

HOW TO GET RECRUITED AS A COLLEGE ATHLETE

It takes a lot — on the field and off — to play sports at the collegiate level. Here are some tips to help you make the team while still making the grade.

- TAKE THE RIGHT CLASSES. Make sure your class schedule fulfills the NCAA's core course requirements.
- 2 REGISTER WITH THE NCAA. Become NCAA eligible junior year by registering online at the NCAA Eligibility Center (ncaa.org).
- KNOW YOUR TESTS. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all scores are reported directly to NCAA.
- CREATE A RECRUITING VIDEO. Use a videographer who specializes in sports, and make it short, simple and professional.
- DO YOUR RESEARCH. Take a look at the schools you're interested in and fill out their student-athlete questionnaire. Talk to current and former players to get some first-hand information.
- MAKE A LIST. Make a list of 10 to 15 colleges, placing each into safety, likely and reach categories, focusing on athletics and academic programs.
- GET ON THE RADAR. Introduce yourself to coaches with a short email or letter telling them why you're interested in playing for them, and what you can offer as a student-athlete.
- VISIT CAMPUS. Take a tour of prospective campuses, meeting with admission staff, current students and coaches if possible.
- GO TO CAMP. Attend a sports camp or recruiting day. They're great chances to get better and get noticed.
- CHOOSE YOUR TEAM. Pick the school that gives you the best overall environment, not only for athletics but also academics and personal growth.