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center to discuss your programs and initiate a review.

SPRING

- ▶ Upload official transcripts at the end of the students' sixth semester (junior year) and when they graduate from high school.



OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

- ▶ Student-athletes attending Division I or Division II schools can create a **Certification Account**, while students attending Division III schools or who are not sure where they want to attend can create a free **Profile Page**.
- ▶ Students may transition from a Profile Page to a Certification Account at any time. Students should create only one account.



INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

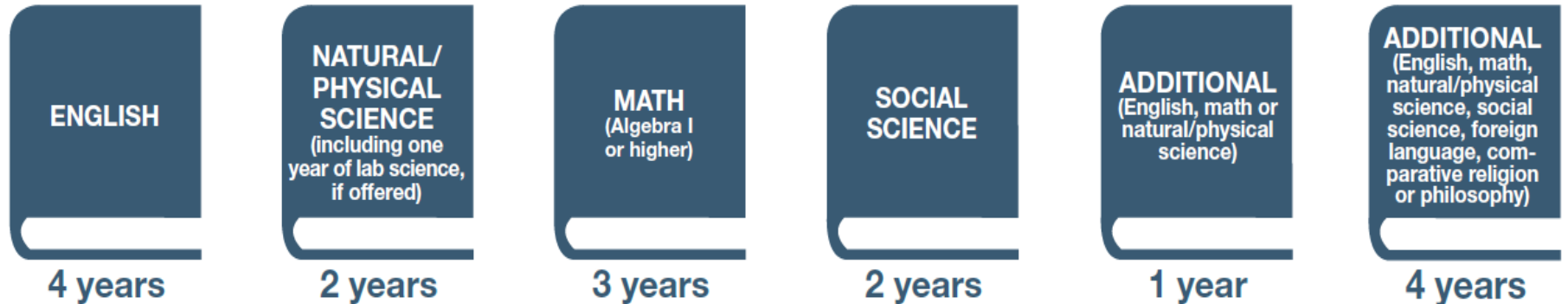
- ▶ The NCAA's commitment to academics ensures students are better equipped to succeed in college and prepare for lifelong success. Students need to meet the following academic requirements to be eligible to compete in college sports.

DIVISION I INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ To play Division I sports student-athletes need to meet the following academic requirements:
 - ▶ Graduate high school.
 - ▶ Complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses in the correct subjects.
 - ▶ Earn a minimum core-course GPA of 2.300.
 - ▶ Earn a combined SAT or sum ACT score that matches their core-course GPA on the full-qualifier scale.

DIVISION I CORE COURSES

Complete 10 NCAA core courses, including seven in English, math or natural/physical science, before your seventh semester.



- ▶ Core-course requirements must be met in the time limitation.
- ▶ The following must be completed by the start of the student-athlete's seventh semester in high school:
 - ▶ 10 NCAA-approved core courses from your school's list in the appropriate subjects.
 - ▶ Seven of the 10 courses must be in English, math or science

DIVISION II INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ To play Division II sports student-athletes need to meet the following academic requirements:
 - ▶ Graduate high school.
 - ▶ Complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses in the correct subjects.
 - ▶ Earn a minimum core-course GPA of 2.200.
 - ▶ Earn a combined SAT or sum ACT score that matches their core-course GPA on the full-qualifier scale.

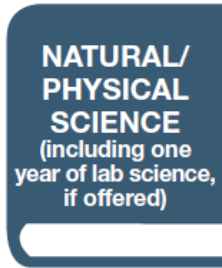
DIVISION II CORE COURSES

DIVISION II



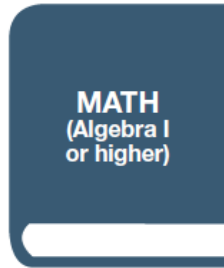
ENGLISH

3 years



NATURAL/
PHYSICAL
SCIENCE
(including one
year of lab science,
if offered)

2 years



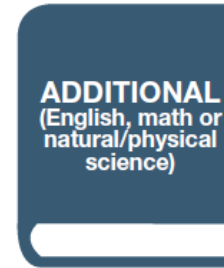
MATH
(Algebra I
or higher)

2 years



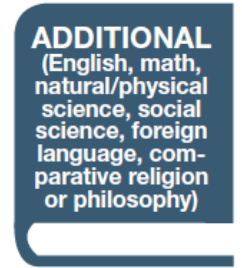
SOCIAL
SCIENCE

2 years



ADDITIONAL
(English, math or
natural/physical
science)

3 years



ADDITIONAL
(English, math,
natural/physical
science, social
science, foreign
language, com-
parative religion
or philosophy)

4 years

- ▶ Core-course time limitation
 - ▶ Student-athletes can use all core courses completed starting your ninth grade year until they enroll full-time at a Division II college or university.

TEST SCORES

- ▶ Student-athletes may take the SAT or ACT as many times as you wish.
- ▶ Encourage student-athletes to use code **9999** when registering to send scores directly to us.
- ▶ We will use the best scores to certify student-athletes:
 - ▶ SAT combined score.
 - ▶ ACT sum score.
- ▶ Test score and GPA will be matched on our Division I or Division II sliding scale.
- ▶ View both entire sliding scales at **eligibilitycenter.org**.

	MATH	CRITICAL READING	TOTAL
SAT (October 2016)	390	510	900
SAT (December 2016)	460	470	930
SCORES USED	460	510	970

DIVISION I QUALIFIER

- ▶ Eligible to practice, compete and receive athletics aid in the first year of college enrollment.
- ▶ Qualifiers meet the standards of:
 - ▶ 16 core courses in the correct subjects.
 - ▶ 10/7 core-course progression.
 - ▶ Minimum core-course GPA of 2.300.
 - ▶ Combined SAT or sum ACT score that matches their core-course GPA on the sliding scale.



DIVISION I REDSHIRT

- ▶ May receive athletics aid and practice during their first academic term but not compete.
- ▶ They must pass nine semester hours (eight quarter hours) their first academic term to continue practicing the rest of the year.
- ▶ Redshirts meet the standards of:
 - ▶ 16 core courses.
 - ▶ Minimum core-course GPA of 2.000 to 2.299.
 - ▶ Combined SAT or sum ACT score that matches their core-course GPA on the sliding scale.



DIVISION II QUALIFIER

- ▶ Student-athletes are eligible to practice, compete and receive athletics aid your first year of college enrollment.
- ▶ Qualifiers meet the standards of:
 - ▶ 16 core courses in the correct subjects.
 - ▶ Minimum core-course GPA of 2.200.
 - ▶ Combined SAT or sum ACT score that matches their core-course GPA on the full qualifier sliding scale.



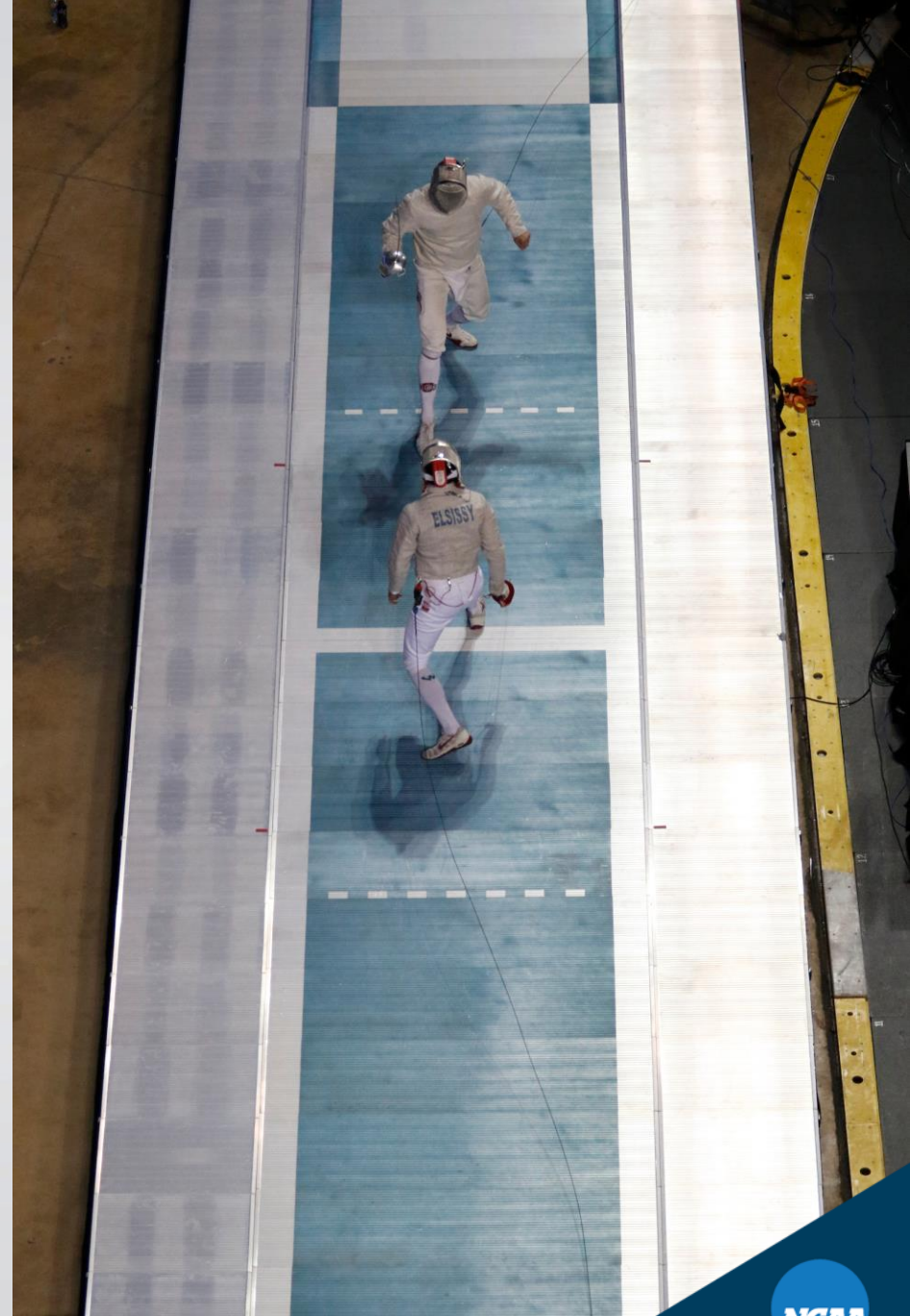
DIVISION II PARTIAL QUALIFIER

- ▶ Student-athletes are allowed to practice and receive athletics aid in your first academic year but cannot compete.
- ▶ Partial qualifiers meet:
 - ▶ 16 core courses in the correct subjects.
 - ▶ Minimum core-course GPA of 2.000.
 - ▶ Combined SAT or sum ACT score that matches their core-course GPA on the partial qualifier sliding scale.



DIVISION I AND DIVISION II NONQUALIFIER

- ▶ They are not eligible to practice, compete or receive athletics aid your first year.



DIVISION III INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Each Division III college or university determines their own eligibility for:
 - ▶ Admission.
 - ▶ Financial aid.
 - ▶ Practice and competition.
- ▶ The NCAA Eligibility Center does not perform certifications for Division III college-bound student-athletes.
- ▶ Division III student-athletes can create a free Profile Page, but it is not required.



HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW HIGHLIGHTED TOPICS

- What are Core-Courses?
- Nontraditional Courses

WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

- ▶ NCAA core courses legislation include courses that:
 - ▶ Qualify for high school graduation in English, mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher), natural or physical science, social science, foreign language or comparative religion or philosophy.
 - ▶ Are considered four-year college preparatory.
 - ▶ Are taught at or above the high school's regular academic level.
 - ▶ Are taught by a qualified instructor.
- ▶ **Tip:** You can [find your school's list](#) of NCAA-approved core courses by going to the “Core courses” page on ncaa.org/playcollegesports.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY DEFINITION

- ▶ To be considered college preparatory, a course must provide students the academic foundation for successful completion of academic work at the four-year college level.
- ▶ This includes a balanced evaluation of:
 - ▶ A course's contents
 - ▶ The rigor of performance tasks and assessments.
 - A course must include the application of knowledge through higher-order thinking and skills. Generally, this means a course shall include (a) the application of skills and concepts, (b) strategic thinking and/or (c) extended thinking.
- ▶ **Tip:** You can review the full Core-Course Criteria for Review online via [High School Review Policies and Procedures.](#)

WHAT ARE NONTRADITIONAL COURSES?

- ▶ Courses taught through:
 - ▶ The internet (online or virtual).
 - ▶ Distance learning.
 - ▶ Credit recovery.
 - ▶ Independent study.
 - ▶ Individualized instruction.
 - ▶ Correspondence.
 - ▶ Computer software programs.
 - ▶ Other similar means.

NONTRADITIONAL CORE-COURSES

- ▶ For a nontraditional program to be approved:
 - ▶ The courses must meet NCAA core-course requirements.
 - ▶ The courses must have ongoing and regular teacher-initiated interaction for the purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance throughout the duration of the course.
 - ▶ The courses must have a defined time period for completion. This means the nontraditional program must identify the fastest and slowest paths to successfully complete a course (i.e., maximum and minimum time frame for completion).
 - ▶ Should be clearly identified as a nontraditional course on the student's high school transcript.

CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAMS

- ▶ For a credit recovery program to be approved, the courses must meet the following requirements:
 - ▶ The courses must meet NCAA core-course requirements, and in some instances, nontraditional course requirements.
 - ▶ Repeated courses must be substantially comparable, qualitatively and quantitatively, to the previously attempted course

LEARN MORE

- ▶ Visit our websites:
 - ▶ ncaa.org/playcollegesports
 - ▶ eligibilitycenter.org
- ▶ Get updates on Twitter [@NCAA_EC](https://twitter.com/NCAA_EC)
- ▶ Visit nationalletter.org to learn about the National Letter of Intent.
- ▶ Download our resources:
 - ▶ [Initial-Eligibility Brochure](#)
 - ▶ [Guide for the High School Counselors](#)
 - ▶ [Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete](#)
 - ▶ [DI Initial-Eligibility Quick Reference Sheet](#)
 - ▶ [DII Initial-Eligibility Quick Reference Sheet](#)

THANK YOU

Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center



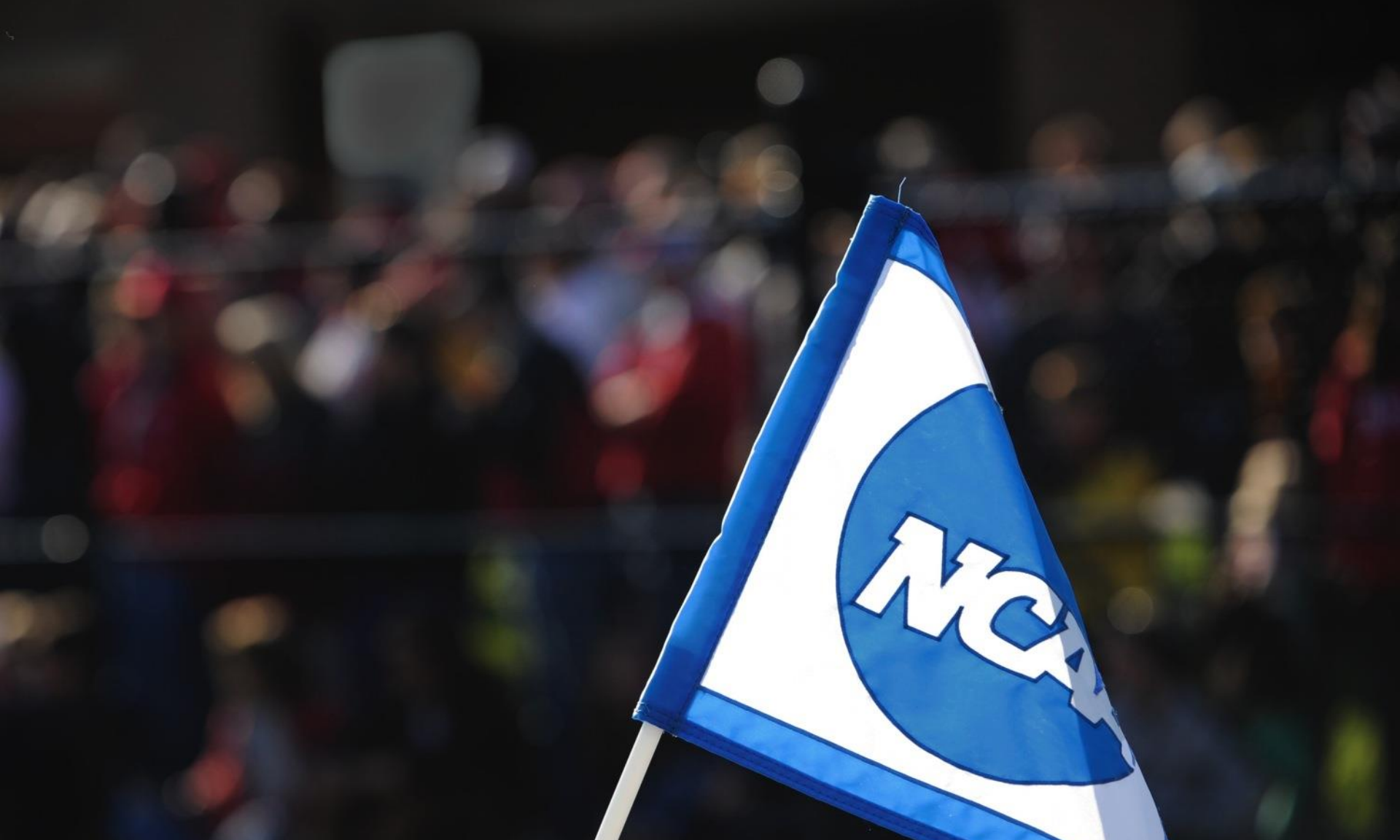
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