

# Flipturn



## Did you know? Division Differences D1 Schools!

I wanted to delve into what makes a D1 school 'just that'. There is a huge variety of D1 schools, but the rules are the same for all of them. What defines a D1 School for student-athletes?:

- A minimum of 14 sports: 7 for men and 7 for women or 6 for men and 8 for women with enough competitions to fit NCAA requirements two of which must be 'team' sports.
- In order to attend a D1 college, student-athletes are required to maintain a minimum of a 2.3 GPA and take at least 16 core courses.

(cont. p.2)

## Academia SATs, ACTs, GPAs Oh No!

For the senior class of 2021, the SAT/ACT requirement has been waived by the NCAA Eligibility Center meaning student-athletes do not have to take these tests in order to be eligible to play college sports. They will just need to complete 16 core-courses with at least a 2.3 (DI) or 2.2 (DII) grade-point average in those courses. However, this will not be the case for future classes. This year about 23% of Division I schools have adopted test-optional policies for at least one year in their admissions process.

(cont. p.2)

## NCAA News Recruiting Trends Remember, June 15!

As most of you know, June 15 is the critical date for high school sophomores. Make sure your sophomores get their information in front of the college coaches now! It is also very important to update the coaches on new best times, especially as it gets closer to June 15. At American College Connection we make sure our sophomores are among the last recruits college coaches see right before June 15. The problem is that D-I and D-II coaches are not allowed to contact sophomores so they won't really know who will be contacting them.

(cont. p.2)



## 2021 Graduates

We are excited to announce that our 2021 graduates will be representing over 70 schools which include D-1, D-2, D-3, NAIA, and JUCO.

## Did You Know? Division Differences (cont....)

- There is more money from the school itself, devoted to athletics. Each sport has its own budget they must adhere to, and can not cross into another sports' budget. For example, swim and dive are almost always, the same budget, whereas water polo would have its own budget. Despite having larger athletic budgets, many schools still require fundraising events for their sports.
- More athletic scholarship opportunities: Although not every school is 'fully funded', for swimming this means 9.9 scholarships for men and 14.4 scholarships for women.
- Not all D1 schools have 'big' populations. Many are smaller schools and don't compete against the Power 5 schools. These are called 'mid-majors'.

It is a fallacy to think you have to swim or dive D1. The goal is to find the right fit academically and athletically as a student-athlete.

So make sure you are choosing D1 for the right reasons. Saying you are swimming D1, just to impress, doesn't charm anyone if it doesn't 'suit' you! After all is said and done, when you have All-American certificates on your office wall, nobody asks which division.

By Lori Payne, Assistant Director of Swimming, American College Connection

Lori@ACCrecruits.com

## Academia *Academic Eligibility (cont...)*

Another 19% have permanent test-optional policies. But this does not mean that if a school is test-optional in the future, a student-athlete does not need to take the test. SATs and ACTs will continue to be an NCAA eligibility standard in the future. Bottom line: beginning of Junior year, get excited and ambitious about these tests, take a test prep course (we have the best test prep course ever included in our program), study, study, study and get the highest possible score on that test! We suggest you take the test at least 2 times. Now let's talk GPAs. Obviously the higher GPA the better! Coaches like to see student-athletes with at least a 3.5 GPA (with AP and honors courses included on their transcripts). This way they can combine academic scholarship with athletic scholarship (D1 and D2). With high test scores and a high GPA, you will be recruitable because academics definitely matter the most!

By Melynda Nash, Academic Advisor, American College Connection

melynda@ACCrecruits.com

## NCAA News *Recruiting Trends (cont...)*

We are able to let our swimmers and parents know which coaches will be contacting them on the 15th as the coaches respond to us. If your swimmers have an idea of which coaches will be contacting them they should look up the coaches' bio so they know something personal about the coach. That way they can engage the coach.

It's a great way for the kids to separate themselves from the other tens of thousands of recruits they are up against.

Example:

Coach, I saw that you were Conference Coach of the Year, congratulations.

Or

Coach, I saw on your bio that you are an avid triathlete. How often do you swim?

Or

Coach, I saw on our bio that you and your wife have a 12 year old daughter. Is she a swimmer?

By Rick Paine, CEO Director of swimming, American College Connection

For more information reach out to Rick@ACCrecruits.com