

# College Information

There is a college swim team for EVERY level of swimmer.

- Do not rule out swimming in college
- I swam in a program that had male swimmers going 1:10 100 free.

Swimming is a tool to help you get into a school, or advance you into a school that would normally be above your academic standard.

- The coach can help you get into the school in many places, even if the school is not a scholarship school. A college coach can't work miracles, but most of them can help – a good question to ask when meeting with a coach, is how does the admission process work for student athletes? Sometimes, the coach can do very little, sometimes they can do a whole lot, depends on the school.

DI and DII schools can offer scholarships (but do not count on receiving one) while DIII cannot, but there is a good deal of grant money available. Have an idea of the price of the school - if it is \$60,000 a year, with no scholarships, and not much financial aid, and you don't want to get too deep into debt then you may want to look elsewhere.

Things you should do:

- Brainstorm on what you want out of a college swimming program
  - Strength of the program
  - Level of university (D I, II, or III)
  - Men's and women's teams and their interaction
  - Your place within the program
    - Do you want to be a major contributor in your freshman year?
    - Check out team's top times, see where you fit in. If you are a 25.0 50 freestyler, and that would put you 10<sup>th</sup> on their top times list, you should question your ability to contribute to that team
  - Size of school
  - The majors the schools offer
  - And many other questions specific to you
  - Also ask, near or far from home, area of country, city school, rural school, warm climate, cold...
- Create a list of schools that you are interested in attending (can be as long as 15-20)
  - To see if the college may be interested in your talents look at the previous year's conference championships.
  - If you would place in the top 16 at their conference meet in your respective events, that program would more than likely have an interest in what you can bring to their team.
- ***Go onto the team site for the schools that you are interested in attending and fill out their recruiting questionnaire. This is very important as this is the way that programs generate their initial list of recruiting candidates.***
- Create a swimming resume
  - Make a spread sheet with your best times by event starting with Freshman year (possibly even 8<sup>th</sup> grade) to present, including SCY and LCM times.
  - Describe yourself in a short paragraph, talking about your swimming right now, your favorite events, what you hope to get out of swimming in college, your work habits, your height, and anything you may want to share.

- You could even include a photo to make it more personal.
- Place a few of your swims on Youtube, and a link on your resume, or better yet simply attach these videos to the email.
- List my contact info as well as possibly your high school coach's info.
- Send it to the coach after you have filled out their recruiting questionnaire.
- When sending it to a college coach – make sure your best times are in the email. Make times very easy to find!!
- Include academic information, current transcripts and/or test scores are typically needed on file for most D1 schools to offer official visits.
- If you have time and you want to visit a school, call or email the coach and set up a time to meet with him/her during your time on campus. Please don't assume college coaches hang out on Saturdays and Sundays waiting to talk, they have families and lives too. Set up a time in advance, not the day before.
- Remember that you may call them, but they cannot call you until July after your Junior year. As of July 1<sup>st</sup> they are allowed to make unlimited phone calls and texts.
- Official and unofficial visits
  - Unofficial visit- This is when you set up a campus tour on your own and visit the school. You should contact the coach prior to your visit and see if he/she can meet with you during your visit. There is no limit to the number of unofficial visits you can take.
  - Official visits- This is where the coach invites you to visit the school over the course of two days. You meet the team, spend the night with a team member, possibly watch a practice, and many times attend some form of school activity. You are allowed 5 of these and the school is only allowed a certain amount per year. This only happens during your senior year. How much a university can pay for the visit depends on the Division and the school. At most, a D1 school can pay for all expenses including travel to and from campus.
  - There are junior visits that can include an overnight stay, but all costs must be paid for by the athlete.
  - College Coaches want to hear from recruits not mom and dad. During visits, the athlete should be doing most of the talking; college coaches gauge how interested the recruit is in their school.
  - Athletes should write and send their own emails. Do not allow your parents to be the point person.
- If you plan on visiting or attending a DI or II school you must fill out the NCAA Clearinghouse. You can find this at: [https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/student/index\\_student.html](https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/student/index_student.html)
- College recruiting sites or companies
  - ***Do not pay for these.*** They are not necessary and cost a great deal of money.
- Email me so we can set up a college meeting in the fall of your Junior year, which should include at least one parent and the swimmer. [cbswimteam@gmail.com](mailto:cbswimteam@gmail.com)

Once I have met with you I will make phone calls to your top choices and talk to the coaches about you.

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