



College Athletics

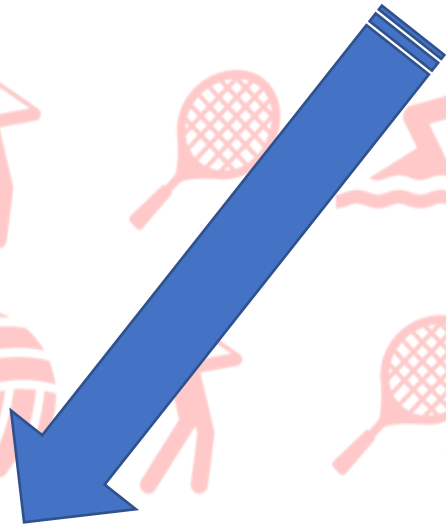
A click-through chart of what might be right for me.

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So first off, do you want to play any type of sports in college? (varsity, club, intermural)




YES





NO

- That's okay. Look at the schools you are interested in and see what other student clubs they have that you might be interested in joining.

Yes! I am interested in playing college sports!
How seriously do you want to take your sports?

- 
- I want to take it very seriously. I want to represent the school, play against other schools, practice with coaches. Maybe try to get a sports scholarship. [[Varsity sports](#)]

- 
- I want to play against other schools, but I take it a bit less seriously. Practice, sure, but not anything too intense. [[Club sports](#)]

- 
- I like playing sports, but I don't take it that seriously. I like to play with my friends, but don't feel the need to practice. [[Intermural sports](#)]

Varsity Sports

- Varsity sports are the highest level of competition in college. You will be coached by school faculty, need to attend practices and train. It is a large commitment, physically, and mentally. It will make a large difference if you plan to go to a Division I, Division II, or Division III school.

- Yes. I am looking to play sports and the highest level my school has to offer.

- On second thought, I am looking for something a little less serious. [Club sports]

- I'm looking just to have some fun playing sports. [Intermural sports]



NCAA Divisions I, II, and III

- The different NCAA divisions require different levels of commitment and provide different opportunities to student athletes. Explore them more below, and on their websites.
- Among the three NCAA divisions, Division I schools generally have the biggest student bodies, manage the largest athletics budgets and offer the most generous number of scholarships.
 - [NCAA Division I website](#)
- Division II is a collection of more than 300 NCAA colleges and universities that provide student-athletes the opportunity to compete at a high level of scholarship athletics while engaging in the broader campus experience.
 - [NCAA Division II website](#)
- Division III is the largest division in terms of number of institutions and number of participants in the NCAA. Division III is unique in not awarding athletic scholarships. Division III student-athletes compete not for financial reward, but quite simply, for the love of the game, though still committing to practices and training as a part of their college athletic career.
 - [NCAA Division III website](#)

In addition to the NCAA, there is also the [NAIA](#), and [NJCAA](#).

Sport/School/Life Balance

- One final thing to consider when playing varsity sports, in addition to the physical commitment, is the question of sports/school/life balance. This requires good time management, in order to balance your class load along with practices, games and training. Do you think you will be able to balance these different aspects of your college life?



- I feel confident about balancing my school responsibilities with my sports. [[Varsity sports](#)]



- I still want to play sports, but maybe I need a lower commitment level. [[Club sports](#)]



- I like sports, but that all sounds like too much for me. [[Intermural sports](#)]


Varsity sports are for me!

- If you know where you want to attend school search their website to find the coach of your sport. You can either reach out to them directly, or work with an admissions counselor to connect you. If they offer scholarships, you can inquire about that, or you can simply find out more information
- You can also talk to the coach at your high school and connect with them about playing sports at the next level.


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What are club sports?


- Club sports are any sports offered at a university or college that compete competitively with other universities, or colleges, but are not regulated by the NCAA, and do not have varsity status. Many times, club sports are student-run.
- Typically, most sports offered at universities are also available as a club team. However, the variety of sports offered is also often related to the size of the school. Club sports offer college athletes the ability to play at a competitive level, but without the time commitment generally required for the sport at a varsity level.



• [That sounds like the right fit for me!](#)



• I think I am looking for something more serious. [[Varsity sports](#)]




• I think I am looking for something less serious. [[Intermural sports](#)]

- If you know what school you want to attend you should look at their website and see what type of club sports they offer. You can begin to reach out and get more information from the representative of each club team at that school.


The logo features the letters 'P' and 'S' in a bold, dark red font. The 'P' is partially overlaid by a light red basketball with white lines. The 'S' is partially overlaid by a light red silhouette of a person running. A small 'TM' trademark symbol is located to the upper right of the 'S'.

Are you just interested in having fun playing sports?


- Intermural sports offer college students the chance to play sports in a low-stakes, fun environment. Most schools offer intermural leagues in typical sports such as basketball, softball, soccer, volleyball, and flag football, as well as nontraditional activities such as Ultimate Frisbee, floor hockey, badminton, racquetball, and tennis. You can sign up with your friends, and there is usually very little commitment.



• [That sounds like the right fit for me!](#)



• I think I am looking for something way more serious. [Varsity sports](#)



• I still want to play sports, but I need a higher commitment level. [Club sports](#)

Intermural sports are for me!

- If you know what school you are planning to attend you can look at their website to see what sort of intermural sports they offer. These are usually signed up for during the school year, and don't require any prior commitment. Also anyone can play intermural sports! They are just for fun, so even if you play club or varsity sports too, you can still sign up.

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go to the finish
line!](#)

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College Athletics

- The most important thing in college sports is to find what's the right fit for you. How competitive do you want to be? How much practice and training do you want to commit to? Are you interested in scholarships or are you just looking to have some fun playing sports with your friends?
- Whatever your interest level, college sports can provide an outlet for exercise, meeting new people, competition, and fun. No matter where you choose to go, search your school, and find the right sports fit for you!