

**1. Academics – Simply put, academics are the most important part of the process. If the college coach does not share your academic goals then it might be time to look at other options. Here are some academic questions every recruit might want to ask:**

- \* What are the admission requirements for an athlete?
- \* Will my specific major interfere with the athletic schedule?
- \* What are some of the most popular majors for athletes on your team?
- \* Does your team have a full-time academic advisor?
- \* Do your players graduate in four years?
- \* Can the application fee be waived for athletes?
- \* Do we have to attend summer school?
- \* What kind of academic support do the athletes get?

**2. Athletics / Recruiting – These two topics overlap in many cases, as an athletic evaluation will determine how heavily the coaching staff will be recruiting a prospect. Here are some “must ask” questions for recruits at any point in the process:**

- \* Has your coaching staff evaluated me?
- \* Where do I fit on your recruiting board?
- \* Have you offered scholarships to others in my class? At my position?
- \* Have any other athletes in my class accepted the offers?
- \* How many players will you be recruiting at my position?
- \* Where will you be recruiting this season / spring / summer?
- \* What types of off-season activities are expected?
- \* What does the training program consist of at your school?
- \* What is your recruiting timeline?
- \* Is there a good time to come visit your school?
- \* do you red shirt players and if so do we get a five year paid for if so?

**3. Scholarship – As we noted, it is rarely appropriate for a recruit to ask if they will receive a scholarship in an initial phone conversation, however there are a few questions that will help you gauge your scholarship possibilities at that school:**

- \* How many scholarships do you have available for my class?
- \* Am I under consideration for a scholarship?
- \* What types of academic scholarships are available? What about other sorts of grants and aid?
- \* Do I have to apply before a scholarship is offered?
- \* What happens if I get injured?

**4. Ask the Players at the School:**

- \* What does your typical daily schedule look like – in terms of course load and practices? How does it change whether you're in - season or out of season?
- \* Approximately how many hours per night do you study?
- \* What, generally, are the feelings the professors have regarding athletes?
- \* How do you like the living spaces? How do you like the food?

- \* Do you have an academic advisor? If so, how is the relationship you have with him or her?
- \* Are the Coaches available and supportive when you have academic concerns and challenges?

**5. College Life Questions – Even though athletics will obviously play a major role in the life of a collegiate student-athlete, every recruit should make sure they are going to be happy on campus even when they are not with the team. Make sure to ask about some of the following:**

- \* What is the housing situation like? Do teammates typically live together?
- \* Do student-athletes stay on campus during the summer?
- \* Is it possible to work part-time in addition to playing a sport and studying?
- \* What is a typical “day in the life” like for a member of your team during the season? What about during the off-season?

**6. Important Final Questions – While there are many directions that a conversation might take with a college coach, one key goal should be to find out what comes next:**

- \* What are the next steps in this process?
- \* When is the next time we can speak / meet?
- \* Is there anything I can provide you with that will help you further evaluate me?

Hopefully this list will provide recruits a starting point for the type of questions they should ask a college coach. By no means is this list comprehensive, but it should assist a student athlete as they prepare for their first conversation with a coach.

As you can tell, there is quite a bit of information that student-athletes need to gather... This is one of the most important decisions a young person will make in their life. Get as much information as possible! That is also one of the main reasons why recruiting is all about building relationships. This process does not happen overnight, and will consist of a number of different situations in which a recruit communicates with a college coach. Phone conversations just happen to be an important initial step in building that relationship.

If you are prospect, at any age, which has yet to begin developing a relationship with a college coach, you might be falling behind. There are other prospects, starting freshmen year or earlier (your competition), who have already started speaking with college coaches. The earlier you start that relationship, the more time you will have to make the best decision possible. Make sure to get started today!

