



FREE GUIDE

Free Guide for Parents

# College Baseball Recruiting

A parent's quick guide to the path, the timeline, and the questions to ask.

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# Your Recruiting Checklist & Glossary

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## Grade-by-Grade Recruiting Checklist

### 8th–9th Grade

- Build a strong academic foundation (GPA matters early)
- Attend local showcases and camps
- Start a basic skills video (hitting, fielding, throwing)
- Register with NCAA Eligibility Center (free account)

### 10th Grade

- Take PSAT; plan SAT/ACT timeline
- Update highlight video with current footage
- Begin contacting coaches at schools you're interested in
- Attend prospect camps at target schools
- Research academic and athletic fit for 15–20 programs

### 11th Grade

- Take SAT/ACT (retake if needed)
- Send updated video and academic info to coaches
- Schedule unofficial visits
- Narrow list to 8–10 serious programs
- Attend showcases where college scouts are present

### 12th Grade

- Finalize official visits (DI allows 5 paid visits)
- Compare financial aid and scholarship offers
- Sign National Letter of Intent during signing period (if applicable)
- Commit and celebrate

## Glossary for Parents

### NLI (National Letter of Intent)

A binding agreement between a recruit and an NCAA DI or DII school.

### Walk-On

A player who joins a college team without an athletic scholarship.

### Preferred Walk-On

A coach-invited walk-on with a roster spot but no athletic scholarship initially.

### Redshirt

A year where an athlete practices but doesn't compete, preserving a year of eligibility.

### Transfer Portal

An NCAA database that allows athletes to transfer schools while maintaining eligibility.

### Verbal Commitment

A non-binding agreement between a player and a school. Not official until NLI or financial aid agreement is signed.

### Dead Period

A time when coaches cannot have in-person contact with recruits or their parents.

### Contact Period

A time when coaches can meet with recruits in person, on or off campus.

### Quiet Period

Coaches can meet with recruits only on the college campus, not off campus.