



WCA COUNSELOR CHATS

Topic: College Athletics

"Be strong and courageous. Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - *Joshua 1:9*

Students who are interested in participating on college athletic teams must consider several factors:

It is important to choose a college that is a good fit whether or not athletics is part of the package. Athletes are potentially one injury away from being finished with sports and also often find that college teams are so different from high school teams that they no longer want to participate. Playing on the college level is demanding, especially on the Division I level where athletics can "almost own you."

Student athletes must be proactive and market themselves to college coaches. It is important to have open, frank communication with high school coaches and to solicit their help and advice. An important part of the process often involves preparing and sending athletic resumés and video highlights.

Student athletes interested in participating at the Division I or II levels must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.eligibilitycenter.org. It is advised that students register sometimes during their junior year of high school. Once the registration process has been completed, there will be forms to bring to be sent to the Eligibility Center with high school transcripts. Also, test scores must be sent to the Eligibility Center from the College Board and/or ACT using the Eligibility Center code of **9999**. Student athletes interested in participating at the NAIA level must register with the NAIA Eligibility Center at www.playnaia.org and have scores sent to code **9876**.

Following is a link to a wonderful article regarding Student-Athletes. Every parent and athlete should take time to read this article.

http://www.collegeview.com/articles/CV/christian/student_athlete_benefits.html