Our Three Divisions

The NCAA's three divisions were created in 1973 to align like-minded campuses in the areas of fairness, competition and opportunity.

DIVISION







NUMBER OF SCHOOLS*

954
5 01
(000()
(33%)

296

433

MEDIAN UNDERGRADUATE ENPOLLMENT

8,449

2,300

1,655

STUDENTS WHO ARE ATHLETES

1 in 9

1 in 6

AVERAGE NUMBER OF TEAMS PER SCHOOL



16

19

PERCENTAGE OF NCAA STUDENT-ATHLETES IN EACH DIVISION



25%

39%

ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIPS Multiyear, cost-of-attendance athletics scholarships available

58% of athletes receive athletics aid

Partial athletics scholarship model

67% of athletes receive athletics aid

No athletics scholarships

80% of athletes receive nonathletics aid

DID YOU KNOW?



Division I studentathletes graduate at a higher rate than the general student body.



Division II is the only division with schools in Alaska, Puerto Rico and Canada.



Division III's largest school has **27,642** undergraduates. The smallest? **228**.

*The number of schools for each division is current as of the 2022-23 academic year. This does not include reclassifying, provisional or exploratory schools.

Student-athlete participation numbers include NCAA championship sports only and are current as of the 2021-22 academic year.

How is each division governed?

NCAA schools develop and approve legislation for their own divisions. Groups of presidents and chancellors lead each division in the form of committees with regularly scheduled meetings.

What are the eligibility requirements in each division?

If you want to compete at an NCAA school, you must meet academic and/or amateurism standards set by NCAA members. **Academic** and **amateurism standards** are outlined in this guide and can be found on each division's page on **ncaa.org**.

