



## 11 Things You Need to Know About Athletic Scholarships

I'm always amazed at how little players and their families know about athletic scholarships. Given that most of them have been justifying playing their sport for the chance at a college scholarship since middle school, you would think they would be better informed. The following are 11 things you need to know if you're looking for an athletic scholarship.

1. All NCAA and NAIA sports have limits on the maximum number scholarships schools are allowed to offer by sport.
2. The NCAA sets the maximum, it does not require schools to fully fund scholarships for all sports. Many schools do not fully fund all of their allowable athletic scholarships.
3. Head-count sports offer full-ride scholarships.
4. Equivalency sports are allowed to divide their scholarships among multiple players. For example, the value of one scholarship may be split among three players. Very few players in equivalency sports received full scholarships.
5. There are six head-count sports and they are only at the D1 level: Football (FBS only), Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Women's Volleyball, Women's Gymnastics, and Women's Tennis. The NAIA and all other sports at all levels are equivalency sports.
6. The NCAA allows schools to offer scholarships for [multi-year periods](#) but does not require it.
7. Students who receive multi-year scholarships may still choose to transfer and will be subject to the NCAA transfer rules.

8. The school is not obligated to renew a scholarship at the end of the award period.

9. Since equivalency scholarships generally don't cover the total cost of attendance, players need to compare the actual amount they'll be expected to pay after they receive an athletic scholarship, rather than just the athletic scholarships themselves.

School Type	Private	Public
Total Cost of Attendance	\$50,000	\$25,000
Scholarship	50%	30%
Remaining Costs	\$25,000	\$17,500

10. Some public schools will charge out-of-state students in-state tuition if they receive a scholarship from the school.

11. The [National Letter of Intent](#) only applies to students who receive athletic scholarships.

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