



COLLEGIATE SPORTS

Does your student-athlete want to play sports at the college level?

Then it's time to start exploring options! We are excited to announce that CCA is now among the eligibility centers of both **NCAA** and **NAIA**. There are several factors which parents and athletes should consider when thinking about college athletics, but we hope this information will help guide you understand your options and how to get started.

What are the NCAA and NAIA?



NCAA is a governing body for larger college athletic programs, including 1,105 schools. These schools are broken into three divisions—DI, DII, and DIII—with DI and DII being the most competitive.

Scholarship requirements vary by division level.

- DI: 16 completed NCAA-approved core courses with a minimum 2.3 GPA
- DII: 14 completed NCAA-approved core courses with a minimum 2.2 GPA
- DIII: no scholarships offered
- No SAT or ACT scores required by NCAA, but colleges and universities may still require them for admittance

To learn more, visit the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#)



NAIA is a governing body for small college athletic programs, including 235 schools. Competition level at NAIA schools is often comparable to NCAA DIII, but top NAIA programs often match the talent found at mid-level DII schools.

To qualify for an NAIA scholarship, high school students must graduate from high school with two of the following:

- GPA of 2.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale)
- SAT score of 860 or higher
- ACT score of 18 or higher
- Graduate in the upper half of class

For more information, visit the [National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics](#)



Other Collegiate Athletic Associations



National Christian College Athletic Association



United States Collegiate Athletic Association

What's the Difference?

NCAA	NAIA
High standards, which are reflected in the percentage of student-athletes who go enter NCAA programs. Admittance percentage differs by division, sport, and gender. A breakdown can be found here: Probability of Competing in College Athletics	For those who are just short of NCAA standards, NAIA offers a competitive alternative.
\$4 billion a year to 196,000 students at DI and DII schools.	\$1.3 billion awarded in scholarships each year – nearly 25% of all NAIA student-athletes receive some level of scholarship.
Heavily restricted recruiting process, meetings with coaches start in the sophomore year	Fewer restrictions in the recruiting process, which can start as early as freshman year
Strenuous schedule that requires a high level of time management. DI and DII athletes spend up to 30 hours per week on athletics training and competition.	Less strenuous schedule with more time to help balance athletics, academics, and life.

FAQs

Which organization should my student-athlete register for?

Student-athletes should register with both NCAA and NAIA eligibility centers to consider all options.

Who should register and for what?

Three options for the NCAA:

- \$110 Academic and Athletics Certification Account** – for student-athletes who want to compete at a Division I or II school.
- Free profile page** – for student-athletes who want to take it to the next level but aren't in high school or not sure what division you want to play in.
- \$75 Amateurism account** – for the international student-athlete planning to compete at an NCAA Division III school.

NAIA is free, and your student can register as early as freshman year.

Do student-athletes have to receive a scholarship to play in at a NCAA DI or DII school?

No. Student-athletes can “walk on” teams and participate in DI or DII programs.

Who should I contact to learn more about these opportunities?

Speak to your coach, Athletic Director Mr. Botta, or the College and Career Counselor, Mrs. Underhill.