

Recruiting Regulations

Introduction

College coaches must follow the rules outlined in this section. You are expected to follow these rules as well.

Recruiting Terms

Contact. A contact occurs any time a coach has any face-to-face contact with you or your parents off the college's campus and says more than hello. A contact also occurs if a coach has any contact with you or your parents at your high school or any location where you are competing or practicing.

Contact period. During this time, a college coach may have in-person contact with you and/or your parents on or off the college's campus. The coach may also watch you play or visit your high school. You and your parents may visit a college campus and the coach may write and telephone you during this period.

Dead period. A college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents on or off campus at any time during a dead period. The coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

Evaluation. An evaluation is an activity by a coach to evaluate your academic or athletics ability. This would include visiting your high school or watching you practice or compete.

Evaluation period. During this time, a college coach may watch you play or visit your high school, but cannot have any in-person conversations with you or your parents off the college's campus. You and your parents can visit a college campus during this period. A coach may write and telephone you or your parents during this time.

Official visit. Any visit to a college campus by you and your parents paid for by the college. The college may pay all or some of the following expenses:

- Your transportation to and from the college;
- Room and meals (three per day) while you are visiting the college; and
- Reasonable entertainment expenses, including three complimentary admissions to a home athletics contest.

Before a college may invite you on an official visit, you will have to provide the college with a copy of your high school transcript (Division I only) and ACT, SAT or PLAN score and register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Prospective student-athlete. You become a "prospective student-athlete" when:

- You start ninth-grade classes;
- Before your ninth-grade year, a college gives you, your relatives or your friends any financial assistance or other benefits that the college does not provide to students generally; or

Quiet period. During this time, a college coach may not have any in-person contact with you or your parents off the college's campus. The coach may not watch you play or visit your high school during this period. You and your parents may visit a college campus during this time. A coach may write or telephone you or your parents during this time.

Unofficial visit. Any visit by you and your parents to a college campus paid for by you or your parents. The only expense you may receive from the college is three complimentary admissions to a home athletics contest. You may make as many unofficial visits as you like and may take those visits at any time. The only time you cannot talk with a coach during an unofficial visit is during a dead period.

Verbal commitment. This phrase is used to describe a college-bound student-athlete's commitment to a school before he or she signs (or is able to sign) a National Letter of Intent. A college-bound student-athlete can announce a verbal commitment at any time. While verbal commitments have become very popular for both college-bound student-athletes and coaches, this "commitment" is NOT binding on either the college-bound student-athlete or the college or university. Only the signing of the National Letter of Intent accompanied by a financial aid agreement is binding on both parties.

Recruiting Calendars

To see a summary of recruiting calendars for all sports, see pages 22-24 of this Guide. You can also log on to NCAA.org and search for 'recruiting calendar' in the search field.

National Letter of Intent

The National Letter of Intent (NLI) is a voluntary program administered by the NCAA Eligibility Center. By signing an NLI, the college-bound student-athlete agrees to attend the college or university for one academic year. In exchange, that college or university must provide athletics financial aid for one academic year.

Restrictions are contained in the NLI itself. Read them carefully. These restrictions may affect your eligibility.

If you have questions about the NLI, visit the website at www.national-letter.org or call 317/223-0706.



Summary of Recruiting Rules for Each Sport—Division I

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
SOPHOMORE YEAR	Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires. Men's Ice Hockey—You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year.
	Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense only. College coach can make unlimited calls beginning June 15 after your sophomore year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense only. College coach cannot call you. Women's Ice Hockey—A college coach may call international college-bound student-athletes once on or after July 7 through July 31 after sophomore year.
	Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed.
	Official visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed.
	Unofficial visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
JUNIOR YEAR	Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed. You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may begin receiving September 1 of your junior year. Men's Ice Hockey—You may begin receiving recruiting materials June 15 after your sophomore year.
	Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
	College coaches may call you	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlimited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Beginning August 1, 2013) Unlimited beginning September 1 of your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once from April 15 to May 31 of your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once per week starting July 1 after your junior year. Men's Ice Hockey—Once per month beginning June 15, before your junior year, through July 31 after your junior year. Women's Ice Hockey—Once per week beginning July 7 after your junior year.
	Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed beginning opening day of classes. Contacts other than April period may only occur at your school. Contacts in April may occur at your school or residence. No contact on the day of a competition. Contacts may not occur during the time of day when classes are in session. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Beginning August 1, 2013) Allowed September 1 at the beginning of your junior year. No contact on the day of a competition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowed starting July 1 after your junior year. Women's Gymnastics—Allowed beginning July 15 after your junior year. Women's Ice Hockey—Allowed beginning July 7 after your junior year.
	Official visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Beginning August 1, 2012) Allowed January 1 of your junior year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Beginning August 1, 2013) Allowed April of your junior year beginning Thursday following the Final Four. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None allowed.
Unofficial visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period. 	



Summary of Recruiting Rules for Each Sport—Division I

	RECRUITING METHOD	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	FOOTBALL	OTHER SPORTS
SENIOR YEAR	Recruiting materials	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed.
	Telephone calls	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.	• You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
	College coaches may call you	• Unlimited.	• Unlimited.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once per week beginning September 1. • Unlimited calls the day after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR the day after the college receives a financial deposit from you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once per week beginning July 1. • Men's Ice Hockey—Once per week beginning August 1. • Women's Ice Hockey—Once per week beginning July 7 after your junior year. • Unlimited calls the day after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR the day after the college receives a financial deposit from you.
	Off-campus contact	• Allowed.	• Allowed.	• Allowed beginning Sunday following the last Saturday in November.	• Allowed.
	Official visit	• You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.	• You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed beginning opening day of classes your senior year. • You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges.
	Unofficial visit	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.	• You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits, except during a dead period.
	Evaluation and contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to seven times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation the day after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR the day after the college receives a financial deposit from you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to seven times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation the day after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR the day after the college receives a financial deposit from you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to six times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation the day after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR the day after the college receives a financial deposit from you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to seven times during your senior year. • Unlimited number of contacts and evaluation the day after you sign an NLI, written offer of admission and/or financial aid; OR the day after the college receives a financial deposit from you.
	How often can a coach see me or talk to me off the college's campus?	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus) seven times.	• (Beginning August 1, 2013) A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus) seven times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians (including evaluating you off the college's campus) six times. • One evaluation during September, October and November. • Two evaluations—April 15 through May 31 (once to evaluate athletics ability and once to evaluate academic qualifications). 	• A college coach may contact you or your parents/legal guardians not more than three times during your senior year.

Summary of Recruiting Rules—Divisions II and III

	DIVISION II	DIVISION III
Recruiting materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive brochures for camps and questionnaires at any time. A coach may begin sending you printed recruiting materials June 15 before your junior year in high school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may receive printed materials any time.
Telephone calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No limit on number of calls by college coach beginning June 15 before your junior year. You may make calls to the coach at your expense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No limit on number of calls or when they can be made by the college coach. You may make calls to the coach at your expense.
Off-campus contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A college coach can have contact with you or your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus beginning June 15 before your junior year. No limit on number of contacts off campus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A college coach may begin to have contact with you and your parents/legal guardians off the college's campus after your junior year.
Unofficial visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time, except during a dead period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make an unlimited number of unofficial visits any time.
Official visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division II colleges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may make official visits starting the opening day of classes your senior year. You may make only one official visit per college and up to a maximum of five official visits to Division I colleges. There is no limit to official visits to Division III colleges.

Athletically Related Financial Aid

Athletics scholarships are awarded by NCAA Divisions I and II colleges and universities. Division III colleges and universities do not award financial aid based on athletics ability, but you may be eligible to receive academic scholarships or need-based financial aid. It is important to understand several points about athletics scholarships.

Note: The information below is a list of questions and answers about athletics scholarships but does not include all Divisions I and II financial aid rules. Contact your college or university to get more detailed information about NCAA financial aid (scholarship) rules.

- Does the NCAA award athletics scholarships?** No. Individual colleges and universities award athletics scholarships, not the NCAA. Divisions I and II schools offer athletics scholarships. Division III colleges and universities offer academic scholarships and need-based financial aid only. NCAA colleges and universities provide more than \$1.5 billion in athletics scholarships annually.
- Is an athletics scholarship guaranteed for four years?** At a minimum, an athletics scholarship must be a one academic year agreement. **In Division I, colleges and universities are permitted to offer multi-year scholarships.** Athletics scholarships may be renewed and the college or university must notify the student-athlete in writing by July 1 whether the athletics scholarship will be renewed for the next academic year. Individual colleges and universities have appeal policies for scholarships that are reduced or not renewed.
- What do athletics scholarships cover?** Divisions I and II athletics scholarships are awarded in a variety of amounts. Colleges and universities are permitted to provide a student-athlete with tuition and fees, room, board and required course-related books.
- Can student-athletes receive other, non-athletics financial aid?** Yes. Thousands of student-athletes benefit from academic scholarships and need-based aid, such as federal Pell Grants. In addition, in Division I, there is money available from the NCAA's own Student Assistance Fund. Sometimes student-athletes cannot accept certain types of aid because of NCAA amateurism or financial aid requirements. You must report all scholarships you receive to your college financial aid office. Student-athletes and parents with questions or additional financial aid should check with the athletics department of the college or university or the college or university's financial aid office.
- Do many high school athletes earn athletics scholarships?** No, very few in fact. According to recent statistics, about two percent of high school athletes are awarded athletics scholarships to compete in college. This small number means high school student-athletes and their parents need to have realistic expectations about receiving an athletics scholarship to play sports in college. Academic, not athletics, achievement is the most reliable path to success in life.

