



ACT - American College Test. A standardized test measuring knowledge, comprehension and skills important for college-level work that is taken by students wishing to be admitted to a four-year college or university. It can be taken more than once and should ideally be taken for the first time during the junior year of high school.

Blue-Chip Athlete- A superstar athlete. They are often national record holders, state champions and/or holders of major athletic records. These players are very visible and are widely recruited from high school athletic programs.

Contact- Any face-to-face meeting between you (or your parents) and a college coach or representative with any more than "hello" passing between you. Recruiting rules regulate and limit the number and type of contacts college coaches can have with a high school student-athlete.

Equivalency Scholarship- A scholarship that can be divided and shared by two or more athletes.

Full Ride- A scholarship that covers all of a student's college expenses including tuition, books, and room and board. It is the maximum amount of money that a student can be awarded.

Gender Equity- A state of equality in which an equivalent number of athletic scholarships are available to both women and men.

GPA - Grade Point Average. The average grade over all classes for a student as measured by a common scale. Typically, GPA is measured using a four-point scale with A= 4.0, B= 3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0 and F=0.

Head-Count Scholarship- A type of scholarship that must be awarded, either in full or in part, to a single student-athlete. This scholarship may not be divided among players. For example, if a head count sport has four scholarships, only four student athletes may receive them. Division I football and men's/women's basketball, women's gymnastics, women's tennis and women's volleyball are all considered head-count sports.

Junior College- Sometimes referred to as community colleges, junior colleges are two-year institutions that may or may not offer athletic scholarships. These colleges are an excellent alternative for high school students who are not ready to jump straight into a four-year college or university.

Letter of Intent- An agreement between a college/university and a student-athlete which obligates the student to attend and/or accept an athletic scholarship to that particular college or university. This program is administered by the Collegiate Commissioners Association. While many of the schools that utilize it are affiliated with the NCAA, not all conferences participate in the National Letter of Intent Program.

NAIA- National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. An athletic association with member institutions in both the U.S. and Canada. The NAIA organizes and administers all areas of intercollegiate athletics for its membership.

NCAA- National Collegiate Athletic Association. The largest intercollegiate athletic association. It makes rules governing eligibility, recruitment and financial aid of its members. The NCAA has three divisions—I, II, and III. The different divisions are governed by different rules.

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