

# Your Winter Recruiting Checklist

Follow these steps to ensure you find the best athletic, academic, social and financial college fit.

## December



### Think like a college coach.

Landing a roster spot means understanding the basics of the [recruiting funnel](#). Knowing what coaches look for, [how they find recruits](#) and [common traits successful student-athletes share](#) will give you a leg up throughout the process.



### Learn the ropes from a recruiting expert.

Talk to someone who's familiar with the recruiting process: an upperclassmen teammate going through the process, a current or [former college athlete](#), [your high school/club coach](#) or an [NCSA Recruiting Coach](#).



### Review the [NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete](#).

This guide answers questions for student-athletes and parents navigating the initial eligibility process. Remember, this information only applies to NCAA schools. [The NAIA has its own guidelines](#).

## January



### Make—and stick to—[recruiting resolutions](#).

This is a great time to focus on setting [SMART goals](#) for the upcoming year. No matter what you want to accomplish, from making the varsity team next season, bringing up your GPA to developing healthier habits, setting goals will help you stay motivated, focused and committed.



### Download the [NCSA App](#).

Never miss a moment—or a coach view, follow or message—by staying on top of your recruiting at home or on the go. [Available on the App Store](#) or [get it on Google Play](#).

## February



### Update your profile with your transcript and grades.

By now, you should have wrapped up your first semester of high school—**congrats!** Get into the habit of [updating your transcript and GPA after each semester](#) so coaches always have your most recent academic stats.



### Maintain a balanced routine.

Whether you're juggling [activities outside of your sport](#) or you're a [multisport athlete](#), set aside some time to rest and recharge and focus on your schoolwork.



### Keep track of important dates:

- Regularly check the [D1 and D2 recruiting calendars](#), including the [NCAA's response to COVID-19](#).
- Learn more about how the [NCAA Recruiting Rules and Updates](#) affect underclassmen.