

# 2016 Division I New Academic Requirements



Eligibility Center

*The Initial-Eligibility Standards for NCAA Division I  
College-Bound Student-Athletes are Changing*

## Division I

College-bound student-athletes first entering an NCAA Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2016, will need to meet new academic rules in order to receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice or compete during their first year.

### What are the New Division I Requirements?

Full Qualifier	Academic Redshirt	Nonqualifier
Complete 16 Core Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ten of the 16 core courses must be complete before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.</li> <li>Seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, Math, or Science.</li> </ul>	Complete 16 core courses.	Does not meet requirements for Full Qualifier or Academic Redshirt status.
Minimum Core-Course GPA of 2.300.	Minimum Core-Course GPA of 2.000.	
Meet the sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score.*	Meet the sliding scale requirement of GPA and ACT/SAT score.*	
Graduate from high school.	Graduate from high school.	

\* To view the sliding scales, please click [here](#).

**Full Qualifier:** A college-bound student-athlete may receive athletics aid (scholarship), practice and compete in the first year of enrollment at the Division I college or university.

**Academic Redshirt:** A college-bound student-athlete may receive athletics aid (scholarship) in the first year of enrollment and may practice in the first regular academic term (semester or quarter) but may NOT compete in the first year of enrollment. After the first term is complete, the college-bound student-athlete must be academically successful at his/her college or university to continue to practice for the rest of the year.

**Nonqualifier:** A college-bound student-athlete cannot receive athletics aid (scholarship), cannot practice and cannot compete in the first year of enrollment.

## Examples

**Q:** A college-bound student-athlete completes nine core courses prior to the seventh semester of high school. What is the college-bound student-athlete's initial-eligibility status?

**A:** The college-bound student-athlete cannot be certified as a qualifier because only nine of the 10 required courses were completed before the seventh semester. He/she would be permitted to practice and receive aid (scholarship), provided he/she presents 16 core courses and meets the necessary core-course GPA and test score requirement at the time of graduation.

**Q:** A college-bound student-athlete completes 16 core courses in the required framework with a 2.200 core-course GPA and a 79 sum ACT. What is the college-bound student-athlete's initial-eligibility status?

**A:** The college-bound student-athlete is an academic redshirt under the new sliding scale because the minimum GPA requirement is 2.300. See sliding scale, please click [here](#).

**Q:** A college-bound student-athlete completes 15 core courses with a 2.500 core-course GPA and an 820 SAT score (critical reading and math). What is the college-bound student-athlete's NCAA initial-eligibility status?

**A:** The college-bound student-athlete is a nonqualifier because only 15 core courses were completed, not the required 16 core courses.

*For additional information on these requirements, please visit [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).*

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Eligibility Center

## Divisions I and II Initial-Eligibility Requirements

### Core Courses

- **NCAA Divisions I and II require 16 core courses.** See the charts below.
- **Beginning August 1, 2016, NCAA Division I will require 10 core courses** to be completed **prior to the seventh semester** (seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become "locked in" at the start of the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
  - *Beginning August 1, 2016, it will be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.*

### Test Scores

- **Division I** uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA). The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on Page No. 2 of this sheet.
- **Division II** requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- **When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.**

### Grade-Point Average

- **Be sure** to look at your high school's List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website ([www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)). Only courses that appear on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- **Division I** students enrolling full time **before August 1, 2016**, should use Sliding Scale A to determine eligibility to receive athletics aid, practice and competition during the first year.
- **Division I** GPA required to receive athletics aid and practice on or after August 1, 2016, is 2.000-2.299 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **Division I** GPA required to be eligible for competition on or after August 1, 2016, is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B on Page No. 2 of this sheet).
- **The Division II** core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

#### **DIVISION I 16 Core Courses**

- 4 years of English.
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

#### **DIVISION II 16 Core Courses**

- 3 years of English.
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

<b>Sliding Scale A</b>		
<i>Use for Division I prior to August 1, 2016</i>		
<b>NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE</b>		
Core GPA	SAT	ACT Sum
<i>Verbal and Math ONLY</i>		
3.550 & above	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
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	59
2.700	730	60
2.675	740-750	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	840-850	70
2.425	860	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	80
2.125	960	81
2.100	970	82
2.075	980	83
2.050	990	84
2.025	1000	85
2.000	1010	86

<b>Sliding Scale B</b>		
<i>Use for Division I beginning August 1, 2016</i>		
<b>NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE</b>		
Core GPA	SAT	ACT Sum
<i>Verbal and Math ONLY</i>		
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
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

For more information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).