How to Navigate the NCAA Process

Olathe School District
Pat Butler, Olathe West Athletic Director
The Game Plan......

- General overview of initial-eligibility rules
- Certification Process
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Where are the bumps in the road?
- Help! (and contact information)
2.3 or take a Knee: GRADES MATTER!!!


EVEN SOME OF THE BEST PLAYERS WILL GET STOPPED HERE.
Students will need to meet the following requirements to receive athletics aid, practice and compete their first year:

- **16 Core Courses in the following areas:**
  - 4 years of English
  - 3 years of math at Algebra I level or higher
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (one lab class required)
  - 1 year of additional English, math or natural/physical science
  - 2 years of social science
  - 4 years additional coursework from areas above or foreign language

- **Minimum required GPA**
  - Minimum GPA of 2.300 in those 16 core courses
As of January 2023, standardized test scores are not required for all student-athletes who initially enroll full time on or after August 1, 2023. During the 2023 NCAA Convention, Divisions I and II adopted legislation to remove standardized test scores for these students. Last year, NCAA research found that about 23% of Division I schools have adopted test-optional policies for at least one year in their admissions process. Another 19% have permanent test-optional policies.

Check with the NCAA school you plan to attend regarding whether standardized test scores are necessary for admission or scholarship requirements.
Division I Eligibility Reminders

- Minimum core GPA = 2.3.
- Ten core courses required prior to beginning of *seventh semester*.
  - Seven of the 10 courses must be English, math or science.
  - Ten core courses are “locked in” for GPA purposes.
Three Possible Academic Outcomes for Division I Eligibility

- **Full Qualifier**
  - Access to practice, competition and athletics aid in the first year
  - Meets all academic requirements of the rule.

- **Academic Redshirt**
  - Access to practice and athletics aid only in the first year;
  - No competition in the first year;
  - Lacks the 10/7; and/or
  - Lacks 2.3 GPA.
Three Possible Academic Outcomes for Division I Eligibility Cont.

- Non-qualifier
  - No practice, no competition, no athletics aid in first year; and
  - Three seasons of competition; may earn fourth season back.

- Remember that these rules govern the college-bound student-athlete’s first academic year in residence. Student-athletes may gain or lose their eligibility each term based on institutional, conference and NCAA rules.
Division II Eligibility Requirements

- Complete the required 16 core courses
- Earn a minimum 2.20 GPA or better in your core courses
The following classes are core classes in Olathe, but do not count for NCAA Eligibility:

- Applied Algebra
- Applied Geometry
- Intermediate Algebra
- Horticulture
- Earth & Space Science

There may be other core classes that are building specific to check for. See your school’s list of approved classes at:
NCAA RECRUITING FACTS
College sports create a pathway to opportunity for student-athletes.

480,000 Student-athletes
19,000 Teams
3 Divisions
1 Association

DIVISION I
Division I schools, on average, enroll the most students, manage the largest athletics budgets, offer a wide array of academic programs and provide the most athletics scholarships.

PARTICIPATION
- 170,000 student-athletes
- 546 colleges and universities

ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS
- 56 percent of all student-athletes receive some level of athletics aid

ACADEMICS
- 2014 Graduation Success Rate: 83 percent*

OTHER STATS
- Median Undergraduate Enrollment: 9,205
- Average Number of Teams per School: 19
- Average Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports: 4 percent
- Division I National Championships: 20 (1 out of every 8.5 student-athletes participates)

DIVISION II
Division II provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, high-level athletics competition and community engagement. Many participants are first-generation college students.

PARTICIPATION
- 118,600 student-athletes
- 307 colleges and universities

ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS
- 61 percent of all student-athletes receive some level of athletics aid

ACADEMICS
- 2014 Academic Success Rate: 71 percent*

OTHER STATS
- Median Undergraduate Enrollment: 2,530
- Average Number of Teams per School: 15
- Average Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports: 10 percent
- Division II National Championships: 25 (1 out of every 7 student-athletes participates)

DIVISION III
The Division III experience provides an integrated environment that focuses on academic success while offering competitive athletics and meaningful non-athletics opportunities.

PARTICIPATION
- 187,400 student-athletes
- 436 colleges and universities

FINANCIAL AID
- 82 percent of all student-athletes receive some form of academic grant or need-based scholarship; Institutional gift aid totals $17,000 on average

ACADEMICS
- 2014 Academic Success Rate: 87 percent*

OTHER STATS
- Median Undergraduate Enrollment: 1,880
- Average Number of Teams per School: 18
- Average Percentage of Student Body Participating in Sports: 21 percent
- Division III National Championships: 28 (1 out of every 10 student-athletes participates)

Want to play NCAA sports? Visit www.NCAA.org/playcollegesports

*Graduation rates for student-athletes, including those who transfer from one school to another.
Facts about NCAA sports

Does the NCAA award athletics scholarships?
Individual schools award athletics scholarships. Divisions I and II schools provide $2.7 billion in athletics scholarships annually to more than 150,000 student-athletes. Division III schools, with more than 180,000 student-athletes, do not offer athletically related financial aid, but most student-athletes receive some form of academic grant or need-based scholarship.

Do many high school athletes earn athletics scholarships?
Very few, in fact. About 2 percent of high school athletes are awarded some form of athletics scholarship to compete in college.

Do NCAA student-athletes have difficulty meeting graduation requirements with the time demands of their sport? While competing in college does require strong time-management skills and some thoughtful planning with academic advisors, on average NCAA student-athletes graduate at a higher rate than the general student body.

Do many NCAA student-athletes go on to play professionally?
Fewer than 2 percent of NCAA student-athletes go on to be professional athletes. In reality, most student-athletes depend on academics to prepare them for life after college. Education is important. There are nearly half a million NCAA student-athletes, and most of them will go pro in something other than sports.

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**ESTIMATED PROBABILITY OF COMPETING IN NCAA ATHLETICS BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Student-Athletes</th>
<th>All Sports</th>
<th>Men’s Basketball</th>
<th>Women’s Basketball</th>
<th>Football</th>
<th>Baseball</th>
<th>Men’s Ice Hockey</th>
<th>Men’s Soccer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Student-Athletes</td>
<td>7,600,000</td>
<td>541,500</td>
<td>429,500</td>
<td>1,063,600</td>
<td>488,600</td>
<td>35,800</td>
<td>432,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCAA Student-Athletes</td>
<td>480,000</td>
<td>18,700</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>72,800</td>
<td>34,200</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Moving from High School to NCAA</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Moving from NCAA to Major Professional*</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percent NCAA to Major Professional figures are based on the number of draft picks made in the NFL, NBA, WNBA, MLB, NHL, and MLS drafts.
Initial eligibility for incoming college freshmen is simple. The NAIA does not have any core course requirements and can be determined as early as the summer following your junior year.

To participate in athletics in the NAIA, you must be admitted to the college or university under admission standards equal to or higher than those applied to the general student body.
Each division has different rules governing their athletes.

Refer to each website:

- Division 2: [http://www.ncaa.org/d2](http://www.ncaa.org/d2)
- Division 3: [http://www.ncaa.org/d3](http://www.ncaa.org/d3)
- Junior College: [https://www.njcaa.org/landing/index](https://www.njcaa.org/landing/index)
1. Create an account at eligibilitycenter.org

2. Register with a valid email address you will have access to after high school (personal email NOT school email!)

3. Enter student information, education history, student sport participation history

4. Payment - $90 (fee waiver available for Students eligible for free or reduced lunch)
Contact Information

**Olathe East**
AD – Mike Wolgast
Counselor – Whitney Schmale

**Olathe North**
AD – Josh Price
Counselor – Nicole Etherton

**Olathe Northwest**
AD – Steve Page
Counselor – Heather Jasper

**Olathe South**
AD – Phil Simons
Counselor – Chad Hoffman

**Olathe West**
AD – Pat Butler
Counselor – Brian Frick