



Revised July 8, 2013

The NCAA's dramatic changes to DI initial-eligibility academic standards are in effect for high school athletes in the class of 2016 and beyond. The changes include a higher minimum core course GPA, new credit requirements prior to senior year and limitations on retaking courses. Any student-athlete beginning their freshman year in high school in the fall of 2012 or after, who is even remotely considering the possibility of playing a sport collegiately, needs to fully understand these changes. The wiggle room to correct academic shortcomings has been greatly reduced.

Here is a summary of the new D1 academic requirements that are now in place for the class of **2016 and beyond**:

- The minimum **core course GPA** has increased from **2.00** to **2.30**
- **10** of the **16** core course requirements must be satisfied **prior to the start of the senior year**
- **7** of those **10** core courses must be from the **English, Math and Science** subsections
- **Grades earned** in the **10** core courses are "**locked in**" for the purpose of calculating the final core course GPA
- Any **retakes** of the first 10 core courses **must be completed prior to senior year**

The NCAA has also introduced a new status for the class of 2016 - the "**Academic Redshirt**." Students with a core course GPA between 2.00 and 2.299 are ineligible for "Full Qualifier" status but may achieve Academic Redshirt status by meeting minimum sliding scale test score requirements. An Academic Redshirt may receive a scholarship and practice with their team, but **may not participate in game competition** as a college freshman.

The new requirements could result in athletes being NCAA DI Nonqualifiers before their senior year even begins. In other cases, some athletes who would have been Full Qualifiers in previous years will now only achieve Academic Redshirt status or even be Nonqualifiers. Here are two examples of the impact of the changes:

- **Prior to 2016:** **2.299** core course GPA + **910** SAT or **76** ACT = **Full Qualifier**
- **2016 and after:** **2.299** core course GPA + **910** SAT or **76** ACT = **Academic Redshirt**
- **Prior to 2016:** **2.125** core course GPA + **960** SAT or **81** ACT = **Full Qualifier**
- **2016 and after:** **2.125** core course GPA + **960** SAT or **81** ACT = **Nonqualifier**

(The NCAA does not include the writing component of the SAT or ACT and the ACT score is a sum score of the English, math, reading and science sections.)

Finally, just because a student-athlete meets the minimum NCAA initial-eligibility standards, it doesn't mean they will be admitted to play sports at the college of their choice. Many universities have academic standards for incoming freshman athletes that are **much higher than the NCAA minimum requirements**.

So what does this all mean? **Student-athletes must start tracking courses early**. A student-athlete should calculate their initial core course GPA at the conclusion of their first semester in high school and continue to do so each semester thereafter.

Now more than ever, every semester counts.

NCAA Sliding Scale for Class of 2016 and Beyond

Core GPA	SAT Full Qualifier	ACT Full Qualifier	SAT Redshirt	ACT Redshirt
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	-	-

Core GPA	SAT Full Qualifier	ACT Full Qualifier	SAT Redshirt	ACT Redshirt
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