

# Curricular Policies and Procedures

## NCAA Initial Eligibility Requirements

### DIVISION I ATHLETICS

There are three possible academic outcomes for students who enroll full-time in a Division I college or university and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship:

- 1.) Full Qualifier – athletics aid (scholarship), practice and competition the first year
- 2.) Academic Redshirt – athletics aid the first year, practice in the first regular academic term (semester/quarter)
- 3.) Nonqualifier – no athletics aid, practice or competition the first year

In order to be a **full qualifier**, students must meet the following requirements:

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete the 16 core courses listed below:
  - Four years of English (please note: English Preparatory is not accepted)
  - Three years of Mathematics (Algebra I or higher level)
  - Two years of Natural or Physical Science (including one year of lab science, if offered)
  - One additional year of English, Mathematics or Natural/Physical Science
  - Two years of Social Science
  - Four years of additional core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy)

**Note:** Computer Science courses can be used only if a student's high school grants graduation credit in Mathematics or Natural/Physical Science and the courses appear on the school's core course list as Math or Science courses.

- Present a minimum 2.300 grade point average in their core courses
- Achieve a combined SAT (Critical Reading & Math) or ACT (English, Reading, Math and Science) sum score that matches their core course grade point average on a sliding scale (see note below).
- Complete 10 core courses before the seventh semester of high school, seven of which must be in the area of English, Mathematics or Science. Those 10 core courses are "locked in" for the purpose of GPA calculation; a repeat of one of those "locked in" courses will not be used if taken after the seventh semester begins.

Students are eligible for an **academic redshirt** if they meet the following requirements:

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete the 16 core courses listed above.
- Present a minimum 2.000 grade point average in their core courses.
- Achieve a combined SAT (Critical Reading & Math) or ACT (English, Reading, Math and Science) sum score that matches their core course grade point average for aid/practice on a sliding scale (see note below).

Students with an academic redshirt must be considered academically successful after one semester/quarter at the collegiate level in order to continue to be able to practice with their teams.

Students who do not meet the academic requirements listed above are considered **nonqualifiers**, who:

- May not participate in athletics competition or practice during their first year at a college/university.
- May not receive athletics aid during their first year at a college/university.

**Note:** To access the NCAA's sliding scale, visit [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

# Curricular Policies and Procedures

## NCAA Initial Eligibility Requirements

### DIVISION II ATHLETICS

Students who enroll in a Division II college or university before August 1, 2018, and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship must meet the following academic standards:

- Graduate from high school.
    - Complete the 16 core courses listed below:
      - Three years of English
      - Two years of Mathematics (Algebra I or higher level)
      - Two years of Natural or Physical Science (including one year of lab science, if offered)
      - Three additional years of English, Mathematics or Natural/Physical Science
      - Two years of Social Science
      - Four years of additional core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, comparative religion or philosophy)
- Note:** Computer Science courses can be used only if a student's high school grants graduation credit in Mathematics or Natural/Physical Science and the courses appear on the school's core course list as Math or Science courses.
- Present a 2.000 grade point average in their core courses (NCAA GPA is calculated using only core courses).
  - Achieve a combined SAT (Critical Reading & Math) score of 820 or a sum score of 68 on the ACT (English, Reading, Math and Science).

Students are considered partial qualifiers if they do not meet the academic requirements listed above, but have graduated from high school and either meet the specified minimum SAT or ACT score or complete the required 16 core courses with a 2.000 grade point average in those courses. Partial qualifiers may:

- Practice with their team at its home facility.
- Receive an athletics scholarship their first year.
- Not compete during their freshman year.
- Compete in their four remaining seasons.

Students who have not graduated from high school or have not presented the core course grade point average or required SAT or ACT scores will be considered non-qualifiers, who:

- May not participate in athletics competition or practice during their first year in college.
- May receive financial aid based only on need (not athletics-based financial aid) in their first year in college.
- May play four seasons.

**Note:** For students enrolling on or after August 1, 2018, Division II will use a sliding scale to match test scores and core course grade point average. At that point, the minimum grade point average to be eligible for competition will be 2.200, and the minimum grade point average for partial qualifiers will be 2.000. To access the NCAA's sliding scale, visit [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

### DIVISION III ATHLETICS

Students interested in participating in NCAA Division III athletics should contact their selected college or university regarding its policies on financial aid, practice and competition.

The preceding criteria are used to determine whether a student may participate in athletics during his or her first year in college. Meeting these criteria does not guarantee admission into a college. Students still must apply for admission.

# Curricular Policies and Procedures

## NCAA Initial Eligibility Requirements (cont.)

### CORE COURSES DEFINITION

A core course must:

- Be an academic course in one (or a combination of) these areas: English, Mathematics, Natural/Physical Science, Social Science, Foreign Language, Comparative Religion or Philosophy.
- Be four-year college preparatory.
- Be at or above the high school's regular academic level.  
(i.e., no remedial, Special Education or compensatory courses)

Not all classes taken to meet high school graduation requirements may be used as core courses. Students may check their school's list of approved core courses at the NCAA Eligibility Center ([www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)).

The following Lemont High School classes do not qualify as NCAA core courses:

Chemistry Preparatory	ELL I & II/Communications	Pre-Essentials for Integrated Math
Cinema Studies I & II	English Language Learners Tutorial	Reading for English Language Learners
Consumer Education	Essentials for Integrated Math	
Critical Reading I & II	Integrated Math Lab II & III	

Integrated Math I GB represents one credit for NCAA eligibility. Correspondence courses and Edgenuity courses are not recognized as core courses.

### GRADE-POINT AVERAGE: How the Core Course Grade Point Average is Calculated

The NCAA Eligibility Center calculates the core course grade point average on a 4.000 scale. The best grades from the NCAA core courses are used for this calculation. Grades from additional core courses taken will be used only if they improve a student's grade point average.

The NCAA Eligibility Center assigns the following values to each letter grade:

A = 4 points    B = 3 points    C = 2 points    D = 1 point

### SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADES AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Students who attend high schools that use number grades (i.e., 92 or 93) will have those grades converted to their high school's letter grades (i.e., A or B). Students should consult their high school's grading scale at the NCAA Eligibility Center ([www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)).

If a student's high school uses plus and minus grades (i.e., A+ or B-), the plus or minus is not used to calculate the core course grade point average.

If a student's high school normally "weights" honors or advanced courses, the weighted courses may improve the core course grade point average. The high school must notify the NCAA Eligibility Center of such weighting. To see if their high school has a weighted scale that is being used for calculating the core course grade point average, students should visit the NCAA Eligibility Center ([www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)) for an explanation of how these grade weights are handled.