

Your Winter Recruiting Checklist

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

December

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Continue applying to schools.
 Keeping up with [admissions standards and deadlines can be tough](#)—by now, you should know which of the schools on your target list offer rolling admissions v. set admissions deadlines and whether they [use the Common App](#).
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Register with the NAIA Eligibility Center.
 Are you applying to NAIA programs? Every student-athlete has to [create an account with PlayNAIA.org](#) in order to play sports at an NAIA college or university.
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Compare college offers.
 From knowing the difference between [verbal offers and commitments](#) to [preferred and recruited walk-on offers](#), review these terms now so you have a better understanding of the offers you may receive.

December 16

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D1 football early signing period
 Football recruits can sign with D1 schools between December 16-18, 2020 ahead of the regular signing period beginning February 3.

January

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[Complete your FAFSA ASAP.](#)
 If you haven't submitted your FAFSA, now is the time. [Financial aid](#) is awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. This form determines your eligibility for federal grants, loans and work-study funds.
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Become a master negotiator.
 What happens if you receive [multiple scholarship offers](#)? Not all offers are the same, so it's a good idea to [learn how to negotiate](#) to maximize your total financial aid packages.

February 3

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D1 and D2 football regular signing period begins
 This is just the first (not the only!) day in the regular period football student-athletes can officially sign with D1 and D2 schools. This period ends on April 1 (D1) and August 1 (D2).

February

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Complete your amateurism questionnaire.
 - Whether you're signing with an NCAA D1 or D2 college or still narrowing down your options, make sure you've [completed your amateurism questionnaire](#) within your NCAA Certification Account.
 - Keep track of the [NCAA's response to COVID-19](#) and [how updates affect high school seniors](#).