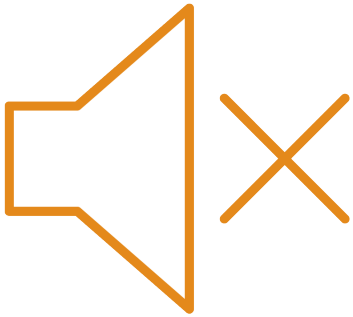
NCAA Eligibility Center

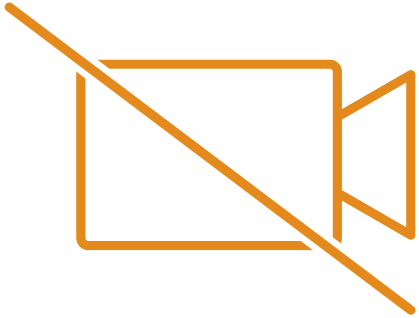
Thank you for joining us!

We will be starting promptly at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

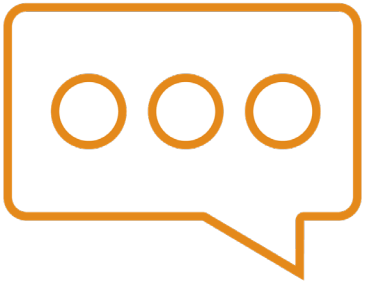
NAVIGATING INITIAL ELIGIBILITY DURING COVID-19



Participants Are Automatically Muted



Participant Video Cannot Be Seen



Click the Q&A Button to Ask Your Questions

Subscribe to the HS Newsletter

NCAA Eligibility Center

NAVIGATING INITIAL ELIGIBILITY DURING COVID-19

For High School Administrators

Trae Heeter
Assistant Director of Outreach and Strategic Partnerships

Barrington Huntley
Assistant Director of Outreach and Strategic Partnerships

Amber Viles
Coordinator of Eligibility Center Communications

NCAA Eligibility Center

AGENDA

- COVID-19 FAQ.
- What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?
- Registration.
- Core Course.
- Alternative Standards.
  - Division I.
  - Division II.
- Distance or E-Learning.
- Sports Participation.
- Resources.

NCAA Eligibility Center

NCAA Eligibility Center COVID-19 Response FAQs

For Students Initially Enrolling Full Time in the 2021-22 or 2022-23 Academic Year

Given the continuing impact of COVID-19 on the educational environment, the NCAA Eligibility Center has partnered with the NCAA membership to identify the following changes to the initial-eligibility certification process for students **who initially enroll full time in an NCAA Division I or II school during the 2021-22 or 2022-23 academic year**. The Eligibility Center will continue to monitor the environment and make necessary adjustments to prioritize health, safety and fairness for all prospective student-athletes.

FAQ Topics—Quick Links

Academic Evaluations

Prior Classes

Auto Waiver Criteria—2021-22 or 2022-23 Enrollment

Submission of Academic Documents

Subsequent Classes

Timing

COVID-19 Automatic Waiver Criteria for 2021-22 or 2022-23 Enrollment

Q1: Given the unique circumstances due to COVID-19, will there be any flexibility in the initial-eligibility standard for students who initially enroll full time in a collegiate institution during 2021-22 or 2022-23?

A1: Yes. Students who **initially enroll full time in an NCAA Division I or II school during 2021-22 or 2022-23** will receive an automatic initial-eligibility waiver in the academic certification process that provides the highest level of relief for which they are eligible, per the criteria below:

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View the EC COVID FAQ

NCAA Eligibility Center

WHAT IS THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

WHAT IS ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

- A unit within the NCAA responsible for evaluating and certifying college-bound student-athletes for collegiate competition at Division I and II schools.
- We focus on:
  - Academic preparedness.
  - Sports participation.
  - High school courses.
  - Customer service.
- If your students want to compete at a Division I or II school, they must meet NCAA Eligibility Center:
  - Academic initial-eligibility requirements.
  - Amateurism requirements.

NCAA FAST FACTS

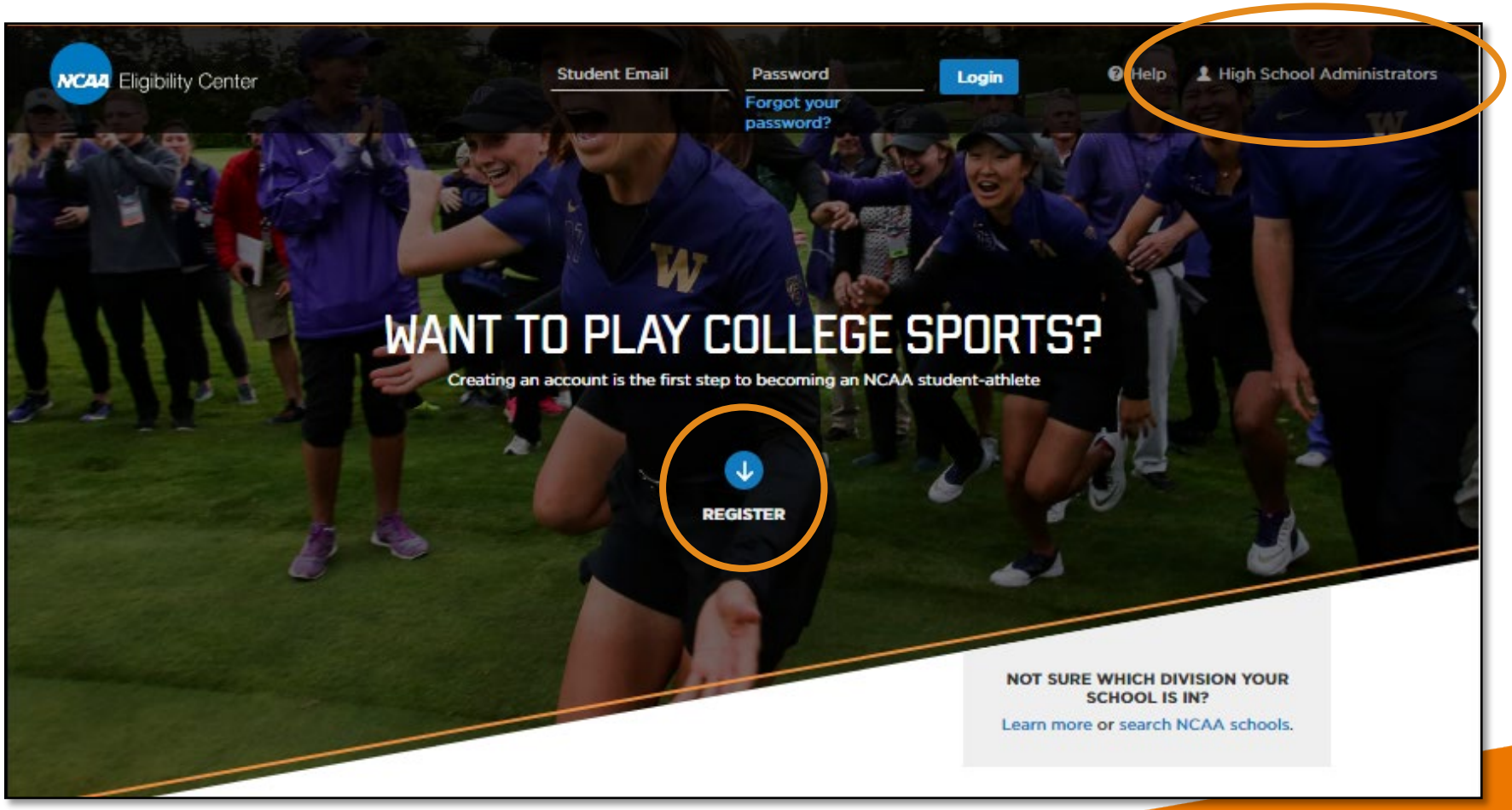
- 1,100+ colleges and universities.
- 98 voting athletics conferences.
- 39 affiliated organizations.
- > 500,000 student-athletes.
- 19,500 teams.
- 90 championships.
- 24 sports.
- Three divisions.

NCAA Eligibility Center

REGISTRATION

TWO ACCOUNT TYPES

- Register for a Profile Page or a Certification account at eligibilitycenter.org.



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PROFILE PAGE ACCOUNT

Students interested in a Division III school or are not sure in which division they want to compete.

There is no registration fee to create a Profile Page account.

Transition to a Certification account at any time your students wish to pursue a Division I or II path.

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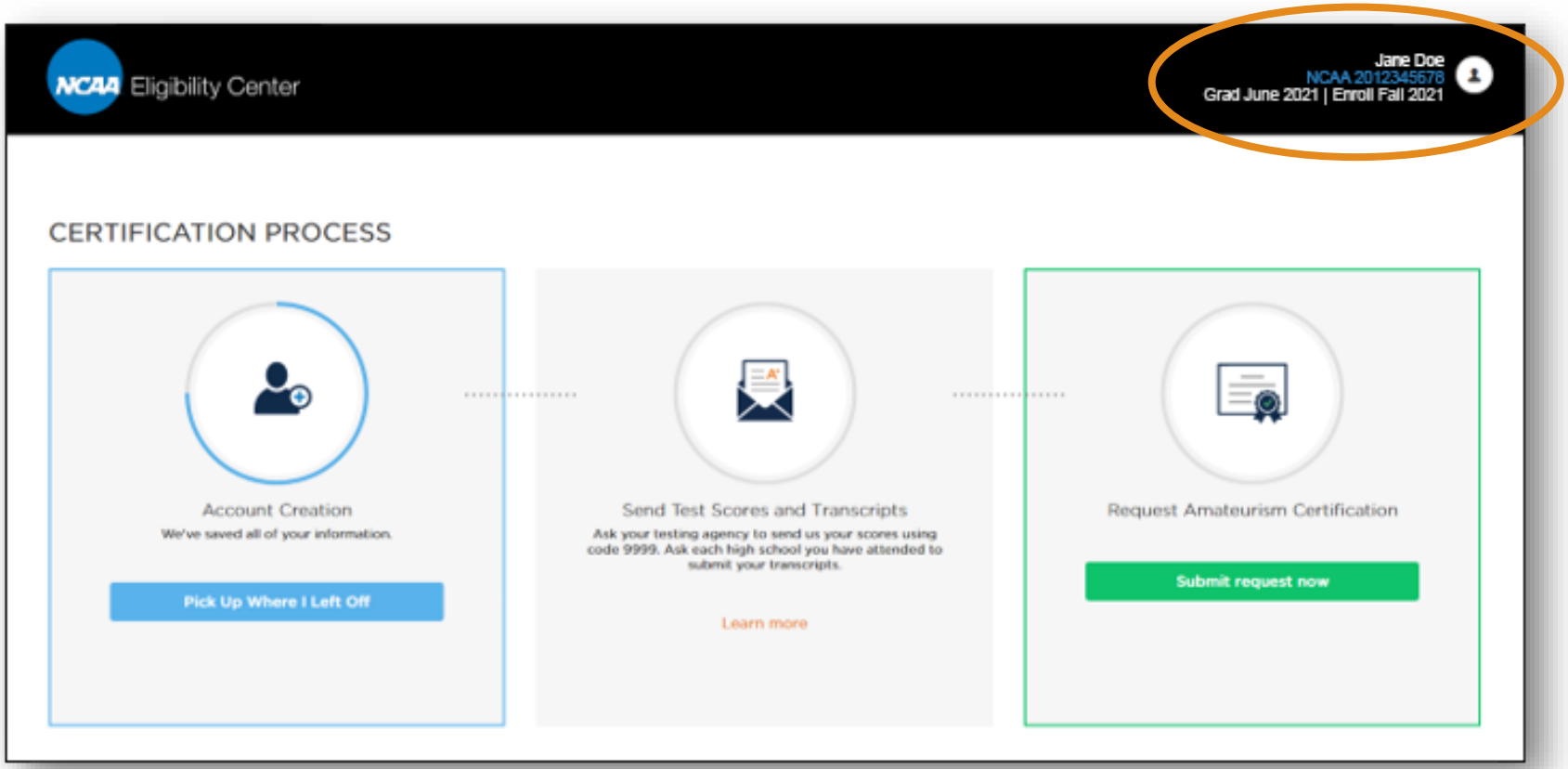
CERTIFICATION ACCOUNT

Students must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to compete at a Division I or II school.

The registration fee for domestic students is $90. The fee for international students is $150.

Before students take official visits or sign an NLI, they must have a complete Certification account.



- Review their Dashboard for open tasks.
- Update their graduation or enrollment dates if needed.
- View their receipt of transcripts on file.
- Edit their account, schools or sports information.

NCAA Eligibility Center

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

- Student-athletes must apply and be accepted to their NCAA DI or II school before they can compete on campus.
- Student-athletes should ask their NCAA school for more information about cost of attendance and financial aid.

What is an IRL?

Students must be on an NCAA DI or II school's institution request list to get a certification.

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WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

NCAA Eligibility Center

WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

- NCAA core courses are:
  - On your school's list of NCAA-approved core courses.
  - Taught at or above the high school's regular academic level.
  - Taught by a qualified instructor.
  - Considered four-year college preparatory.

Core-Course List

Find your school's list of NCAA-approved core courses by going to eligibilitycenter.org/courselist.

NCAA Eligibility Center

COVID-19 ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION I: ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

- Four possible academic certification outcomes for student-athletes:
  - Early academic qualifier.
  - Qualifier.
  - Academic redshirt.
  - Nonqualifier.

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION I EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

Athletics Aid

Practice

Compete

Note: DI early academic qualifier status is based on the student's pre-seventh semester academic record.

Complete 14 core-course units in the required subject areas.

Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 3.0 in the required subject areas.

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DIVISION I EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

SUBJECT AREAS

ENGLISH	3 Years
MATH	2 Years
SCIENCE	2 Years
ADDITIONAL (English, math or natural/physical science)	2 Years
ADDITIONAL COURSES (In any area)	5 Years

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DIVISION I QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

Meet core-course progression before starting the 7th semester.

Note: Students certified based solely on international credentials are exempt from core-course progression.

Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.

Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.3 in the required subject areas.

Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION I QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

SUBJECT AREAS

ENGLISH	4 Years
MATH (Algebra I or higher)	3 Years
NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	2 Years
ADDITIONAL (English, math or natural/physical science)	1 Year
SOCIAL SCIENCE	2 Years
ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)	4 Years

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DIVISION I ACADEMIC REDSHIRT 2021-22 2022-23

First Year Athletics Aid

First Term Practice

Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.

Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.0 in the required subject areas.

Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION I ACADEMIC REDSHIRT 2021-22 2022-23

First Year Athletics Aid

First Term Practice

SUBJECT AREAS

ENGLISH	4 Years
MATH (Algebra I or higher)	3 Years
NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	2 Years
ADDITIONAL (English, math or natural/physical science)	1 Year
SOCIAL SCIENCE	2 Years
ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)	4 Years

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION I NON-QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

DI nonqualifiers are not eligible to receive athletics aid, practice or compete their first year.

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Test Scores

Standardized test scores are excluded from NCAA initial-eligibility criteria for students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during the 2020-21, 2021-22 and/or 2022-23 academic years.

However, colleges and/or scholarship programs may still require test scores.

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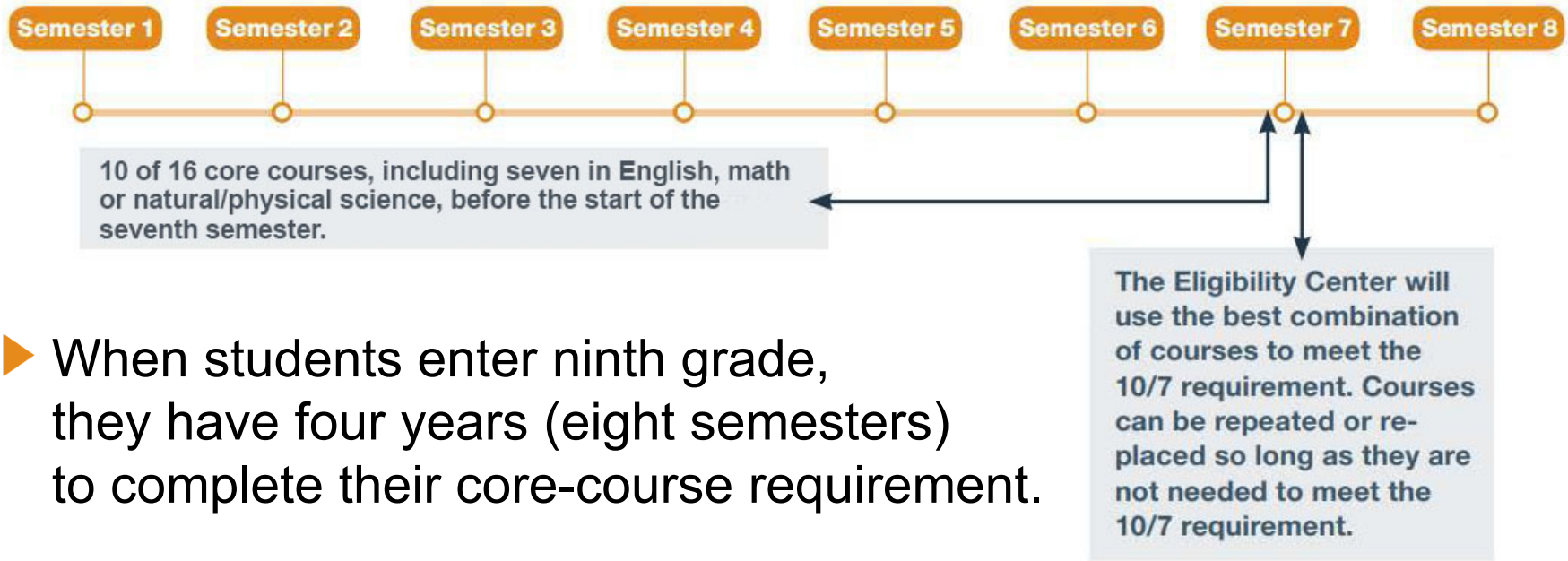
DIVISION I: CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION



- When students enter ninth grade, they have four years (eight semesters) to complete their core-course requirement.
- They must graduate on time, with their class.

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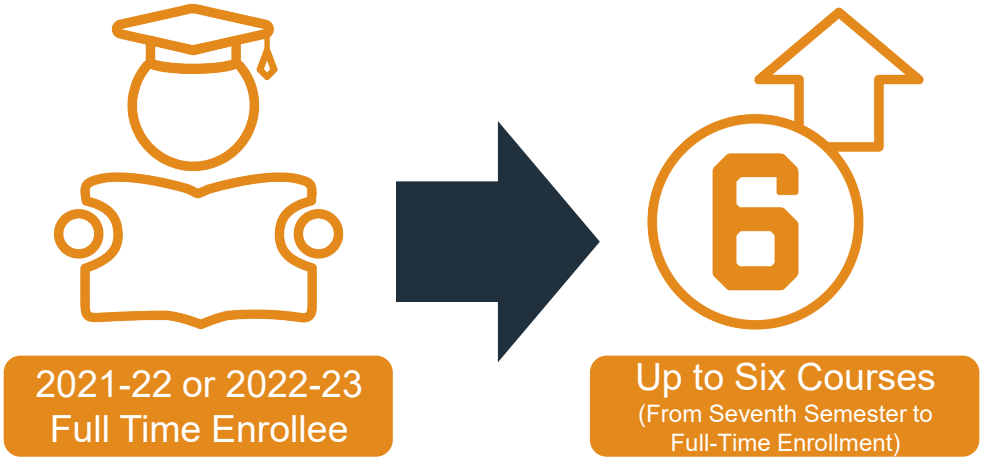
DIVISION I: CORE-COURSE TIME LIMITATION



- *Note:* This approach will allow students impacted by school closures to complete additional core courses toward their initial eligibility.

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EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

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

4 x 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

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION II: ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS

- Three possible academic certification outcomes for student-athletes:
  - Early academic qualifier.
  - Qualifier.
  - Partial qualifier.

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DIVISION II EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

Athletics Aid

Practice

Compete

Note: DII early academic qualifier status is based on the student's pre-seventh semester academic record.

Complete 14 core-course units in the required subject areas.

Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.5 in the required subject areas.

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DIVISION II EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

SUBJECT AREAS

ENGLISH: 3 Years	MATH: 3 Years
NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE: 2 Years	ADDITIONAL COURSES (In any area): 6 Years

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DIVISION II QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

- Complete 16 core-course units in the required subject areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA ≥ 2.2 in the required subject areas.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION II QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

- Athletics Aid
- Practice
- Compete

SUBJECT AREAS

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

NCAA Eligibility Center

DIVISION II PARTIAL QUALIFIER 2021-22 2022-23

Athletics Aid

Practice

Note: Student-athletes that do not meet DII qualifier standards will be deemed a partial qualifier.

Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

Test Scores

Standardized test scores are excluded from NCAA initial-eligibility criteria for students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during the 2020-21, 2021-22 and/or 2022-23 academic years.

However, colleges and/or scholarship programs may still require test scores.

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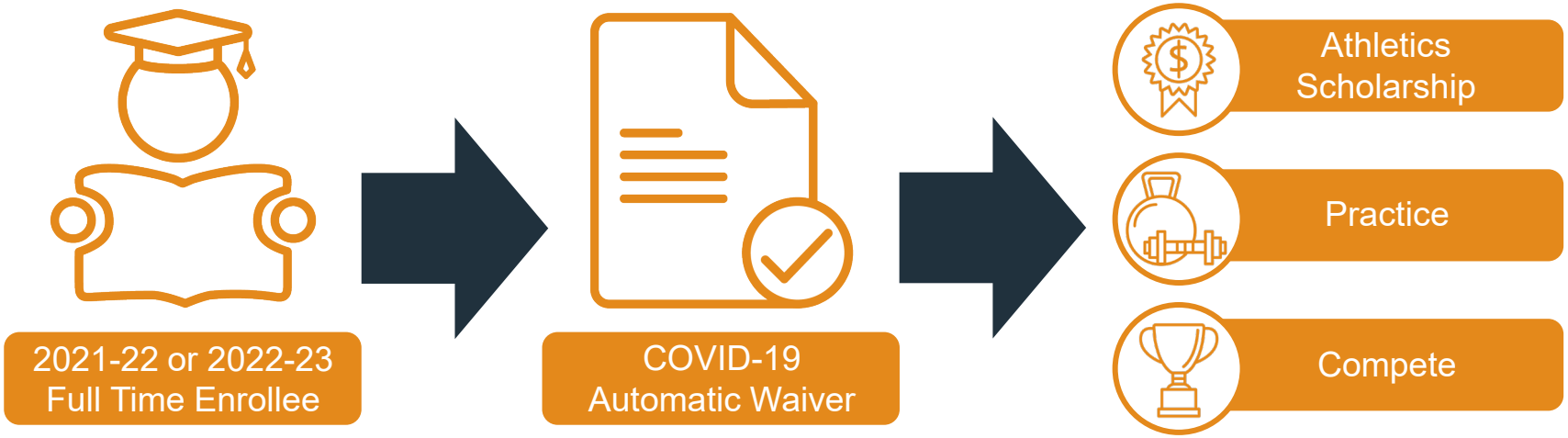
FLEXIBILITY IN INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY



- Students who initially enroll full time in an NCAA school during 2021-22 or 2022-23 must meet specific criteria to be eligible.

INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL OTHER CLASSES

DI Academic Requirements

DII Academic Requirements

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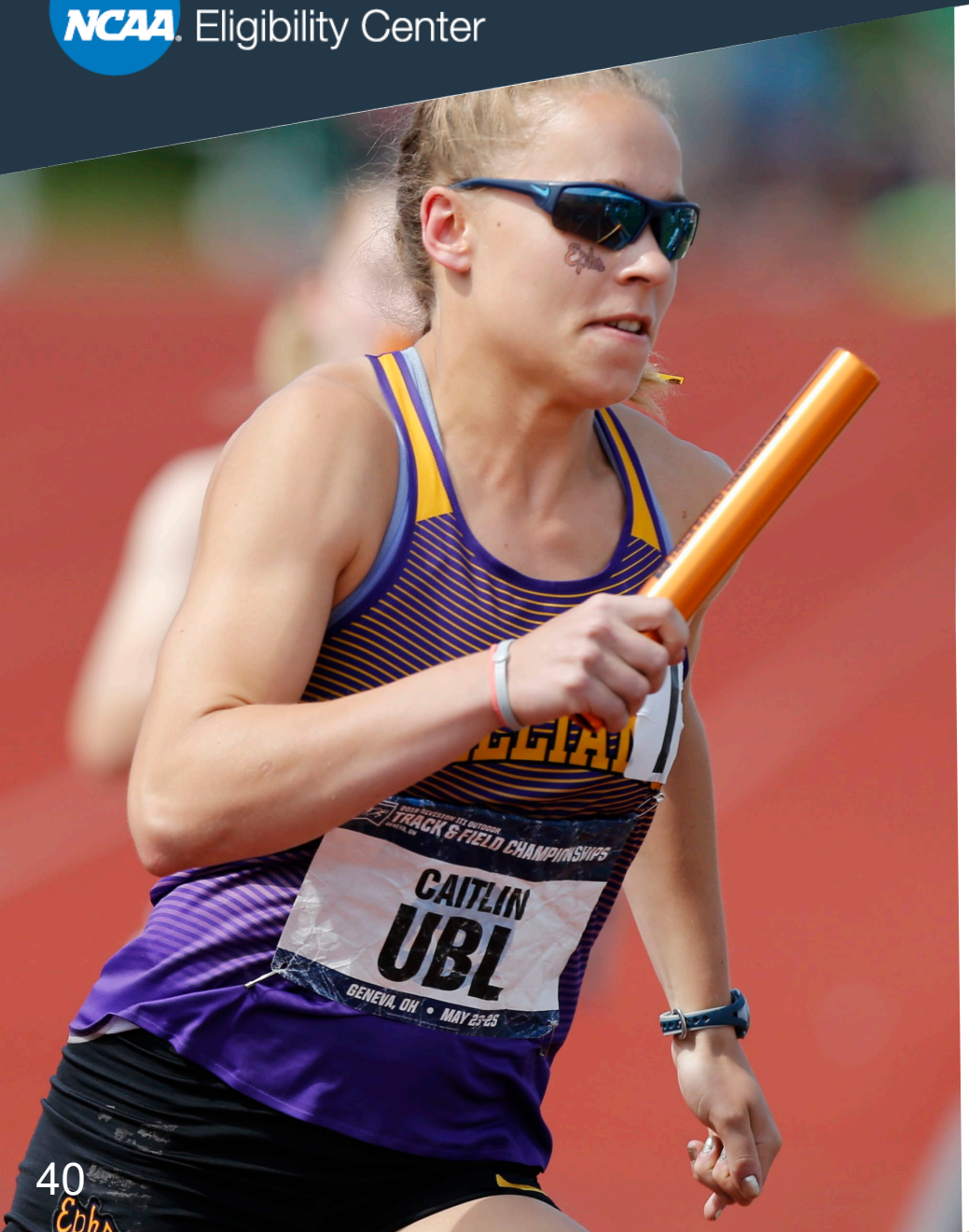


DIVISION III

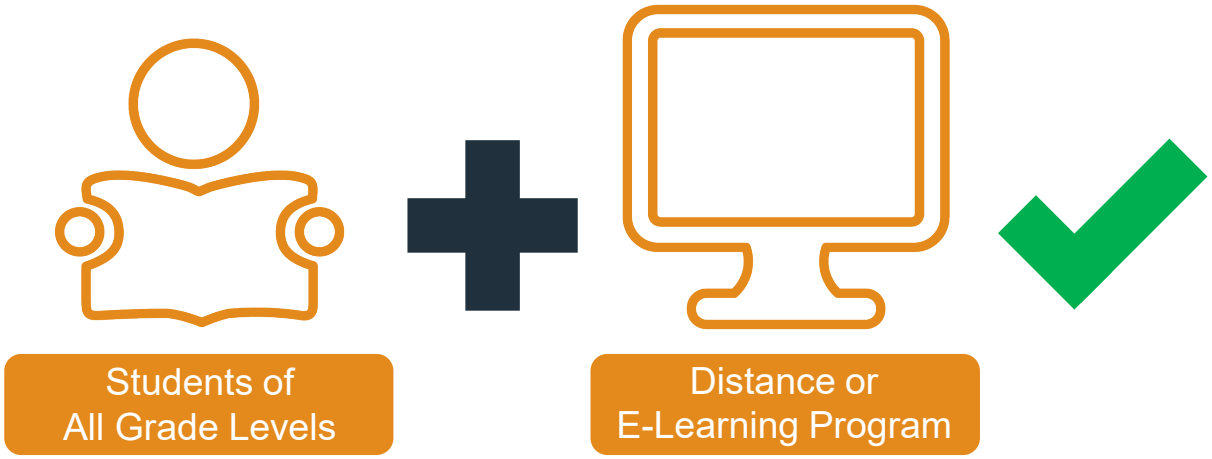
- Each Division III college or university determines its own eligibility for:
  - Admission.
  - Financial aid.
  - Practice and competition.
- The NCAA EC does not perform certifications for Division III college-bound student-athletes.
- Division III student-athletes may register for a free Profile Page, but it is not required.

NCAA Eligibility Center

DISTANCE OR E-LEARNING

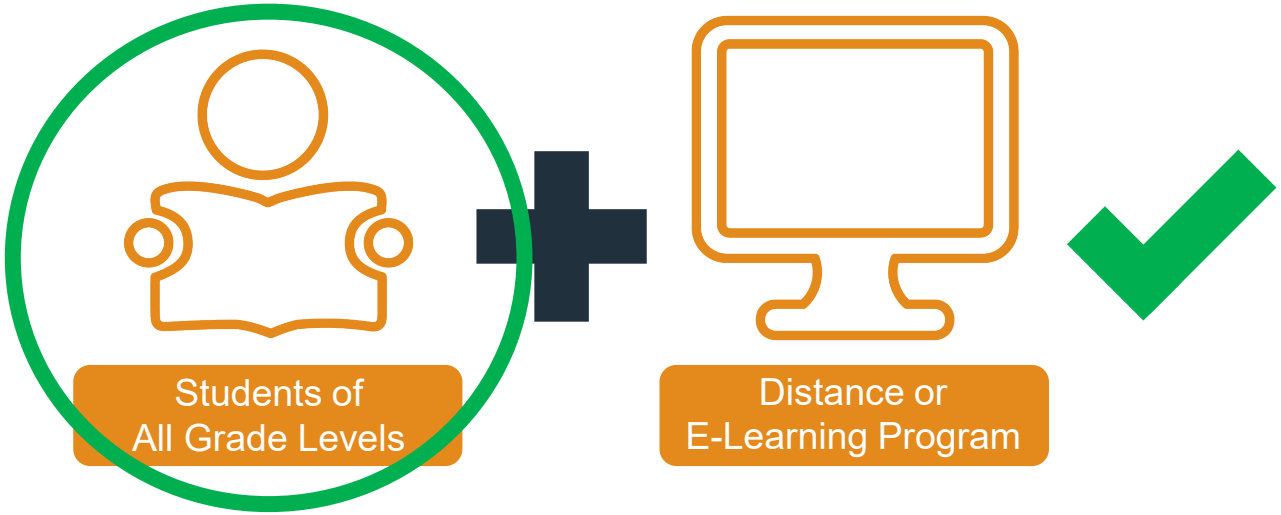
DISTANCE OR E-LEARNING

- The Eligibility Center will not require a separate review of distance or e-learning programs used during the 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic calendars in response to closures due to COVID-19.



DISTANCE OR E-LEARNING

- *Note:* This policy will apply to students from all grade levels (e.g., freshmen, sophomores) who complete distance or e-learning courses during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years.



Distance or
E-Learning Program

Taking online or hybrid courses does not necessarily mean your students are home schooled.

Home School

Home school students can also meet the COVID-19 Automatic Waiver criteria for 2021-22 enrollment. Review our Home School Toolkit for questions about home schooling.

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SPORTS PARTICIPATION

AMATEURISM

- In general, amateurism requirements do not allow:
  - Contracts with professional teams.
  - Salary for participating in athletics.
  - Prize money above actual and necessary expenses.
  - Play with professionals.
  - Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team.
  - Benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
  - Agreement to be represented by an agent.
  - Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition.

Ask the EC

If your students have questions, encourage them to contact us before acting. Their actions may impact their future NCAA eligibility.

SPORTS PARTICIPATION

- When students register for a Certification account, they must:
  - Select the sport(s) they would like to play in college.
  - Update their information frequently if they play for multiple teams or attend events outside the traditional high school setting.
  - Request final amateurism before they enroll full time at a DI or II school.
- *Note:* **Over 94%** of students do not require additional questions from the EC after they request final amateurism.

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PROACTIVE STUDENT ACTIONS

- If students want to play sports in college, they must:
  - Share their NCAA ID with schools recruiting them.
  - Apply to schools of their choosing to be accepted.
  - Request final amateurism certification before they enroll full time in college.
    - Starting April 1 (fall).
    - Starting Oct. 1 (winter/spring).
  - Ask their counselor to submit their final transcript with proof of graduation.
- Know that considerations are given to students with documented education-impacting disabilities.

NCAA Eligibility Center

RESOURCES

RESOURCES

- Review our COVID-19 FAQ.
- Visit our websites:
  - ncaa.org/playcollegesports.
  - eligibilitycenter.org.
- Visit nationalletter.org to learn about the NLI.
- Download our resources:
  - Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
  - Initial-Eligibility Brochure.
  - DI Academic Requirements.
  - DII Academic Requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL ADVISORY GROUP

- Comprised of high school counselors, administrators, coaches and others involved in the high school space nationally.
  - Teleconferences monthly.
  - Participation in the group is a two-year commitment.
- To apply, please submit a resume and 500-word statement describing why you would like to serve as a member of the High School Advisory Group to ecupdate@ncaa.org.
  - Entries must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern, Monday, May 31.
  - Learn more: on.ncaa.com/HSAG_App.

NCAA Eligibility Center

QUESTIONS?

ncaa.org

@ncaaec
@playcollegesports
@ncaaec

ncaa.org/playcollegesports
eligibilitycenter.org

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View the EC COVID FAQ

NCAA Eligibility Center

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow the EC on Instagram

Follow the EC on Twitter

Like the EC on Facebook

Ask the EC

"What if I still have questions?"

- High school admin, please call: 877-622-2321.
- Students and parents, please call: 877-262-1492.

NCAA Eligibility Center

THANK YOU

- Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center. M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern.
  - High school administrators: 877-622-2321.
  - Students and parents: 877-262-1492.
- Webinar for your student-athletes.
  - Thursday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern.

Let Us Know How We Did

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