

Freshman – The Potluck Year

Visit local campuses of all sizes...attend open houses
Meet or speak with admissions counselor at schools you may be interested in
Attend 'Admission Visits' to your high school and at local college fairs
Gather information at fairs in schools you may be interested in....go with a plan and a list of schools
You sell yourself to the university by your grades, involvement and character
You do not need to know what you want to study, but put a lot of weight into academic facilities
Your high school transcript starts now. Take your academics seriously, volunteer and be involved.
Student-Athlete
What type of campus are you looking for? Big? Small?
Perform additional online research about academic and athletic programs
NCAA/NAIA Guide for College Bound Student-Athletes
Go watch collegiate games. Ask students what they think of the school. They are very willing to speak to you. This will give you a real idea of how things are. Ask about the food, academics, social life and so on.
Write a personal email to coaches at schools you are interested in. Be personal and specific in the email.
Skills video if needed
Attend 1-2 showcases or camps at universities to understand how they work
Conduct a meeting with your guidance counselor
Involve your parents...civic organizations typically have scholarships available. Look to be a part of one. Plan ahead.

Sophomore – Organize & Market

High School

AP Courses
Club involvement
ACADEMICS
Volunteer
SAT/ACT Prep
Research your short list thoroughly (5-10 schools)
Continue to narrow search...size, demographics, level, financially, academic and athletic programs

Athletics

Create skills video, prepare contact email, contain game dates/time/location, contact information
Travel tournaments select schools that are close to those tournaments
Communicate with all your current coaches what your aspirations are so they can help
Ask your coach to contact collegiate programs on your behalf
What tournaments are you playing in over the summer?
You have to work at being recruited
ACADEMICS
Are you in accordance with NCAA/NAIA Core Course Requirements
Attend showcases and camps of schools that are on your list
Unofficial visits to schools to meet with counselor, students and possibly coaching staff

***How to correspond with a coach through email? How to communicate in person?
Do's and don'ts of recruiting trips...what to wear, bring and ask.***

Junior – Be Realistic

How are your academics going?

Academics

Take SAT/ACT in the fall and have scores sent to NCAA Eligibility Center
AP Courses
Bridges Program
College in the High School...any courses that will decrease cost
After junior year your guidance counselor sends a transcript to NCAA Eligibility Center

Athletics

Fall Baseball schedule
Register with NCAA/NAIA Eligibility Center
[NCAA Recruiting calendar](#) – When can a coach talk to you
Continue to communicate with schools both athletically and academically
The heat will pick up during your junior year...remember to relax and enjoy the process
Attend games – do you like the coaching style/ Talk to players

Senior – The Decision

Academics

Retake SAT/ACT if needed in the fall
Make 5 official visits
FAFSA
Merit Scholarships
Other scholarship opportunities
Ask guidance counselor for list of scholarships to apply
Job placement rate?
Academic programs and internships
Not just ONE program but all that you enjoy studying...it is likely that your major will change

Athletics

How do you fit into the roster?
If a coach communicates with you regularly then they want you to play for them. Sporadic could mean they just aren't that into you.
Do you like the facilities?
Do you like the coaching style?

There is not a bad program or school just good and bad fits. Find one that fits you best.

How does the school fit socially, academically and athletically? Can you see yourself on campus? Pay attention to your gut feelings on this one. If you don't like the rooms or don't mesh well with the layout of the campus then continue the search. Perfect is tough to match, but close in the important categories is crucial. Academics, Athletics, Social and Eatery (or your own fourth category). Social can be broken down into a few separate categories such as demographics, campus life, community life, etc.

Difference between unofficial and official visits

NCAA Clearinghouse

[***NCAA College Bound Student-Athlete Guide***](#)

[***NAIA College Bound Student-Athlete Guide***](#)

[***Recruiting Calendars***](#)

[***NCAA Eligibility Center***](#)

[***NCAA Three Divisions***](#)

[***National Junior College Athletic Association***](#) – *all information needed is located on the site*

Percentages of baseball players

Recruiting sites vs marketing yourself?

- ***You can do it if you're willing to put in the effort***
- ***Have a video made***
- ***Email coaches***
- ***Attend camps but not too many...do not spend too much***
- ***Be realistic***
- ***If education and athletics are a goal at the next level there is a place for you.***
- ***Be diligent, deliberate and open to the possibilities away from home***

Other links

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>

<https://www.petersons.com/college-search.aspx#/sweeps-modal>

<https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

<https://www.unigo.com/>

<https://www.nacacnet.org/>