

Collegiate Sports

Collegiate sports are extremely competitive, and the reality is that only a small number of college athletes receive scholarships to offset the cost of tuition. High school athletes, therefore, are encouraged to remember the statistics mentioned in this brochure. It is important that you do not neglect your school work, and to seek college as primarily an academic experience.



What you do now in high school will determine in large measure what you will do in college, on the court or field *and* in the classroom. Your success in both areas will be the direct result of how hard you are willing to work now. Sports require an enormous amount of time and hard work. Now is the time to develop the right habits!



Student Athlete Calendar & Checklist

Freshmen Year

- ◆ Get a physical examination from your doctor. This should be done every year!
- ◆ Take the PSAT to practice for the SAT.
- ◆ Meet with your counselor or CollegeBound Specialist to discuss your four-year plan as a roadmap to college (early December).
- ◆ Save clippings of athletic accomplishments and obtain copies of game films with your best performances.
- ◆ Meet again with your counselor or CollegeBound Specialist during credit checks to register for sophomore year to discuss college entrance requirements and to assure compliance with the NCAA eligibility rules (spring semester).
- ◆ Attend summer camp at a college of interest. Play in NCAA sanctioned summer leagues, camps, or tournaments where college coaches will attend (i.e. AAU National Championships, Five Star Exposure Camps, Nike Football Combines).

Sophomore Year

- ◆ Take the PSAT to practice for the SAT.
- ◆ Save any clippings of your athletic accomplishments and obtain copies of game films with your best performances.
- ◆ View the videotape the *ABC's of Eligibility for the College-Bound Student Athlete*. See your CollegeBound Advisor for this videotape.
- ◆ Return any questionnaires from colleges that you have received.
- ◆ Meet with your counselor or CollegeBound Specialist before registering for your junior year to assure compliance with the NCAA eligibility requirements.
- ◆ See your Coach or CollegeBound Specialist about making a tape of your best performances to mail to your top five college choices. Include an introduction letter and your freshmen and sophomore clippings.
- ◆ Attend summer camp at a college of interest. Play in NCAA sanctioned summer leagues, camps, or tournaments where college coaches will attend (i.e. AAU National Championships, Five Star Exposure Camps, Nike Football Combines).

Junior Year

- ◆ Take the PSAT to practice for the SAT.
- ◆ Take the SAT/ACT in the winter and spring of the year.
- ◆ Sign up for a Career Search and a College Search with your CollegeBound Specialist. Discuss the results and compare to your top five colleges and the majors they offer.
- ◆ Secure a copy of the *NCAA Guide for the College-Bound Athlete* from your coach, athletic director, counselor, or CollegeBound Specialist. Specifically read the section on athletic eligibility. Discuss it with your parents and coach.
- ◆ Unofficially visit potential colleges.
- ◆ Send your junior year clippings and tape to your top five schools, the schools that resulted from the College/Career Search, and other schools that are interested in your athletic ability.
- ◆ If colleges are showing consistent interest apply to the NCAA Clearinghouse for Initial Eligibility.
- ◆ Meet with your counselor or CollegeBound Specialist before registering for your senior year to assure compliance with NCAA eligibility requirements.

Senior Year

- ◆ Retake the SAT/ACT if needed.
- ◆ Meet with your counselor or CollegeBound Specialist before registering for your senior year to assure compliance with NCAA eligibility requirements.
- ◆ Meet with your coach to discuss which college program will be the *right fit for you*.
- ◆ Mail college applications to those schools who have consistently expressed interest in you and the programs who have expressed interest to your coach.

Stay in contact with the 3 Cs

Coach, Counselor &
CollegeBound Specialist

The Reality of Athletic Scholarships

Consider these facts:

- ◆ Only 3% of high school football players receive a scholarship to play in college; most are only partial scholarships.
- ◆ Only 1.5% of high school basketball players receive scholarships to play in college . again, mostly partial awards.
- ◆ Only 38% of Division I (major college) football players graduate at the end of five years. The percentage is even lower for basketball.
- ◆ Tennis, swimming, and other kinds of scholarships are limited because of financial restrictions at many colleges.
- ◆ If you receive a questionnaire from a major college expressing interest in you as a football player, the odds are still as high as 320:1 that you may never receive a scholarship.
- ◆ NFL Players Association asserts that players with college degrees last 50% longer in the NFL and receive salaries that are 20% higher than do non-college graduates.

What do these facts tell you?

Academics are the answer!
You may be an amazing athlete,
but don't neglect your brain.

**You should be fierce on the court
and in the classroom.**

More Resources

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

www.ncaa.org, www.ncaastudent.org

NCAA's Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete

www.ncaastudent.org/NCAA_Guide.pdf



300 Water Street, Suite 300

Baltimore, MD 21202

Tel. 410.783.2905

Fax. 410.727.5786

www.collegeboundfoundation.org

Dr. Craig E. Spilman, Executive Director



CollegeBound Foundation

Building the Pipeline from High School to College to Work

Advice for Student Athletes



Go to college. We'll show you how.