

NCAA / NAIA Information

NCAA / NAIA Online Resources

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NCAA Initial-Eligibility Registration

High school student-athletes planning on participating in future inter-collegiate athletic competition, especially at the Division I and Division II levels, must monitor the continuing development of their academic eligibility credentials as set forth by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and register these credentials with the NCAA Eligibility Center beginning in their junior year of high school.

Note: Division III colleges are not monitored by the NCAA's initial eligibility requirements, and do not require registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Contact your Division III college or university regarding its policies on admission, financial aid, practice and competition.

It is imperative that Student-Athletes along with parents/guardians understand that if you are interested in participating in Intercollegiate athletics you must remain in the College Prep, Honors or Advance Placement track while attending Smyrna High School.

Five Steps toward being cleared academically by the NCAA Eligibility Center for initial Division I and Division II inter-collegiate athletic competition as an entering collegiate freshman:

Step 1. Throughout your high school years, monitor closely your successful completion of required NCAA academic core courses by comparing your courses of study with those NCAA-approved academic core courses found on the Core Course GPA website after you log onto and register at <http://www.clearinghousecalculator.org>

Division I participation requires successful completion of 16 core courses in specific curricular areas. Division II participation require completion of 16 core courses. A minimum 2.00 NCAA core-course GPA is required for both Division I and II participation.

Your core-course GPA, established by the NCAA Eligibility Center, will differ from your cumulative Smyrna High School unweighted GPA.

Step 2. During your junior year in high school, student-athletes will need to complete an online registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Go online to www.eligibilitycenter.org and click on “Enter Here” under “NCAA College-Bound Student-Athletes”. To create your initial-eligibility account, either click on the “New Account” button at the top right of the screen or the cell phone on the left side of the screen. You will need to provide a valid e-mail address, one that will be active after you complete high school. You will be completing requested basic information about yourself, your high school(s) of attendance during your high school career, and the sport(s) you plan to participate in at an NCAA Division I or II college/university. The Eligibility Center will also ask about the high school and/or club teams you have been a part of and events you have participated in during your high school career.

As needed in completing the “My Coursework” section, your current high school information is as follows: Smyrna High School, 500 Duck Creek Parkway, Smyrna, DE 19977

Note: If you have attended more than one school (including summer school) during grades 9-12, you will have to have this information for any additional schools ready as well.

Your account can only be processed with payment of an application fee of \$60, payable online as you register with a credit card, debit card or e-check. (A fee waiver is available if you have been granted a fee waiver for either the SAT I or ACT exams.)

Step 3. Plan on taking the SAT I and/or the ACT college entrance exam beginning the second semester of your junior year. The combined sum score of only the Critical Reading and Math portions of the SAT I exam are used to establish your NCAA academic qualification on a sliding scale comparing your minimum SAT sum score requirement with your NCAA core course GPA.

- *A sum score of the English, Mathematics, Reading and Science portions of the ACT exam is used to establish your NCAA academic qualification on a sliding scale comparing your minimum ACT sum score requirement with your NCAA core course GPA.*
- *The minimum score sum requirements for the SAT I and ACT exams differ for Division I and Division II qualification.*

NOTE: If you are registering with the CorecourseGPA.com you must still register with the NCAA Eligibility Center the CorecourseGPA.com is just a tool to help make sure that you are on track for eligibility.

When registering for either the SAT I or ACT exams, input the NCAA Eligibility Center's code of 9999 to make sure that you meet the requirement of having the exam score reported directly to the Eligibility Center from the College Board (SAT) or ACT testing center. Scores listed on and reported through your Smyrna High School grade transcript are not acceptable.

Step 4. At the conclusion of your junior year of high school, request to have your official Grade 9-11 grade transcript sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center. The Eligibility Center will need official transcripts from all schools attended. Smyrna High School transcripts are released to the NCAA by completing a NCAA transcript request form found on the Smyrna High School Councilors website or by going to:

http://eligibilitycenter.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/pdf/Transcript_Release_Form.pdf

Please Note: You will also have to request your final transcript after graduation sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center, completing the required submission to the Eligibility Center of all academic core course credits completed in all high schools attended.

Step 5. On or shortly after April 1st of your senior year, you will need to access your personal Eligibility Center account to complete your final Amateurism Certification. This is a required supplement to the questions you had answered when you first registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

NCAA Resources & Informational Contacts

- NCAA Eligibility Center website: www.eligibilitycenter.org
- **NCAA Quick References** (Division I / Division II core credit requirements, Division I Sliding Scale, Tips / Worksheets for monitoring your eligibility progress, Smyrna High Schools approved NCAA core course listing)
- Mr. James Kiger, Smyrna High School counselor, serves as a liaison regarding Initial NCAA academic eligibility requirements and Eligibility Center registration for Smyrna High School student-athletes and their parents/guardians.
 - Contact information 302-653-3133 or by email at james.kiger@smyrna.k12.de.us
- The Comprehensive NCAA Eligibility Center's Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete can be viewed and downloaded from an **NCAA informational website** under "Resources".
- Smyrna High School's Athletic Department: Athletic Director, Mr. Bill Schultz,
 - Contact information 302-653-2750 or by email at william.schultz@smyrna.k12.de.us
- Smyrna High School athletic team head coaches.

NAIA

Similar in some respects to the NCAA eligibility registration requirement, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) requires all high school student-athletes interested in participating in intercollegiate athletics at a NAIA member college or university to register with the NAIA Eligibility Center at www.PlayNAIA.org. To play NAIA sports, every student-athlete must be registered with the NAIA Eligibility Center. A one-time \$60 registration fee is assessed.

The NAIA is home to nearly 300 member institutions, mostly smaller colleges/universities that resemble some of the Div-III NCAA institutions. Some examples of NAIA member colleges/universities are:

- *Carlow College (Pittsburgh, PA)*
- *Houghton College (New York)*
- *Johnson & Wales University (Rhode Island, Colorado, Florida, North Carolina)*
- *Point Park University (Pittsburgh, PA)*

ACT or SAT scores are required for eligibility certification, and must be requested to be sent to the NAIA Eligibility Center directly from the testing service using the NAIA Eligibility Center code number, 9876.

Upon graduation from high school, a student-athlete should request the release of their final transcript from Smyrna High School to the NAIA Eligibility Center by completing a transcript request form found on the Smyrna High School Councilors website or by going to the School Councilors office and completing the form.

Eligibility Qualifications for NAIA Intercollegiate Sports Competition

A student-athlete must graduate from high school, and satisfy two of the three following requirements:

1. *Achieve a minimum composite score of 18 on the ACT exam or a minimum of 860 on the SAT exam (Critical Reading/Verbal and Mathematics sections combined).*
2. *Achieve a minimum overall high school unweighted GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.*
3. *Graduate in the top half of your high school class.*

Helpful links for prospective NAIA student-athletes are provided on the website www.PlayNAIA.org under Students→How to Register: Prospective Student-Athletes. Further links on this page are at the bottom: Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete and Am I Eligible?

Core Course Calculator

- Core Course Calculator <http://www.clearinghousecalculator.org>
- CoreCourseGPA.com is web-based software that allows parents and student-athletes to easily track a student-athlete's progress towards meeting NCAA Eligibility Center requirements (formerly NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse) for both Division I and Division II.
- CoreCourseGPA.com generates a detailed "Initial-Eligibility Status Report" which provides the student/parent, coach or counselor with both the Division I and Division II core course GPA as well as corresponding minimum required SAT and ACT scores and a complete listing of the number of core course credits satisfied and the number to be completed.
- In addition to providing a time-saving tool to calculate NCAA core course GPA, CoreCourseGPA.com also provides parents and student-athletes with pertinent information pertaining to financial aid, the recruiting process, recruiting rules and other academic subject matter.
 - Students and Parents
 - New Member Account Creation
 - School ID: 080150
 - School Code: 732100750