**JT’S STUDENT ATHELTE**

**TO DO LIST:**

* Talk to Coaches/Trainers/Counselors/Teammates about your potential level of play.
* Study team rosters to determine the team’s needs, and compare your statistics.
* Clean up social media (use it as a force of good, not evil).
* Create an easy/clean email that the entire family can monitor.
* Build a Big List – Use NCAA Membership Map to help research programs and ask your coaches, counselor, and older players/parents on your team. Consider all aspects of college: athletics, academics, cost, location, size, and vibe!
* Resume – ask your references if it’s okay to list them.
* Cover Letter Template
* Make Initial Contact with coaches.
* Track Responses/Non Responses.
* Understand the recruiting rules specific to your sport/division/association. (For example DI & DII coaches cannot contact you until Sept. 1st of junior year but DIII &NAIA coaches can make contact at any time. You can make contact at any time.)
* Fill out Prospective Athlete Questionnaires on college athletic websites.
* Make Highlight Video
* Register for NCAA/NAIA Eligibility Center (DIII & JUCO doesn’t need to register).
* Earn the highest GPA possible in the most rigorous courses possible.
* Take standardized tests early (PSAT/SAT/ACT).
* Exposure:
	+ Attend ID Camps/Combines/Clinics/Showcases
	+ Play for the best team/coach possible
	+ Attend top tournaments
	+ Have your coach make contact with college coaches on your behalf
	+ Attend local college games, meets, and competitions to see where you stand
	+ Visit campuses, programs and coaches (unofficially & officially)
* Continue to Contact Coaches – send video, test scores, transcripts and keep them updated on your most recent athletic accomplishments to show interest. MVP, personal best, All Star Selection, etc. When attending ID camps, email the coach before, make contact during, and send a specific thank you after the camp.
* Keep your grades strong so you will have more options.
* Keep your counselor in the loop to help you with the process (taking calls from coaches and sending transcripts to NCAA/coaches/admissions offices).
* Be your own agent!

\*Timelines will vary depending on sport, gender, division, conference, college and coach. The top athletes in most sports will tend to verbally commit early to the top conferences and teams (Power Five Conferences: Pac 12, ACC, SEC, Big 12, Big 10). Women’s sports tend to have earlier verbal commitments than men’s. Many athletes don’t commit until their senior year.