# TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL



# Senior Guidebook Class of 2011

# TUSCOLA HIGH SCHOOL

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# Kari Francoeur Counselor for the Class of 2011

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding information for seniors.

I can be reached at 456-2408 or at kfrancoeur@haywood.k12.nc.us! You may also visit our website at www.ths.haywood.k12.nc.uc



The Haywood County Board of Education is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in regard to race, sex, age, religion, national origin, handicapping condition, limited English proficiency or citizenship status.

### **COURSE STANDARDS**

### What do you have to have to get to the next grade level?

- 1. To enter the **10th** grade, a student must have earned a minimum of five units of credit, one of which must have been earned in English.
- 2. To enter the **11th** grade, a student must have earned a minimum of ten units of credit. Two of these credits must be English.
- 3. To enter the **12th** grade, a student must have earned a minimum of seventeen units of credit. Two of these units must be in English, and it must be possible for all other graduation requirements to be met during the upcoming year.



# **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**



### **Courses of Study**

Effective with the class entering the ninth grade for the first time in the 2000-2001 school year, students shall select one of the following courses of study: (a) career preparation, (b) college tech preparation, (c) college/university preparation, and (d) occupational (for certain students with IEPs). Students who choose career preparation or college technical preparation must earn four (4) credits in a career concentration or pathway that leads to a specific career field and which shall include a second level (advanced) course.

### A. College and University Course of Study

O	•	
<u>Subject</u>	<u>Credits</u>	
English	4	
Mathematics	4	(shall be algebra I, algebra II, geometry and a higher level course for which algebra II is a prerequisite and one must be successfully completed in the senior year)
Social Studies	3	(U.S. History, World Studies, and Civics & Economics)
Science	3	(Earth and Environmental, Biology and a Physical Science)
Health and P.E.	1	
Second Language	2	(two credits in the same second language)
Electives	7	
Total	24	(28 Possible Credits)

### **B.** College Tech Preparation Course of Study

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
English	4	
Mathematics	3	(shall be algebra I, algebra II, geometry; or, algebra I, tech math I, II and one must be successfully completed in the senior year)
Social Studies	3	(U.S. History, World Studies, and Civics & Economics)
Science	3	(Earth and Environmental, Biology and a Physical

Health and P.E.	1	Science)
Career/Technical	4	(shall be in a career concentration or pathway that leads to a specific career field and shall include a Second-level (advanced) course)
Electives	6	
Total	24	(28 possible credits)

### **C.** Career Preparations Course of Study

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
English	4	
Mathematics	3	(one of which shall be algebra I and one must be successfully completed in the senior year)
Social Studies	3	(Civics & Economics, U.S. History,
		World Studies)
Science	3	(Earth and Environmental, Biology and a Physical
		Science)
Health and P.E.	1	
Career/Technical	4	(shall be in a career concentration or pathway that
		leads to a specific career field and shall include a
		second-level (advanced) course; or 4 credits in arts
		education: theatre, music, visual arts, or dance; or
		4 credits in R.O.T.C.)
Electives	6	
Total	24	(28 possible credits)

# **D. Occupational Course of Study** (This course of study shall be made available for certain students with disabilities who have an IEP.)

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
English	4	(Occupational English I, II, III, IV)
Mathematics	3	(Occupational Math I, II, III and one must be successfully completed in the senior year)
Social Studies	2	(Government/U.S. History and Self-Advocacy/
		Problem Solving)
Science	2	(Life Skills Science I and II)
Health and P.E.	1	
Occ. Prep. Ed.	6	(Occ. Prep. I, II, III, IV, 240 hours of community-
•		based training and 360 hours of paid employment)
Career/Technical	4	(career/technical education electives)
Electives	2	`
Total	24	(28 possible credits)

Computer proficiency as specified in the student's IEP Career Portfolio

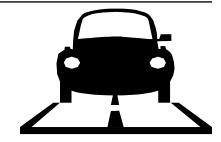
Completion of the student's IEP objectives



## **EXIT DOCUMENTS**

- <u>**Diploma**</u> For students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements
- Merit Diploma For students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements, whose rank is in the top ten percent of the graduating class and have a score on the SAT which is at least ten points higher than the "national average" for the previous year.
- **Certificate of Achievement** Students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements but fail the competency tests shall receive this certificate and transcript and shall be allowed to participate in graduation exercises.
- 4. Graduation Certificate – Special needs students identified by G.S. 115C-109m excluding gifted and pregnant who do not meet the requirements for a high school diploma shall receive this certificate and transcript and shall be allowed to participate in graduation exercises. Students must successfully complete 20 course units by general subject area (4 English, 2 math, 3 science, 3 social studies, 1 health & PE, and 6 local electives. These students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, or United States History. Students must complete all IEP requirements.

# DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS



According to North Carolina legislation, a student must have a Driving Eligibility Certificate in order to receive a North Carolina driver's permit or license. This certificate will be issued upon completion of the Driver's Education course and with evidence of the student's **adequate academic progress**. The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will not issue a driver's permit or license without a Driving Eligibility Certificate.

Adequate academic progress means that a student must pass 5 out of 7 courses <u>each semester</u>. Adequate academic progress is evaluated at the end of each semester. A student who does not meet this criterion or who drops out of school will be reported to the DMV and will have his permit or license revoked.



# North Carolina Academic Scholars



The North Carolina Academic Scholars Program is an effort to recognize those students who have excelled in academics. The students who meet this criteria will be recognized in the graduation program and will receive a gold seal on their diploma.

### **GPA: 3.5 Unweighted**

CREDITS	The following designated number of credits per subject area					
	listed below <u>must</u> be taken in grades 9-12.					
4	English Language Arts I, II, III, IV					
4	Mathematics (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and a higher level					
	math course with Algebra II as prerequisite OR Integrated Mathe-					
	matics I, II, III, and a higher level mathematics course with Inte-					
	grated Mathematics III as prerequisite)					
3	Science (a Physics or Chemistry course, Biology, and an Earth/ Environmental Science course)					
3	Social Studies (World History, Civics/Economics, and U.S. His-					
	tory)					
2	Languages other than English (two credits of the same language)					
1	Healthful Living					
1	Career and Technical Education					
1	Arts Education (Dance, Music, Theatre Arts or Visual Arts					
5	Elective credits to include at least two second-level or advanced					
	courses (Examples of electives include JROTC and other courses					
	that are of interest to the student.)					
24	Note: Adopted by the State Board of Education on June, 2002.					
	The above is the single plan applicable to students who enter the					
	ninth grade for the first time in or after 2003-2004.					



### GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK

To encourage students to take challenging courses which prepare them for college, technical schools, and the demands of the work place, Haywood County Schools provide weighted courses. Course grades are reported in two ways: <a href="unweighted">unweighted</a> based on equal points for every class and <a href="weighted">weighted</a> based on an extra point for selected rigorous courses. According to policy, weighted grades are used in determining class rank and, therefore, for Junior Marshall and Honor Graduate status.

The following scale applies to unweighted courses: A=4 points

B=3 points C=2 points D=1 point F=0 points

Weighted courses include Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses, which are taught at an advanced level. Students and parents should understand that considerable work and study are required, that high grades are more difficult to achieve, and that the level of the course cannot be modified for students lacking skills or preparation.

The following scales apply to Honors and AP courses: Advanced Advanced Placement

A=5 points A=6 points B=4 points B=5 points C=3 points C=4 points D=2 points D=3 points F=0 points F=0 points

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are taught at a college level; students in AP courses are expected to take the AP exam for the course.

### **CLASSES WHICH CARRY EXTRA POINTS**

(This is currently being debated by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and may change during the Year.)

#### **5 Point Classes**

Advanced English I, II, III, IV Advanced Algebra II Advanced Biology Advanced Chemistry II Spanish III, IV French III, IV

Symphonic Band III, IV

Pre-Calculus
Advanced Geometry
Advanced Physics
Honors: The U.S. and World
Affairs Since WW II
Honors Art III, IV

CET II

#### **6 Point Classes**

AP English
AP Calculus
AP U.S. History
AP Statistics
AP Biology
AP Spanish
AP Physics



## Pathways

# Preparing For Life After High School

Your high school counselor can assist you in various ways to determine what route is best for you after high school.

There are many options to choose from such as:

Career/Apprenticeship

Career/Apprenticeship
Specific Programs of Study
Military
2 year schools

4 year schools



We've put together some resources to assist you in preparing for life after high school.

Please let us know how we can assist you further!

### POST SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES

After graduation, some students choose to focus on a specific career interest rather than follow the four year or two year programs. Specific programs of study may include such topics as:

- Career Schools (range from aviation/arts/culinary/automotive/etc.)
- Schools for the Handicapped
- Home Study & Correspondence
- Art
- Biblical Studies
- Chiropractic Medicine
- Computer and Information Science
- Fashion Art
- Funeral Service Education
- Music
- Osteopathic Medicine
- Photography
- Speech & Drama
- Theology
- Women's Studies
- And Numerous Others



Please see your counselor if you have a specific career interest and would like further information.



### **CAREER WEB ADDRESSES**

America's Job Bank www.ajb.dni.us



North Carolina State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee www.esc.state.nc.us/

North Carolina Employment Securities Commission www.esc.state.nc.us/

National School-to-Work Learning and Information Center www.stw.ed.gov

General Career Awareness www.icouldbe.com

### **MILITARY**

My Military Future www.myfuture.com/OUTPUT/moneycol.htm



## TWO YEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

20% of today's careers require a four-year degree 85% of today's careers require a one or two year program beyond high school

Colleges offer a wide variety of planned educational programs, called "curriculum" programs, which range in length from one semester to two years. These programs lead to certificates, diplomas or associate degrees, depending on the nature of the curriculum. Curriculum programs include certificate, diploma, Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts, Associate in Science and Associate in General Education programs.

### **→** Tech Prep

The Tech Prep course of study forms a firm academic and technological foundation for students to move from high school through postsecondary education and apprenticeship programs into successful participation in the world of work.

The Tech Prep education program means a combined, articulated secondary and postsecondary program that does the following:

- 1. Leads to an associate degree or completion of a registered apprenticeship program of at least two years length;
- 2. Provides technical preparation in one field of engineering technology, applied science, mechanical, industrial or practical art or trade, agriculture, health, or business;
- 3. Builds student competence in mathematics, science and communications (including the use of applied academics) through a sequential course of study; and,
- 4. Leads to placement in employment.

### **→** Cooperative Programs (Huskins Bill)

Cooperative programs allow qualifying students to enroll in selected college level courses while in high school. Huskins Bill and concurrent enrollment policies provide for educational programs and services to foster the effective utilization of available resources and to provide for more comprehensive educational opportunities. Cooperative programming is intended to enhance educational choices for high school students.

### **→** Certificate

Certificate programs are designed to provide entry-level employment training and are offered at all System colleges. Certificate programs range from 12 to 18 semester hour credits and can usually be completed within one semester by a full-time student. Associate degree level courses within a certificate program may also be applied toward a diploma or an Associate in Applied Science degree.

### **→** Diploma

Diploma programs are designed to provide entry-level employment training and are offered at all System colleges. Diploma programs range from 36 to 48 semester hour credits and can usually be completed by a full-time student within two semesters and one summer session. Associate degree level courses within a diploma program may also be applied toward an Associate in Applied Science degree.

### **→** Associate in Applied Science

Associate in Applied Science programs are designed to provide entry-level employment training and are offered at all System colleges.

Associate in Applied Science programs range from 64 to 76 semester hour credits. A full-time student can typically complete one of these programs within two years. In addition to major course work, associate in applied science degree programs require a minimum of 15 semester hour credits of general education. General education requirements include course work in communications, humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences and natural sciences/mathematics. Certain courses in associate degree programs may be accepted by a four-year college or university for transfer credit in an associated field.

### Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts and Associate in Science

Community colleges offer college transfer programs through the Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts and Associate in Science degrees. The Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science programs are part of the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA). The comprehensive Articulation Agreement addresses the transfer of students between institutions in the North Carolina Community College System and the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina.

Students are required to take courses in English, humanities/fine arts, mathematics, natural sciences and social sciences. Each degree has additional requirements for course work in liberal arts, fine arts and sciences.

### **→** General Education

General Education programs are designed for individuals wishing to broaden their education, with emphasis on personal interest, growth and development. The two-year General Education program provides students opportunities to study English, literature, fine arts, philosophy, social science, science and mathematics at the college level. All courses in the program are college-level courses. Many of the courses are equivalent to college transfer courses; however, the program is not principally designed for college transfer. Successful completion of 64-65 semester hour credits leads to an associate in general education degree.

### **→** Two Year Transfer Program

The College Transfer Program is designed to parallel the freshman and sophomore years of a four-year college or university. During the first two years of college, students pursue a program of general course work in the area of humanities, fine arts, mathematics, science, and health and physical education.. These general education courses will enable students to gain a well-rounded education before going on to senior institutions where they will take courses in their major areas to complete a bachelor's degree.

College Transfer students may pursue an Associate in Arts (A.A.) or an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree. Students may attend full time or part time during the day or evening and may enter the program at the start of any semester, but the official curriculum program begins in the fall. Students beginning in semesters other than fall cannot be assured of completing all courses needed for graduation within two years.

Is Community College for you?



# 4-Year Colleges & Universities



# College Planning Calendar for Junior Year **Fall**

- Make a list of personal qualities, social/cultural preferences, and things you may want to study and do in college.
- ① Learn about colleges by looking at CFNC.org, college websites, talk to friends, parents, family, teachers, and recent graduates now in college. List college features that interest you.
- ① Attend College Planning Night—November 27, 2007.
- Tisit the counseling center to receive more information about colleges you are interested in.
- If appropriate (for example, if you're interested in drama, music, art, sports, etc.), start to gather material for a portfolio.
- Start learning about financial aid.
- Begin making your Portfolio of activities for grades 9-12. Begin to list your activities into categories such as:

Clubs and Organizations
Honors Organizations
Awards Received
Leadership Roles
Community Involvement
Work Experience (remember volunteer work)
Hobbies and Interests

### Winter

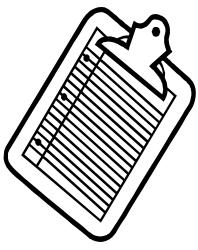
- Make an appointment with your counselor to discuss ways to improve your college preparation and selection process.
- Sign up to take the SAT in the spring. We recommend that students take the SAT twice during their junior year. The SAT combines the best overall score, therefore it is to the student's advantage to take the SAT more than once. The SAT is offered at Pisgah in May and at Tuscola in June of 2008. By waiting until later in the junior year, students have the opportunity to learn more English and Math skills that will benefit them on the test. However, juniors are eligible to take the SAT at any time during their junior year. To register for the SAT, visit www.collegeboard.com. Our school code is 344-214. You must list our school code in order for us to get your scores.
- © Consider taking the ACT as well. The ACT will be at Tuscola on February 9, 2008.
- Start considering classes to register for your senior year. Learn about AP classes and upper level electives that require applications and teacher recommendations.

### **Spring**

- Visit colleges of interest and get an idea of what works for you—small, large, public, private, urban, rural, etc. Meet with an admissions counselor to find more about the college and what that particular setting can offer you.
- Narrow down choices and learn more about those colleges of interest in terms of majors offered, cost, scholarship opportunities, etc.
- If you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships, contact your counselor before leaving school for the summer. If you want a four-year ROTC scholarship, you should begin the application process the summer before your senior year.
- Register for classes. Make sure you have all requirements for colleges that you are interested in. Some out of state colleges may have different requirements such as 3 units of a foreign language or an arts credit. Also consider North Carolina Academic Scholars requirements if this is an honor you wish to obtain.

### **Summer**

- If you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college, register with the NCAA Clearinghouse at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net
- Participate in volunteer work, full-time or part-time job, summer camp, or summer college program.
- © Continue updating your Portfolio of activities.
- ① Download applications from colleges to which you'll apply. Check application dates—large universities may have early dates or rolling admissions.



## **COLLEGE BOUND TEST PREPARATION**

- The best preparation—a solid high school curriculum
- Tests measure general educational development
- Become familiar with the test content and format
- Know appropriate test-taking strategies
- See your counselor for test preparation materials
- Take free practice tests

Remember, test scores are only ONE factor used for college admission and scholarship decisions.



# CONSIDER COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS

- Majors and educational programs
- Type of school and degrees offered
- Admission policy
- Location and size
- Costs and financial aid
- College affiliation and accreditation
- Campus activities
- Academic reputation
- Athletic programs
- Support services
- Financial assistance available

### CHECKLIST FOR A CAMPUS VISIT

- $\sqrt{}$  Meet with an Admission Counselor
- √ Verify admission requirements (tests & high school preparation)
- $\sqrt{\phantom{a}}$  Obtain a school calendar and a catalog, if you don't already have them.
- √ Determine actual college costs
- $\sqrt{}$  Ask about financial aid opportunities, as well as deadlines, forms required, etc.
- $\sqrt{}$  Take a campus tour (Be sure to check out the dorms, dining hall, library, etc.)
- √ Meet with faculty in the academic area of interest to you. Ask questions about academic requirements/offerings & investigate your academic program.
- Attend a class to get an idea of typical size, teaching style, academic atmosphere.
- √ Ask about the placement record for graduates in the field you might study and identify career planning services for undergraduates.
- √ Talk with students and faculty about the general academic environment and the study commitment necessary for success.
- √ Find out what student activities (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.) are available. Inquire about campus life and social activities.
- V Investigate transportation options.



# IMPORTANT WEB ADDRESSES





### **FINANCIAL AID**

Free Application for Federal Student Aid www.fafsa.ed.gov



### **EDUCATION**

North Carolina Community College System www.ncccs.nc.us/

The University of North Carolina System www.ga.unc.edu

North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities www.ncicu.org/

The College Board www.collegeboard.com

The College Foundation of North Carolina www.cfnc.org

ACT Assessment www.act.org

# Activities List

### **School Activities & Clubs**

9	10	11	12	Hours/ Week	Hours /Year	Offices Held
	9	9 10	9 10 11	9 10 11 12		

## **Community Organizations & Volunteer Service**

Description	9	10	11	12	Hours/ Week	Hours/ Year	Your role, function, office held, etc.

Recognitions, Awards Won, Etc	
-	

## **Employment**

Description	Position Held	From Mo/Yr	To Mo/ Yr	Hours/Week



# Tuscola High School Clubs & Activities



### **☆ FBLA—Future Business Leaders of America**

- **☆ FCCLA—Family, Career and Community Leaders of America**
- **☆ HOSA—Health Occupations Students of America**
- **☆ FFA**
- **☆ NHS—The National Honor Society**
- **☆ CTHS—Career and Technical Honor Society**
- **☆ TRU—Tobacco Reality Unfiltered**
- **☆** Film Club
- **☆** French Club
- **☆** Spanish Club
- **☆** Envirothon
- ☆ Ecology Club
- **☆ SWAT TEAM**
- **☆ SGA—Student Government Association**
- **↑ FCA—Fellowship of Christian Athletes**
- **☆ Quiz Bowl**
- ☆ Mu Alpha Theta
- **☆** Teen Democrats

### Assessing Your List of Colleges

Tips for Parents on Finding a College Match

# COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETE Academic-Eligibility Requirements

# **Division I** 2007 - 2008

If you enroll in a Division I college before August 1, 2008, and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 14 core courses:
  - 4 years of English
  - 2 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if of fered by your high school)
  - 1 extra year of English, math or natural or physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 3 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, non doctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core course grade-point average on the test score sliding scale (for example, a 2.400 core-course grade-point average needs an 860 SAT).

Note: Computer science courses can be used as core courses only if your high school grants graduation credit in math or natural or physical science for them, and if the courses appear on your high school's core-course list as math or science courses.

You will be a qualifier if you meet the academic requirements listed above. As a qualifier, you:

- Can practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

**You will be a nonqualifier** if you do not meet the academic requirements listed above. As a nonqualifier, you:

- Cannot practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Cannot receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college, although you may receive need-based financial aid; and
- Can play only 3 seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year (to earn a fourth season you must complete at least 80 percent of your degree requirements before beginning your fifth year of college).

### Division I 2008 and Later

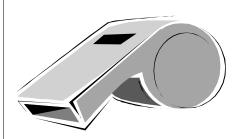
If you enroll in a Division I college on or after August 1, 2008, and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 16 core courses:
  - 4 years of English
  - 3 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
  - 1 extra year of English, math or natural or physical science
  - 2 years of social science
  - 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, non doctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches your core course grade-point average and test score sliding scale (for example, a 2.400 core-course grade-point average needs an 860 SAT).

Note: Computer science courses can be used as core courses only if your high school grants graduation credit in math or natural or physical science for them, and if the courses appear on your high school's core-course list as math or science courses.

## One Core Course after High School Graduation

Beginning in 2007 and thereafter, if you graduate from high school on schedule (in eight semesters) with your incoming ninth grade class, you may use **one** core course completed in the year after graduation (summer or academic year). You may complete the core course at a location other than the high school from which you graduated and may initially enroll full time at a collegiate institution at any time after completion of the core course.



### Division II 2005 and Later

If you enroll in a Division II college in 2005 or later and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 14 core courses:
  - 3 years of English
  - 2 years of math (algebra 1 or higher)
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
  - 2 extra years of English, math or natural or physical science
  - 2 years of social science
  - 3 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a 2.000 grade-point average or better in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

There is no sliding scale in Division II.

Note: Computer science courses can be used as core courses only if your high school grants graduation credit in math or natural or physical science for them, and if the courses appear on your high school's core-course list as math or science courses.

**You will be a qualifier** if you meet the academic requirements listed above. As a qualifier, you:

- Can practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

You will be a partial qualifier if you do not meet all of the academic requirements listed above, but you have graduated from

high school and meet one of the following:

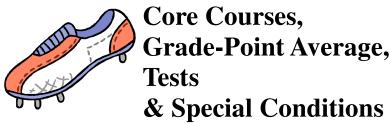
- The combined SAT score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68; or
- Completion of the 14 core courses with a 2.000 core-course grade-point avg.

As a partial qualifier, you:

- Can practice with your team at its home facility during your first year of college;
- Can receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college;
- Cannot compete during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

#### Remembei

Meeting the NCAA academic rules does not guarantee your admissions into a college. You must apply for admission.



Each college has its own admission

requirements. Remember, meeting the NCAA academic requirements does not guarantee your admission into a college. You must still apply for admission.

#### **Core Courses**

A core course must:

- Be an academic course in one or a combination of these areas:
   English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language, nondoctrinal religion or philosophy;
- Be four-year college preparatory;
- Be at or above your high school's regular academic level (no remedial, special education or compensatory courses); and
- Be completed not later than the high school graduation date of your class [as determined by the first year of enrollment in high school (ninth grade) or the international equivalent].

Not all classes you take to meet high school graduation requirements may be used as core courses. Check your high school's list of approved core courses at the clearing house Web site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net or ask your high school counselor.

### **Grade-Point Average**

#### How Your Core-Course Grade-Point Average is Calculated

The clearinghouse will calculate the grade-point average of your core courses on a 4.000 scale. The best grades from your NCAA core courses will be used. Grades from additional core courses you took will be used only if they improve your grade-point average. The clearinghouse will assign the following values to each letter grade:

A - 4 points

C – 2 points

B - 3 points

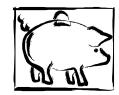
D – 1 point

### Special High School Grades and Grade-Point Average

If your high school uses numeric grades (such as 92 or 93), those grades will be changed to your high school's letter grades (such as A or B). See your high school's grading scale by pulling up your school's list of approved core courses at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. If your high school uses plus and minus grades (such as A+ or B-), the plus or minus will not be used to calculate your core-course grade-point average.



# FINANCIAL AID



# Twelve myths about paying for college

Twelve Myths About paying for college