



## Helping Families Understand the Different Golf Scholarship Opportunities Available

*NCAA Scholarship Allotment for College Golf has Important Differences to Note*

At the NCAA level, only Divisions I and II offer financial scholarships for student-athletes. Golf scholarships vary between NCAA divisions *and* between men's and women's golf programs. Additionally, only Division I has a core GPA and Test Score Sliding Scale for prospective student-athletes. Both the NAIA and the NJCAA offer scholarships as well and players should be advised to look at those two options. However, for the purpose of this article, we will look *only* at Divisions I and II. One thing to note is that programs must have the budgeted money to provide the scholarship amount available to them through the NCAA rules. Just because they are allotted 4.5 scholarships for Division I Men's teams, it does not mean they have the money available within their athletic budget to provide this amount of scholarships. Keep this in mind as you are being recruited and recruit yourself to college golf teams.

Division I Men	Division II Men	Division I Women	Division II Women
4.5 scholarships	3.6 scholarships	6.0 scholarships	5.4 scholarships

2009-2010 Average College Costs Nationwide for In-State Public Four Year Academic Institutions	
Tuition and Fees	\$7000
Room and Board	\$5000
Books	\$1000
Total Educational Costs	\$13000

### Division I Men's Scholarship Breakdown

Total Scholarships	Scholarship Value:	Equivalency
4.5	4.5 x \$13000	
Player 1	\$9750	75%
Player 2	\$9750	75%
Player 3	\$7150	55%
Player 4	\$7150	55%
Player 5	\$5200	40%
Player 6	\$5200	40%
Player 7	\$3900	30%
Player 8	\$3900	30%
Player 9	\$3250	25%
Player 10	\$3250	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$58500</b>	<b>450%</b>

In the example on page one, the average scholarship is 45% (4.5 scholarships multiplied by 10 roster players). It is important to note that some coaches award scholarships in dollar figures while others use percentages to disseminate allotted funds. This is an important question to ask when you are being recruited and/or are visiting each campus. As tuition costs will rise each year, it is for the family economically to receive a scholarship percentage instead of a dollar amount as this method reflects the increase in tuition.

Another thing to note is that scholarships do not distinguish between in-state and out-of-state student-athletes. Scholarships are based on the tuition the student-athlete will pay regardless of what their tuition bill is each semester. Also, not many players receive a “full ride scholarship” – one that covers the total costs of tuition, room and board, and books – so begin preparing to find other sources of covering your education expenses such as the LIFE Scholarship (South Carolina Education Lottery), the HOPE Scholarship (Georgia Education Lottery), and the Bright Futures Scholarship Program (Florida).

The myth of the “full ride” in the men’s game is, for the most part, just that - a myth. Programs whose teams consist of 10 - 12 players are not likely to give one full scholarship to one player. Most typical first year scholarships are about 15 - 25% and they *may potentially* increase each year if the player improves. Women often receive larger scholarship offers as many programs struggle to find suitable players. Many teams have a small roster with less players to spread the money around; if the programs are fully funded coaches are able to offer a “full ride” which covers eligible education costs at 100% to a large percentage of her or his team.

Take the time to best understand the different levels of scholarships available at NCAA DI and DII divisions can definitely help the junior and the family during the recruiting process. Perhaps the best option may be at a school which never would have been on your radar!

Good luck

*Dr. Fleming*

*Dr. Bruce Fleming is the founder of Play Collegiate Golf, created to mentor young women and men interested in continuing their competitive golf careers at institutions that support their academic, athletic, and personal goals.*

*For more information please visit [playcollegiategolf.com](http://playcollegiategolf.com)*

## Selecting Classes That Are Right For You

### College Survival Tip



It is important to select the classes that fit your learning style (do you learn best in a lecture setting? in a laboratory setting?) and your personal style (do you want early classes with time to study in the afternoon? do you want late classes so you can study late into the night and sleep in?). One major mistake that college students make in their schedule is that they do not think about these two concerns when scheduling classes. Sometimes a class may have only one section offered during the semester so there is not much choice. However, this is usually reserved for upper division classes. Freshmen classes have often multiple sections (i.e. English, Chemistry, Math) and various times can be selected that best fit your learning and personal style. Think about how you plan on studying and living at college. Use this knowledge to make informed class selections and you will be much more successful during your first year!