

# IMPORTANT NCAA INFORMATION TO QUALIFYING ATHLETES

Many college athletic programs are regulated by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), an organization that has established rules on eligibility, recruiting, and financial aid. If you are a qualifying 11<sup>th</sup> grade athlete, and planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility clearinghouse. An application is required to be completed at the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

To be certified by the Clearinghouse, you must: 1) graduate from high school. Apply for certification before graduation if you are sure you wish to participate in athletics as a freshman at the college to which you will be admitted. The Clearinghouse will issue a preliminary certification report when you have had all your material submitted. After you graduate, if your eligibility information is requested by a member institution, the Clearinghouse will review your final transcript to make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards. 2) Earn a grade-point average of at least 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale). Only courses that satisfy the NCAA definition of a core course can be used to calculate your NCAA GPA. No special values are allowed for "+" or "-" grades.

## NCAA FRESHMAN-ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

(from the NCAA Eligibility Center website, 05/07/08)

### KNOW THE RULES:

#### Core Courses

- Be sure to look at your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses on the clearinghouse website to make certain that the courses being taken have been approved as core courses. The website is [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net).
- Starting August 1, 2008, 16 core courses will be required for NCAA Division I only. This rule applies to any student first entering any Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.
- 14 core courses are required in NCAA Division II. See the breakdown of core-course requirements below. *Please note that beginning August 1, 2013, Division II will require 16 core courses.*

#### Test Scores

- All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse by the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will no longer be used. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the clearinghouse code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the clearinghouse.

#### Grade-Point Average

- Only core courses are used in the calculation of the grade-point average.

DIVISION I 16 CORE-COURSE RULE	DIVISION II 14 CORE-COURSE RULE
<u>16 Core Courses:</u> 4 years of English 3 years of mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher) 2 years of natural/physical science (one yr. lab) 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 nondoctrinal religion/philosophy).	<u>14 Core Courses:</u> 3 years of English 2 years of mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher) 2 years of natural/physical science (1 yr. lab) 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 nondoctrinal religion/philosophy).

**Please note:** For students first entering any NCAA college or university on or after August 1, 2005, computer-science courses may only be used for initial-eligibility purposes if the course receives graduation credit in mathematics or natural/physical science and is listed as such on the high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses.