

# College Planning Timeline for Student-Athletes



## Set Yourself Up for Success

Get help with everything listed below at the College Board's [bigfuture.org](https://bigfuture.org) or [ncaa.org/playcollegesports](https://ncaa.org/playcollegesports) from the NCAA®—and talk to your counselor.

Not sure you want to play in college? That's okay: Register with the NCAA anyway, and keep your options open.

### GRADE 9

- Ask your counselor for a list of your school's NCAA core courses, or look them up at [ncaa.org/playcollegesports](https://ncaa.org/playcollegesports).
- Create a 4-year high school plan.
- Start thinking and asking about careers that interest you.
- Save for college.
- Explore summer opportunities.
- See if your school offers the PSAT™ 8/9.

### GRADE 10

- Register for an NCAA Certification Account or Profile Page at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org).
- Meet with your counselor to make sure you'll be ready for college, and ask about Advanced Placement®.
- Take the PSAT™ 10 or PSAT/NMSQT®.
- Research financial aid, and don't hesitate to ask an adult you trust for help.
- Attend college and career fairs.
- Volunteer.

## Core Courses

To make sure you're fully prepared for college, take at least **five solid academic classes every semester**. We recommend:

- 4 years of English.
- 3 or 4 years of math.
- 3 or 4 years of lab science.
- At least 2.5 years of social studies.
- Foreign languages and the arts are often required or recommended.

### Did You Know?

- NCAA requirements are slightly different and vary by division. Learn more at [ncaa.org/playcollegesports](https://ncaa.org/playcollegesports).
- Your high school's graduation requirements might not satisfy the NCAA or the colleges you want to attend.

## GRADE 11

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT.
- Ask your counselor about SAT fee waivers.
- Register for the SAT. Use your PSAT/NMSQT scores to get personalized practice at [satpractice.org](https://satpractice.org).
- Estimate your financial need, and search for scholarships.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss SAT Subject Tests™.
- Gather tax returns and other financial documents.
- Get a username and password for the FAFSA, the key to most financial aid.
- Use College Search to make a list of 15–20 colleges.
- Take the SAT, and use code 9999 to make sure the NCAA gets your scores.
- Make a résumé.
- Look at the applications for colleges on your list.
- Visit colleges.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor to upload your official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

## GRADE 12

- Narrow down your college list, and note early admission and regular application deadlines.
- Take the SAT again. Use code 9999 to make sure the NCAA gets your scores.
- Order official SAT score reports for the colleges you're applying to.
- Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).
- Draft your application essays. Ask a teacher for feedback.
- Complete at least 2 applications by Thanksgiving.
- Ask your counselor to send your official transcript to colleges.
- Finish your applications by the deadline.
- Request your final amateurism certification from the NCAA after April 1 at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org).
- Take action. Say “yes” or “no” to colleges by May 1. Send a deposit to the college you're heading to.
- After graduation, ask your counselor to send your final transcript to your new college and submit it, with proof of graduation, to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

## 2018-19 SAT Dates and Deadlines

Use code **9999** to have your SAT scores sent to the NCAA.

Test Date	Registration Deadline
<b>Aug 25</b>	Jul 27
<b>Oct 6</b>	Sep 7
<b>Nov 3</b>	Oct 5
<b>Dec 1</b>	Nov 2
<b>Mar 9</b>	Feb 8
<b>May 4</b>	Apr 5
<b>Jun 1</b>	May 3