

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Divisions I and II Initial-Eligibility Requirements

Core Courses

- **NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses. NCAA Division II currently requires 14 core courses.** Division II will require 16 core courses for students enrolling on or after August 1, 2013. See the charts below.
- **NCAA Division I will require 10 core courses** to be completed **prior to the seventh semester** (seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become "locked in" at the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
 - *Beginning August 1, 2016, it will be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.*

Test Scores

- **Division I** uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA). The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on Page No. 2 of this sheet.
- **Division II** requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- **When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.**

Grade-Point Average

- **Be sure** to look at your high school's List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Only courses that appear on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- **Division I** students enrolling full time **before August 1, 2016**, should use Sliding Scale A to determine eligibility to receive athletics aid, practice and competition during the first year.
- **Division I** GPA required to receive athletics aid and practice **on or after August 1, 2016**, is 2.000 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **Division I** GPA required to be eligible for competition **on or after August 1, 2016**, is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **The Division II** core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

DIVISION I 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 or comparative religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II 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 or comparative religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II 16 Core Courses (2013 and After)	
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).
3	years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
2	years of social science.
4	years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).



Eligibility Center

September 10, 2012

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Dear Athletics Director:

Welcome back to a new school year! The NCAA Eligibility Center staff understands what an exciting and hectic time this is, and wishes to say thank you for all you do for students.

The NCAA Eligibility Center would like to let you know about new and upcoming academic rule changes that impact the classes of 2013 and 2016 and beyond, and whether your college-bound student-athletes will be eligible for practice, competition and financial aid in their first year at an NCAA Division I or II college or university.

Division I Changes—Overview

1. Increase in the minimum required core-course grade-point average (GPA) from 2.000 to 2.300.
2. Ten of the 16 required core courses must be completed before the beginning of the seventh semester (senior year).
 - a. Seven of these 10 required courses must be English, math or natural/physical science.
 - b. A repeat of one of the "locked in" courses will not be used if taken after the seventh semester begins.
3. Increase in the overall core-course GPA as it relates to the ACT or SAT score, which results in a new sliding scale.

Who does this impact? Your incoming ninth grade class (class of 2016) must meet these new requirements if they plan to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division I level.

Division II Change--Reminder

- Increase in the number of required core courses from 14 to 16.
 - a. One additional course in English, math or science.
 - b. One additional course in any core academic area (English, math, science, social science) or foreign language, comparative religion/philosophy.

Who does this impact? Your current seniors (class of 2013) must meet this new rule if they plan to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division II level.

Where to Find Information

1. See the Quick Reference Guide or the Initial Eligibility Brochure included in this mailing.
2. See the NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete, available on the Resources page at www.eligibilitycenter.org.
3. See the Resources page on the High School Portal at www.eligibilitycenter.org (click on the High School Administrators tab to access this resource).

National Collegiate Athletic Association

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