

DESERT VISTA FOOTBALL



PLAYERS & PARENTS GUIDE TO COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**NCAA REQUIREMENTS CONTINUE TO CHANGE - NCAA.ORG for up to date Info.*

What College Coaches Want to Know...

- ▶ 1. Character, Conduct & Class
- ▶ 2. Grades & Attendance
- ▶ 3. What kind of teammate is he?
- ▶ 4. Coachability
- ▶ 5. Mental Toughness
- ▶ 6. Versatility
- ▶ 7. Projected positions
- ▶ 8. Size, Strength, Speed
- ▶ 9. Early bloomer or late bloomer?

What College Coaches Want to Know..

- ▶ 10. Family background
- ▶ 11. Multi-Sport Athlete? Well Rounded?
- ▶ 12. "Fine Print"..... Are there any other issues we need to know about this kid??
- ▶ I have even had coaches ask me if a prospect is courteous to the custodians.
- ▶ Ultimately they want to know: Can I trust him? *Is he Committed to Excellence? *Does he care about others? (a "me" guy or a "WE" guy)

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ There are basically 4 levels of college FB:
- ▶ NCAA Division IA
- ▶ NCAA Division IAA
- ▶ NCAA Division II
- ▶ NCAA Division III & NAIA
- ▶ NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Assoc.)
- ▶ Governed by NCAA rules & scholarship limits NAIA (National Assoc. of Intercollegiate Ath.) Governed by different rules than the NCAA

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ NCAA Div. IA schools give full scholarships
- ▶ Walk-on opportunities are limited must be invited - you cannot just walk-on)
- ▶ Can have 85 on scholarship at any given time - no partial scholarships (Ex. Arizona State)
- ▶ NCAA Div. IAA
- ▶ Also give full scholarships but there is a 63 scholarship limit.
- ▶ Partial scholarships can be given
- ▶ Walk-on opportunities are limited (must be invited) (Ex. NAU)

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ NCAA Div. II Schools (Ex. Colorado State-Pueblo)
- ▶ Scholarships limited to 36 (many have even fewer to give for Ex. the RMAC limit was 24)
- ▶ Very few if any on full scholarship - most scholarships are divided into halves, thirds, quarters or even less/ \$1,000 is a good scholarship in Div. II
- ▶ Walk-on opportunities are the norm in DII(walk-ons are still invited)
- ▶ Most DII schools make players "earn it"- you earn scholarship \$ based on performance and years in the program.
- ▶ NCAA Div. III Schools / **No** athletic scholarships

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ NIAA schools Do offer scholarships
- ▶ Amounts will vary based on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form and the amount of academic aid and grants you may earn. (like Pell Grants)
- ▶ Scholarship amounts are only limited by the endowment fund of the school (how much \$the school has) and NIAA rules or conference rules.
- ▶ Most NIAA schools are expensive because most are private institutions. ie.. Arizona Christian (approx. \$25K per year)

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ Generally NAIA schools offer students enough scholarship money to make their costs equivalent to what it would cost to attend a state college.
- ▶ Most times NAIA schools, although expensive, can make it affordable for students.
- ▶ **SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOT A FOUR YEAR GUARANTEE!!** Scholarships are basically a 1 year contract. Scholarships can be lost or reduced for poor conduct, poor performance or even injuries.
- ▶ Anyone claiming they are getting a "Full Ride" FB scholarship is "Full of It" *unless they are on Division I scholarship. If you really want a "Full Ride", be in the top 5-10% of your class, have a high GPA and score well on the ACT/SAT. BE A GREAT STUDENT!!*

FOOTBALL TEAMS/SCHOLARSHIPS

Football Division	# of Teams	Total Players	Average Roster	Scholarship Limit	Average Scholarship
NCAA I - FBS	130	15,831	122	85	24,058
NCAA I - FCS	126	13,603	108	63	13,769
NCAA II	166	18,836	113	36	5,838
NCAA III	249	25,442	102	-	
NAIA	96	9,950	104	24	8,433
CCCAA	68	5,115	81	-	
NJCAA	60	4,834	75	85	2,212

ONE OPPORTUNITY. LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.

If you want to play sports at an NCAA Division I or II school, start by registering for a Certification account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org. If you want to play Division III sports or you aren't sure where you want to compete, start by creating a Profile Page account at eligibilitycenter.org.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To play sports at a Division I or II school, you must graduate from high school, complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses, earn a minimum GPA and earn an SAT or ACT score that matches your core-course GPA.

CORE COURSES

Only courses that appear on your high school's list of NCAA core courses will count toward the 16 core-course requirement; visit eligibilitycenter.org/courselist for a full list of your high school's approved core courses. Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:

DIVISION I

Complete 10 NCAA core courses, including seven in English, math or natural/physical science, before your seventh semester.



DIVISION II



GRADE-POINT AVERAGE

The NCAA Eligibility Center calculates your **grade-point average** based only on the grades you earn in NCAA-approved core courses.

- DI requires a minimum 2.3 GPA.
- DII requires a minimum 2.2 GPA.

SLIDING SCALE

Divisions I and II use sliding scales to match test scores and GPAs to determine eligibility. The sliding scale balances your test score with your GPA. If you have a low test score, you need a higher GPA to be eligible. Find more information about sliding scales at ncaa.org/test-scores.

TEST SCORES

You may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before you enroll full time in college. Every time you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code **9999** to send your scores directly to us from the testing agency. We accept official scores only from the SAT or ACT, and cannot use scores shown on your high school transcript. If you take either test more than once, the best subscore from different tests are used to give you the best possible score. More information regarding the impact of COVID-19 and test scores can be found at on.ncaa.com/COVID19_Fall_B.



HIGH SCHOOL TIMELINE

9TH GRADE



- **Start planning now!** Take the right courses and earn the best grades possible.

- Find your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses at eligibilitycenter.org/counselist.
- Sign up for a free Profile Page account at eligibilitycenter.org for information on NCAA requirements.

10TH GRADE

REGISTER



- If you fall behind academically, ask your counselor for help finding approved courses you can take.

- Register for a Profile Page or Certification account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org.
- Monitor your Eligibility Center account for next steps.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor at each high school or program you attended to upload your official transcript to your Eligibility Center account.

11TH GRADE



- Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved courses and graduate on time with your class.

- Take the SAT/ACT and submit your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code **9999**.
- Ensure your sports participation information is correct in your Eligibility Center account.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor at each high school or program you attended to upload your official transcript to your Eligibility Center account.

12TH GRADE



- Complete your final NCAA-approved core courses as you prepare for graduation.
- Take the SAT/ACT again, if necessary, and submit

- your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code **9999**.
- Request your final amateurism certification beginning April 1 (fall enrollees) or Oct. 1 (winter/spring enrollees) in your Eligibility Center account at eligibilitycenter.org.
- After you graduate, ask your counselor to upload your final official transcript with proof of graduation to your Eligibility Center account.
- *Reminder:* Only students on an NCAA Division I or II school's institutional request list will receive a certification.

How to plan your high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement:

$$4 \times 4 = 16$$

9TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

10TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

11TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

12TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ NCAA "16 Core Course" Standards:
- ▶ 4 years of English
- ▶ 3 years of Math (Algebra I or higher)
- ▶ 2 years of Natural/ Physical Science (1 year of lab if offered by the school)
- ▶ 1 year of additional English, Math or Natural/Physical Science
- ▶ 2 years of Social Science (Social Studies)
- ▶ 4 years of additional courses (from any area above or foreign language)

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ GPA needs to be at least a 2.3 / *Note unless you are a "game changer" a 2.3 will not get you very far. Your GPA really needs to be a minimum of 2.5
- ▶ ACT score needs to be a Cumulative Sum score of 68
- ▶ (4 sections: English, Math, Reading & Science)
- ▶ Basically you need an 18 or higher.
- ▶ Division I & II have a "sliding scale" for ACT/SAT scores based on your GPA - The higher your GPA.. the lower your ACT/SAT score can be. See the NCAA Eligibility Center Web Site.

[Click here for
DII Academic
Requirements](#)

DIVISION I ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

College-bound student-athletes will need to meet the following academic requirements to practice, receive athletics scholarships, and/or compete during their first year.

Core-Course Requirement

Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:



Full Qualifier

- Complete 16 core courses.
 - Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
 - Seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, math or natural/physical science.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.300.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale (see back page).
- Graduate high school.

Academic Redshirt

- Complete 16 core courses.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale (see back page).
- Graduate high school.

Full Qualifier:

College-bound student-athletes may practice, compete and receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Academic Redshirt:

College-bound student-athletes may receive athletics scholarships during their first year of enrollment and may practice during their first regular academic term, but may NOT compete during their first year of enrollment.

Nonqualifier:

College-bound student-athletes cannot practice, receive athletics scholarships or compete during their first year of enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

Sliding Scale for Division I

*Remember, if you took the SAT on or after March 2016 you need to compare your score on the College Board concordance table. Learn more about the concordance table on page 24 or visit ncaa.org/test-scores.

DIVISION I FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE		
CORE GPA	SAT* READING/MATH	ACT SUM
3.550	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58

DIVISION I FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE		
CORE GPA	SAT* READING/MATH	ACT SUM
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	60
2.700	740	61
2.675	750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840	70
2.425	850	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.299	910	76
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	81
2.125	970	82
2.100	980	83
2.075	990	84
2.050	1000	85
2.025	1010	86
2.000	1020	86

ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	ADDITIONAL (English, math or natural/physical science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed to the left, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)
3 years	2 years	2 years	3 years	2 years	4 years

FULL QUALIFIER

College-bound student-athletes enrolling at an NCAA Division II school need to meet these academic requirements to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in their first year of full-time enrollment.

- Complete 16 core courses in the appropriate areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.200.
- Earn an SAT combined score or ACT sum score matching the core-course GPA on the Division II full qualifier sliding scale.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

PARTIAL QUALIFIER

College-bound student-athletes enrolling at an NCAA member school Aug. 1, 2021, or later, that do not meet Division II full qualifier standards will be deemed a partial qualifier. All Division II partial qualifiers may receive an athletics scholarship and practice during their first year of full-time enrollment at a Division II school, but may NOT compete.



DIVISION II FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE		
USE FOR DIVISION II BEGINNING AUGUST 2018		
CORE GPA	SAT* READING/MATH	ACT SUM
3.300 & above	400	37
3.275	410	38
3.250	420	39
3.225	430	40
3.200	440	41
3.175	450	41
3.150	460	42
3.125	470	42
3.100	480	43
3.075	490	44
3.050	500	44
3.025	510	45
3.000	520	46
2.975	530	46
2.950	540	47
2.925	550	47
2.900	560	48
2.875	570	49
2.850	580	49
2.825	590	50
2.800	600	50
2.775	610	51
2.750	620	52
2.725	630	52
2.700	640	53
2.675	650	53
2.650	660	54
2.625	670	55
2.600	680	56
2.575	690	56
2.550	700	57
2.525	710	58
2.500	720	59
2.475	730	60
2.450	740	61
2.425	750	61
2.400	760	62
2.375	770	63
2.350	780	64
2.325	790	65
2.300	800	66
2.275	810	67
2.250	820	68
2.225	830	69
2.200	840 & above	70 & above

DIVISION II PARTIAL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE		
USE FOR DIVISION II BEGINNING AUGUST 2018		
CORE GPA	SAT* READING/MATH	ACT SUM
3.050 & above	400	37
3.025	410	38
3.000	420	39
2.975	430	40
2.950	440	41
2.925	450	41
2.900	460	42
2.875	470	42
2.850	480	43
2.825	490	44
2.800	500	44
2.775	510	45
2.750	520	46
2.725	530	46
2.700	540	47
2.675	550	47
2.650	560	48
2.625	570	49
2.600	580	49
2.575	590	50
2.550	600	50
2.525	610	51
2.500	620	52
2.475	630	52
2.450	640	53
2.425	650	53
2.400	660	54
2.375	670	55
2.350	680	56
2.325	690	56
2.300	700	57
2.275	710	58
2.250	720	59
2.225	730	60
2.200	740	61
2.175	750	61
2.150	760	62
2.125	770	63
2.100	780	64
2.075	790	65
2.050	800	66
2.025	810	67
2.000	820 & above	68 & above

What Players & Parents Need to Know..

- ▶ ACT/SAT requirements for NAIA schools will vary with the individual school. You must score at least an 18 but required ACT scores can be as high as 20 or 21 to get into some schools. Check the entrance requirements for the schools you are interested in.

How do I know what level to play at?

- ▶ 1. Know that there are very good players at all levels! The higher the level, the more good players there are. *You must be good to play at any level!*
- ▶ 2. NCAA Div.II, III and NAIA football is great football. Most HS players that can go on to play in college, fit best in the NAIA.
- ▶ 3. Decide if you want to Practice FB for 4 or 5 years or if you want to have a chance to Play FB for 4 or 5 years. My advice.....Choose a level that you have a chance to PLAY.
- ▶ 4. Pay your dues and persevere. College FB is tough. 99% of players that go on to play will "Red Shirt". Chances are good you won't play right away and maybe for as long as 2 or 3 yrs. Attrition is high. Players wash out because of poor grades, poor choices or injuries. If you just hang in there - you have a shot.

How do I know what level to play at?

- ▶ 5. Division I scholarship players generally get offered before their Senior year. Not always..... but generally, that is how it works. (COVID could impact this significantly)
- ▶ 6. Camps are critical to develop skills but also for EXPOSURE. Due to recruiting rules, the best way for Div. I and even Div. II coaches to recruit is to evaluate players at camps. Your coaches can steer you in the right direction for camps.
- ▶ 7. Coach's advice: Only play if you love the game. Odds are you won't get a ton of scholarship \$, if any. Make sure the school is as good an academic fit as it is a football fit. Ultimately you want to earn a degree!
- ▶ 8. Your Coach can recommend the level that best fits you.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ Defensive Back

- ▶ Physical Measurables:
- ▶ Height: 6'0"
- ▶ Weight: 185 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.5
- ▶ Bench: 270 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 405 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ DEFENSIVE LINEMAN

- ▶ Physical Measurables:
- ▶ Height: 6'4"
- ▶ Weight: 260 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.8
- ▶ Bench: 315 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 450 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ LINEBACKER

- ▶ Physical Measurables:
- ▶ Height: 6'2"
- ▶ Weight: 220 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.6
- ▶ Bench: 315 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 445 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ OFFENSIVE LINEMAN

- ▶ Physical Measurables:
- ▶ Height: 6'4"
- ▶ Weight: 280 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 5.0
- ▶ Bench: 320 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 450 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ QUARTERBACK

- ▶ Physical Measurables:
- ▶ Height: 6'3"
- ▶ Weight: 220 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.6
- ▶ Bench: 260 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 425 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ RUNNING BACK

- ▶ Physical Measurables:
- ▶ Height: 6'0"
- ▶ Weight: 210 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.5
- ▶ Bench: 280 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 390 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ TIGHT END / H BACK / WING

- ▶ Height: 6'4"
- ▶ Weight: 230 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.7
- ▶ Bench: 300 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 440 lbs.

MEASURABLES FOR DIVISION 1 (BCS)

▶ WIDE RECEIVER

- ▶ Height: 6'2"
- ▶ Weight: 190 lbs.
- ▶ Stats:
- ▶ 40yd: 4.5
- ▶ Bench: 235 lbs.
- ▶ Squat: 315 lbs.

So if I want to play in College?

- ▶ You first need to be the best you can be at the H.S. level! Don't get the cart before the horse.
- ▶ Make sure you are solid academically (See NCAA requirements)
- ▶ Take your ACT/SAT as a Jr. and then again as a Sr.
- ▶ Register with the NCAA Clearing-House **early in your Senior year**. Your school counselor will help you do this.
- ▶ Schedule a meeting with your coach and come up with a plan ie.... camps, sending film out, talking to coaches, visits etc.
- ▶ Set your goals and work hard! Generally you will end up where you are supposed to be!

Do we need a recruiting service?

- ▶ NO. Feel free to use a recruiting service if you want to but it is not necessary and is generally a poor investment. Ex. You may spend \$2,000 on a recruiting service to get a \$1,200 scholarship or less.
- ▶ Your Coach can make highlights for you, send film to anyone in the country and make contact with any school you wish to contact for.. FREE.
- ▶ Ultimately the college coach will still want film and a recommendation from your coach.
- ▶ **IF YOU CAN PLAY, THEY WILL FIND YOU & OUR COACHING STAFF WILL HELP YOU “GET FOUND”.**

Keep these things in mind...

- ▶ You are representing your program during the recruiting process..... BE CLASSY and BE HUMBLE! Don't sour college coaches on our program by having a poor attitude or demeanor.
- ▶ Be polite and respectful to every Coach you talk to. Be thankful they are interested in you! The school you think you will never go to.... may just be where you end up.
- ▶ So..... Never burn a bridge. Express your sincere appreciation for their interest and don't be Too Full of Yourself. **Every Freshmen will get humbled.**
- ▶ Send thank you notes to coaches who recruit you.

Keep these things in mind...

- ▶ Be honest with coaches who recruit you. (Ex. if you have already committed, tell them. Don't lead them to believe you still want to come if you have already signed.) They will appreciate your honesty. Also, don't tell them you are 6'1 when you are really 5'10. Be upfront and honest.
- ▶ Be careful not to fall in love with being recruited. It's easy to do. Just know the "honeymoon" will end. You will end up as a Freshman at the bottom of the totem pole just like everyone else.
- ▶ If you want to play then be "ALL IN". It's challenging and it's a grind but it will be a great experience in your life if you stick it out.
- ▶ IF YOU WANT TO PLAY BADLY ENOUGH, WE WILL FIND A FIT FOR YOU.

Keep these things in mind...

- ▶ Our staff will be committed to helping you pursue your goals in any way we can. This includes: Sending film out to any school you want to send it to or any school who requests film, calling coaches on your behalf, and setting up visits to our school by college coaches.
- ▶ Our staff will be 100% honest with every coach who calls or visits.

Myths....

- ▶ If I don't sign by "signing day" I won't be able to play in college. Totally false!! Most players who go on to play in college DO NOT sign or decide where they are going until after signing day.
- ▶ College coaches only recruit ability. **False!! Every single college coach that I have ever talked to asks about character and grades BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE. THAT'S A FACT!**
- ▶ If my stats aren't great, nobody will look at me. False. Stats are all well and good but a fraction of what they look at. If you can play, the college coaches will notice.
- ▶ Being multi-sport doesn't matter. False. It does matter! College coaches want guys who can compete and they want to see guys compete in other sports. Ex. track and field to see your speed or power etc.

Questions??

- ▶ Feel free to call or email Coach Wisdom any time. If I don't know the answer, I will find it out for you.
- ▶ email: thunderfbfamily@gmail.com
- ▶ Create a good relationship with your counselor. Your counselor is a great resource for you as you enter your Senior year.