

firstpointUSA

The World's Number 1 in American Sports Scholarships



“It was the **incredible**
life experience
I gained during this
time that has had
a positive effect on
everything in my
life today”

Andrew Kean

Founder & Chief Executive

FirstPointUSA

University of Cincinnati 1997-2001

Hall of Fame Inductee

Two time All-American





Welcome to FirstPointUSA

The World's Number 1 in American Sports Scholarships

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I was 18 years old. I left High School with some decent academic results – and the dream of **playing soccer professionally**. My parents wanted me to continue my studies and attend college or university. Pursuing both my sport and my studies full-time was not possible in the UK, so I had to explore other options. I decided to apply for a US soccer scholarship: and to my delight, the University of Cincinnati awarded me one.

This decision changed my life. I was able to pursue both my studies and soccer at a high level. More importantly, this was a wonderful opportunity. Being able to do everything I loved was great – but doing it in America was extra special.

The early days of homesickness aside, my time in **America was unbelievable.** I pursued my degree and travelled America with the team throughout the year.

On leaving Cincinnati in 2001 I had a degree, had received the All-American award for soccer, and started a new career as a professional soccer player. However, it was the **incredible life experience** I gained during this time that has had a positive effect on everything in my life today.

The American sports scholarship system has bred many of the world's top golfers, soccer players, basketball stars and athletes from other sporting backgrounds. My attitude was, **"If it's good enough for Tiger Woods, then it's good enough for me!"**

Being involved with FirstPointUSA allows me to relive my experiences in America – and help people's dreams become reality. To date, we have **placed thousands** of sportsmen and women on scholarship and brokered tens of millions of scholarship dollars on their behalf in the process.

Going to America on a scholarship is not for everyone. It's hard work; and having a scholarship means that you have to be totally committed. However, if you want to be the **best you can be in your sport**, perform in the most competitive sporting environment and get a great education, then this could be an ideal route for you.

I hope that you are offered the chance to pursue a scholarship with FirstPointUSA.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Kean FirstPointUSA

American Sport Scholarships

American college sport is not professional. However, **over \$1 billion** in scholarship money goes to athletes **each year** and the **television rights** for college American Football are worth over **\$6 billion**. A college such as **Ohio State University** averages over **100,000 fans** per game.





Concept

The concept behind US sports scholarships is quite simple: it provides talented amateur sportsmen and women with an exclusive opportunity to pursue simultaneously an academic and athletic career.

A sports scholarship to an American university can cover many, sometimes all, of the costs associated with gaining a university degree. In return, the student-athlete will represent the university in their respective sport and maintain a good level of academic performance.

There are currently over 500,000 student-athletes competing for approximately 2000 collegiate sports programmes.

Benefits

Aside from experiencing life in another country, the US sports scholarship process allows you to pursue both your studies and sport to the highest levels.

Most universities make a considerable investment to ensure that students and athletes alike are provided with the very best platform to fulfil their academic and sporting aspirations.

Scholarship recipients often find that the costs of attending University in the USA are far less than what they would be in their home country.

Expectation

Expectations while on scholarship:

- Maintaining at least a 'C' average
- Pressure of the investment
- Balancing studies and sport
- Consistently performing at a high level over 4 years
- Dealing with homesickness
- Adapting to a new culture

Applying

- 01 → Apply to FirstPointUSA
- 02 → ONE-TO-ONE INTERVIEW/PRESENTATION:
Evaluate academic and sporting background
- 03 → SPORTING ASSESSMENT:
Evaluating your performance
- 04 → Compare application with other
successful candidates
- 05 → Are you a good scholarship candidate?
- 06 → Your application is accepted
or declined in writing
- 07 → Your decision-making period

At **FirstPointUSA** we specialise in **bespoke marketing, guidance,** and **scholarship campaigns** throughout the entire recruitment process. We also provide a **unique and comprehensive service** to place sportsmen and women on **American scholarships**. The **success** of this service is unmatched anywhere else.

Why FirstPointUSA?

Since 2001, we have assisted over **3000 athletes with their placement on scholarship, sourcing over \$100 million in financial assistance on their behalf.** Working with over **2000 American academic institutions and sports programmes, FirstPointUSA is the premier service provider of its kind.**

Once you apply, we assess your academic and sporting goals and determine your suitability for the sport scholarship experience. We can then decide whether to offer you a place. We will meet you personally and spell out exactly what being a collegiate athlete in the United States means.

Uniquely, as a FirstPointUSA client you have the right to reject any scholarship offers and still maintain your place on the programme, for the remainder of your service agreement. Because we only recommend clients who are suitable student-athletes and potential scholarship material, colleges trust our judgement.

FirstPointUSA Service

- A dedicated one-to-one consultant
- SAT exam registration inclusive of fee
- Academic conversion and calculate GPA
- Creation of professional online profile
- Professional & bespoke sports footage
- Compliance, eligibility & clearing
- Bespoke marketing & promotion
- Live alerts when coaches view your profile
- Exposure to over 25,000 US college coaches
- The Clearing Department
- Negotiation of scholarship offers
- Admissions assistance
- US Visa & SEVIS process
- The 'Scholarship Bible'/Client Manual
- Showcase films – watched by coaches

We will strive to grow the number of scholarship offers and finalise as many deals as possible. We rely on placing clients on scholarship to allow new applicants one of the available slots. If accepted, you will enjoy the benefits of our service before being placed on scholarship.

Within this time, you will be assigned a personal Sports Consultant to guide you through the initial stages of the scholarship process. Later, you will be passed to our Clearing Department for the final stages. These include compliance, eligibility, the SAT exam, short listing, the marketing campaign and the student visa process.

Fee Structure

If we offer you a place with FirstPointUSA, you pay a one-off service fee. This covers you for the entire scholarship process.

Our Clients

We work closely with our clients and their parents to maximise the opportunities presented by interested colleges and sports programmes.

Our service is straightforward and tailored to your precise needs. We have worked since 2001 to perfect the finely tuned methodology used to deliver our service to clients.

Service

SCHOLARSHIPS CURRENTLY COMPETING IN THE NCCA



TOP 5 HIGHEST PAID COLLEGE COACHES 2009

01	Mack Brown Uni: Texas	\$5.1m
02	Pete Carroll Uni: Southern California	\$4.4m
03	Bob Stoops Uni: Oklahoma	\$4.3m
04	Urban Meyer Uni: Florida	\$4.0m
05	Nick Saban Uni: Alabama	\$3.9m

If the **University of Southern California** were a nation, its **21 medals** in Beijing would rank 13th in the world and tied for **eighth in gold**.

21

41

The **University of Southern California** and the **University of California – Berkeley** had **41** of their students competing in the **Olympics in Beijing**

44

NCAA college scholarship athletes collected **44 Olympic medals** during the **2008 Olympics in Beijing**

\$6bn

The **TV agreement** between CBS and the NCAA for the rights to show college American Football was **sold for over \$6 billion** by the association.



395,452

In 2009, the NCAA had over **395,452** male and female athletes competing on scholarship

19

The **University of Florida** swimming programme had **19 of its swimmers** representing **15 different countries** during the Olympics.

TOP 10 US COLLEGE STADIUM CAPACITIES



01	Penn State Beaver Stadium (PICTURED)	107,282
02	Michigan Michigan Stadium	106,201
03	Ohio State Ohio Stadium	102,329
04	Texas Texas Memorial Stadium	100,119
05	Tennessee Neyland Stadium	100,011
06	Southern California Memorial Coliseum	93,607
07	Georgia Sanford Stadium	92,746
08	UCLA The Rose Bowl	92,542
09	Louisiana State Tiger Stadium	92,400
10	Alabama Bryant-Denny Stadium	92,138

FORMER AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP ATHLETES

Tiger Woods	Luke Donald
Michael Phelps	Shaquille O'Neall
Michael Jordan	Mia Hamm
Maurice Edu	Annika Sorenstam
David Weir	Clint Dempsey
Paul Casey	Brad Friedal



46

At the last **Olympic Games** in Beijing, **Stanford University** had over **46** student-athletes competing for medals.

In season 2004/05, the **University of Louisville** Basketball programme generated over **\$13.1 million in profits** for the university

\$13_m

40,844

In the **NCAA** alone, there are over **40,844** men and women competing on **soccer scholarships**

COLLEGE ATHLETES TURNING PROFESSIONAL



Men's Basketball	1.2%
Women's Basketball	1.0%
American Football	1.8%
Ice Hockey	3.7%
Men's Soccer	1.7%

The University of Southern California has won a **gold medal** in every Olympics since 1912 and **won 21 medals** in Beijing.

21

In 2009, the **University of Texas** was the overall top sports earner with **\$120.3 million generated** from all their sports teams.

\$120m

TOP 10

US COLLEGE SPORTS TEAM REVENUES 2009

01	Texas	\$120m
02	Ohio State	\$117m
03	Florida	\$106m
04	Michigan	\$99m
05	Wisconsin	\$93m
06	Penn State	\$91m
07	Auburn	\$89m
08	Alabama	\$88m
09	Tennessee	\$88m
10	Oklahoma State	\$88m

With **over 10,000 applicants** a year vying for one of our **750 coveted places** at FirstPointUSA, no other agency provides college coaches with such an **objective** and **thorough assessment** of its athletes.



Valued by Coaches

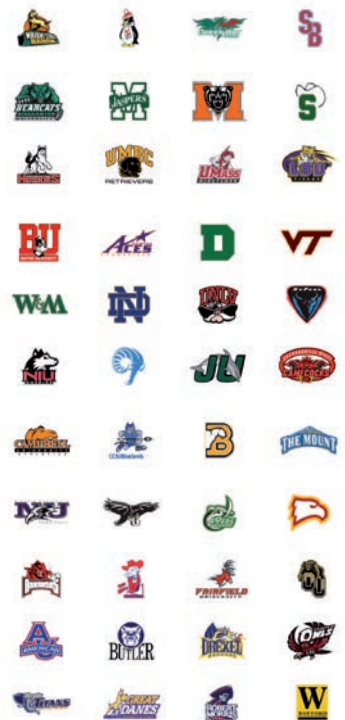
We have over 20 employees working across our Sports Consultant, Compliance and Media departments as well as our SAT Test Centre, ensuring that every aspect of international recruitment is managed effectively. Almost all our staff are former scholarship athletes themselves.

With representatives in the United Kingdom, Europe and Australia, FirstPointUSA has the scope to assess applicants from Manchester to Melbourne – ensuring only the very best student-athletes are signed. Our meticulous approach and attention to detail is reflected in the colleges we work with, from the Ivy Leagues to Junior Colleges.

Top US Colleges

Below is a selection of colleges where some of our athletes have studied and trained:

University of Cincinnati / University of Louisville / University of Kentucky / San Jose State University / University of Oregon / Cornell University / Xavier University / University of Toledo / The Ohio State University / Boston University / University of Evansville / Dartmouth College / William and Mary / University of Notre Dame / UNLV / Northern Illinois University / University of Rhode Island / Jacksonville University / Wright State University / Youngstown State University / University of Wisconsin - Green Bay / Binghamton University / Manhattan College / Mercer University / Northeastern University / UMBC / UMASS / University of Arkansas / University of Mississippi / Fairfield University / American University / Butler University / Drexel University / California State University - Fullerton / University at Albany.



Valued

Timeline

MONTHS 1-3

- Review completed Pro Forma, reports and footage from Consultant
- Calculate approximate GPA of client
- Determine eligibility status within the NCAA, DI, DII, DIII, NAIA, and NJCAA
- Consider academic, sporting, and social needs and begin shortlisting suitable US colleges
- Develop marketing and promotional strategy

MONTHS 3-4

- Release initial promotional materials to shortlisted colleges and establish contact with coaches
- Release password/username details for online client profile

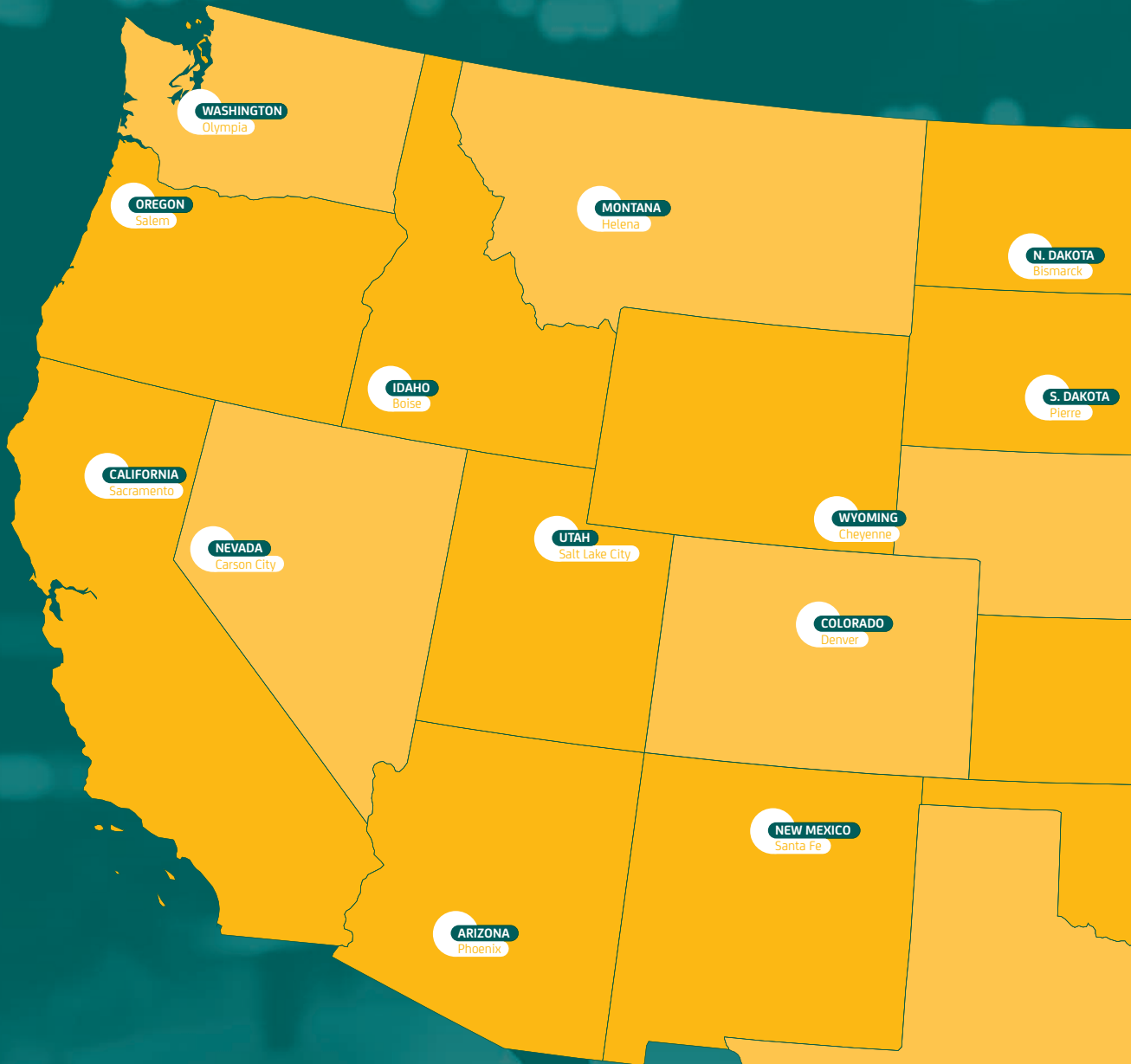
MONTHS 4-10

- Manage interest from US college coaches daily
- Update consultant on interest and progress brokering scholarship
- Advise client of options and assist with decision making process
- Client commits to US college
- Client begins admissions process with college

FINAL STAGES

- Instructions regarding the US visa process are provided to client
- US visa appointment booked
- Pass file to PR staff
- Final checklist

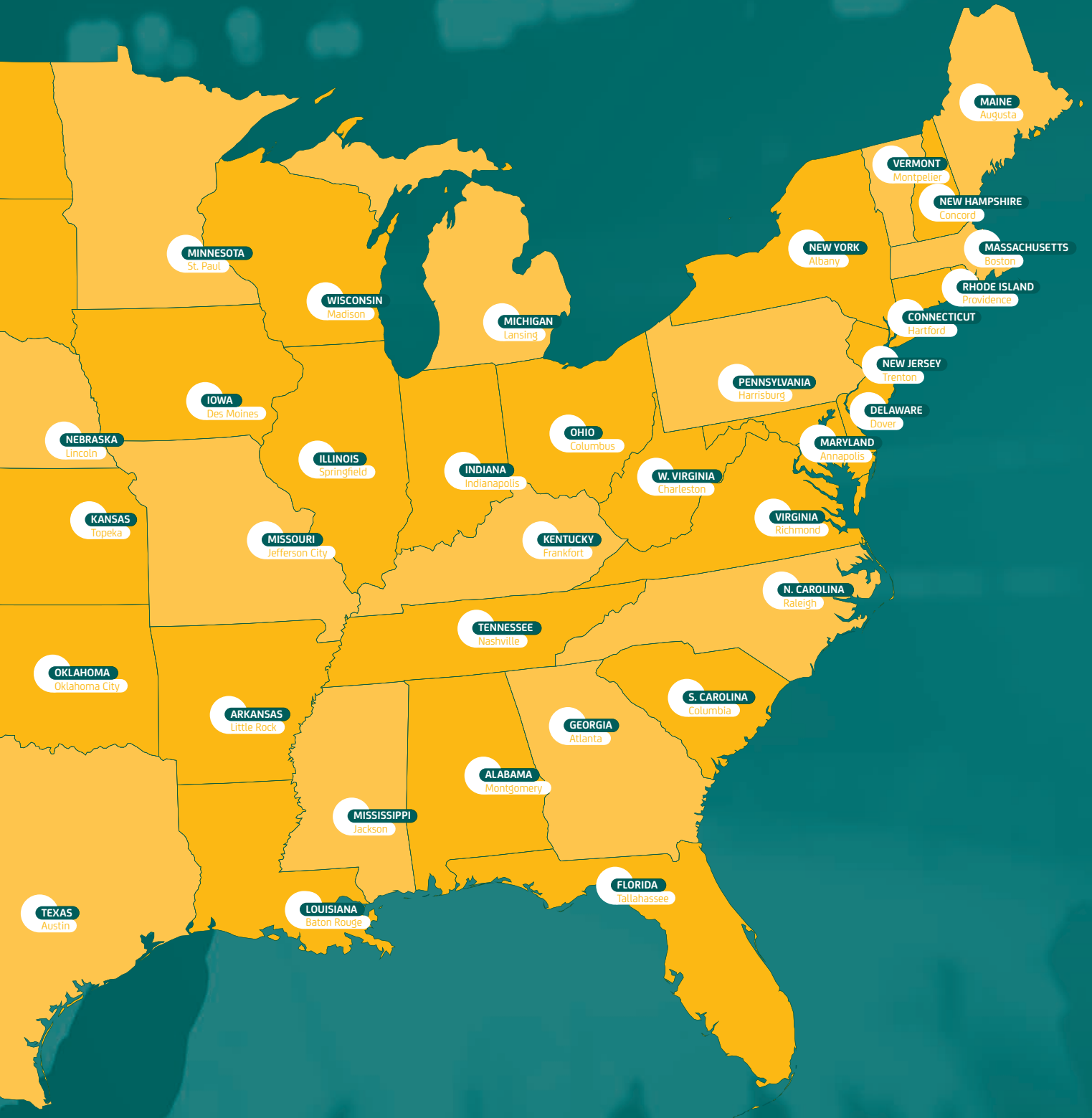
OFF TO THE USA with FirstPointUSA



5,000+

Universities and Colleges
to choose from in the USA

There are over **5,000 universities and colleges** in the USA, and you can choose to study in **every state** and **many hundreds of towns**.



The **Scholastic Aptitude Exam (SAT)** is an **essential requirement** for anyone wishing to attend a four-year university degree course.

Only those who are transferring from a university in their native country can attend an American university without taking the SAT exam.

The test is administered by the College Board, a national, nonprofit association. Once you've registered for the exam and paid a small administration fee, you'll be informed of the test date, time and location.

The SAT covers many areas of academic skills, including maths aptitude, writing and reading skills.

Your scores are then tallied and made available to you for submission to the college or university of your choice.

FirstPointUSA and the College Board host the SAT exam six times throughout the year, across the world, and you can take the exam as many times as you like to improve your score.

We will provide you with a practice paper to help you prepare for the exam.

Scores

THE WORLD'S TOP 20 UNIVERSITIES



2009 RANK	2008 RANK	INSTITUTION	COUNTRY	PEERS REVIEW SCORE	EMPLOYER REVIEW SCORE	STAFF/STUDENT SCORE	INTERNATIONAL STAFF SCORE	CITATION STAFF SCORE	INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCORE	OVERALL SCORE
1	1	Harvard University	USA	100	100	98	100	85	78	100.0
2	3	University of Cambridge	UK	100	100	100	89	98	96	99.6
3	2	Yale University	USA	100	99	100	94	85	77	99.1
4	7	University College London	UK	98	99	100	90	96	99	99.0
5=	6	Imperial College London	UK	100	100	100	80	98	100	97.8
5=	4	University of Oxford	UK	100	100	100	80	96	97	97.8
7	8	University of Chicago	USA	100	99	97	88	77	83	96.8
8	2	Princeton University	USA	100	96	82	100	89	81	96.6
8	2	Princeton University	USA	100	99	97	88	77	83	96.6
9	9	Massachusetts Inst. of Tech.	USA	100	100	89	100	31	95	96.1
9	9	Massachusetts Inst. of Tech.	USA	99	72	87	100	100	89	95.9
10	5	California Inst. of Tech.	USA	100	99	97	92	28	89	95.6
11	10	Columbia University	USA	100	99	97	92	28	89	95.6
12	11	University of Pennsylvania	USA	96	99	85	98	82	60	94.2
12	11	University of Pennsylvania	USA	98	79	100	99	28	71	94.1
13	13=	Johns Hopkins University	USA	98	99	100	99	28	71	94.1
13	13=	Johns Hopkins University	USA	95	97	100	93	29	62	92.9
14	13=	Duke University	USA	95	97	100	93	29	62	92.9
14	13=	Duke University	USA	100	99	85	94	28	73	92.5
15	15	Cornell University	USA	100	99	85	94	28	73	92.5
15	15	Cornell University	USA	100	100	71	100	25	96	92.2
16	17	Stanford University	USA	100	100	71	100	25	96	92.2
17	16	Australian National University	Australia	100	91	75	74	99	92	90.5
17	16	Australian National University	Australia	100	91	75	74	99	92	90.5
18	20	McGill University	Canada	100	97	92	61	67	95	90.4
18	20	McGill University	Canada	100	97	92	61	67	95	90.4
19	18	University of Michigan	USA	99	99	85	81	57	52	89.9
19	18	University of Michigan	USA	99	99	85	81	57	52	89.9
20=	23	University of Edinburgh	UK	97	99	84	65	93	86	89.3
20=	23	University of Edinburgh	UK	97	99	84	65	93	86	89.3
20=	24	ETH Zurich	Switzerland	97	80	55	99	100	94	89.3



EVERY ATHLETE GETS A FULL SCHOLARSHIP TO PARTICIPATE IN COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS.

This is not usually the case. Some athletes do receive full rides to NCAA, NAIA, or NJCAA colleges but many fund their college from academic scholarships in addition to the lucky few who receive athletic scholarships.

ONCE A COLLEGE COACH SAYS THAT YOU CAN BE PART OF THEIR PROGRAMME, THE WORK IS DONE.

Not true. Once you are offered the opportunity to compete in collegiate athletics, you will still need to be accepted academically by the institution, complete the NCAA eligibility requirements and refocus your academic and athletic goals.

YOU HAVE A SCHOLARSHIP FOR ALL FOUR YEARS BUT THE COLLEGE CAN TAKE IT BACK FROM YOU IF YOU DO NOT PERFORM WELL.

Neither of these are true. An athletic scholarship is year-to-year; however, a college coach has to renew your scholarship and is likely to do so unless you break team rules, become academically ineligible or decide to quit.

Only the top athletes actively get recruited by college coaches.

Not true. Top athletes get recruited to top programmes; but every college programme looks for a balance of student-athletes, and many clients who were not heavily recruited do succeed.

There is a college for every student and a programme for every athlete; and if you want to pursue college athletics, you will find that you will be promoted to different programmes at various levels.

Correction

Here are just a few of the **FirstPointUSA clients** who have **excelled** both in the **classroom** and in their **respective sports**



NAME Andrew Kean
COLLEGE University of Cincinnati
SPORT Men's Soccer

KEY ACHIEVEMENT
Inducted into the University of Cincinnati Hall of Fame and was the university's first-ever soccer All-American



NAME Daniel Willett
COLLEGE Jacksonville State University
SPORT Men's Golf

KEY ACHIEVEMENT
World No.1 ranked amateur, Walker Cup player and now competing on European Tour

NAME Amy Kee
COLLEGE Rutgers University
SPORT Field Hockey

KEY ACHIEVEMENT
All-American award winner, National 'Rookie' of the Year

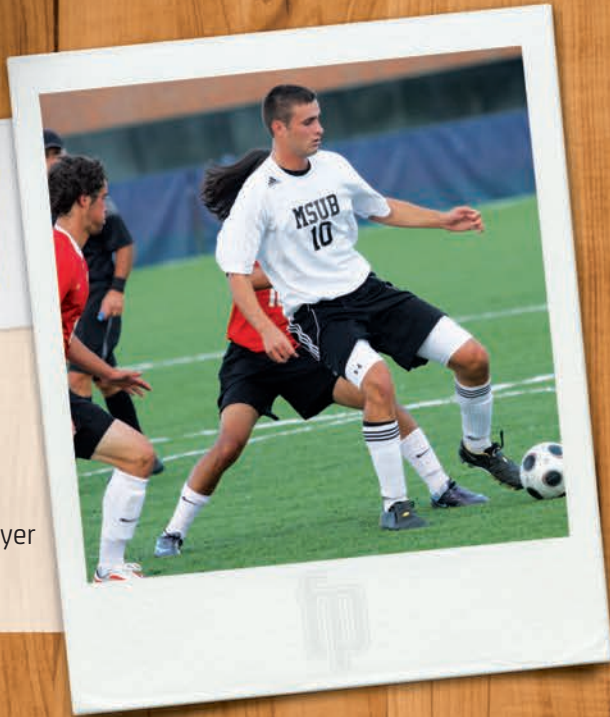


Hall of Fame



NAME Sam Charles
COLLEGE Montana State University - Billings
SPORT Men's Soccer

KEY ACHIEVEMENT
1st All-American and National Player of the Year in university history



NAME Callum Macaulay
COLLEGE University of Mississippi
SPORT Men's Golf

KEY ACHIEVEMENT
World Amateur Team Champion, Walker Cup Winner with GB & Ireland, European Tour player



NAME Caroline McPherson
COLLEGE Ohio State University
SPORT Rowing

KEY ACHIEVEMENT
British Rowing Champion



A day in the life

Name: Chris Edwards | **Sport:** Soccer | **University:** Oakland University

My name is Chris Edwards and I'm a senior. The fall was my last season playing soccer for Oakland. But as my college career is coming to an end, my career as a professional player is just beginning.

I'd like to spend a few minutes describing a typical day in the shoes of a student-athlete.

05:45

The alarm rings. I open my eyes, sit up, and turn it off. I shave and shower, change into running clothes and get in the car. The clock reads 05.45 as I drive in the dark to training. I make my way to the stadium. My team-mates meet me inside and my coaches arrive and then training begins.

07:08

I'm back in the car. I drive home, shower, eat, and change into typical student-athlete uniform: sweatpants and our black Adidas fleece. I walk to campus for an 8am class. I sit at the front, focus, and learn. I realise the importance of my education and I know why I am here. I try to speak with each professor before or after class to build a bond with them. I want their support and their understanding. The classes go well and they end at 12.30.

13:46

I walk home, eat lunch and start some studying for an exam tomorrow. After studying, it is time for practice. I get in the car again at 13:46 and drive back to the soccer stadium. I give my best effort as I want to be the best. I want to achieve and I want to succeed. My team-mates and I want to win, and we want to be Grizzly Pride. After training I spend some time in the Sports Medicine Centre getting a massage, and then the team meet up with the Sports Psychologist to run through this week's games.

18:29

I get back to the house, shower, change, and start studying. My mum calls from home and fills me in on what has been happening with friends and family. I have been away for so long now that I no longer miss home, but it's great to catch up. I know that I have been given the opportunity of a lifetime here at Oakland.

“The fall was my last season **playing soccer** for Oakland. But as my college career is coming to an end, my career as a **professional player** is beginning”

16:43

Practice is over and I drive to Memorial Stadium, walk to the weight room and get to work. I'm ready for dinner, so I lift efficiently. My coach and I discuss my calorie intake for the rest of the week.

I need to gain more power and strength, so a nutritional package is put together for me. Once lifting is over, my team-mates and I walk across the football field. It is dinner time. We eat, have a laugh, and spend time with the other athletes.

22:17

I get ready for bed. I set the alarm and try and get some sleep. After my exam tomorrow the team will meet at the Athletic Department before heading to the airport. We have a couple of games in California and will be away for a week, so I need to make sure I have all of my course work with me. Being a full-time athlete is tough enough, and being a full-time student at the same time is extra-challenging.

I wouldn't change it for the world!

“I have found **FirstPointUSA** to be **highly professional** and **helpful** in preparing these athletes for their **academic and athletic careers** in the States”

John T. Rootes | Soccer Coach

“Working with Andrew Kean and his staff at FirstPointUSA has **proved successful**. The quality of student/athlete we have been able to recruit to Grand View College has been **outstanding**. Over the last nine years many FirstPointUSA clients have attended our college and **done well in their educational and athletic pursuits**. Recruiting overseas is a very selective process; it can prove to be a **tremendous and valuable experience for all concerned**.”

Blair Reid | Soccer Coach

“I have **always been impressed** with the **professionalism** and **organisation** at FirstPointUSA. The student athletes that they have identified have been **quality players and of good character**. Andrew Kean has **streamlined the recruitment process** by having athletes’ paperwork in order, making it easier for international admissions. We look forward to a continued relationship with FirstPointUSA to supplement our recruiting needs.”

Steve Clements | Soccer Coach

“I have found FirstPointUSA to be the **most helpful** of all recruiting services when it comes to **making sure** that their players have all their paperwork in on time.”

Sandy Terry | Golf Coach

“I **highly recommend** the programme at FirstPointUSA to collegiate coaches and to potential student athletes abroad. Over the last three years we have built a **nationally competitive** NAIA soccer programme at SCAD with the nucleus of the team being recruited through Andrew and his staff.

I have found FirstPointUSA to be **highly professional** and **helpful in preparing** these athletes for their academic and athletic careers in the States.”

John T. Rootes | Soccer Coach



Coaches



“FirstPointUSA has **helped me a lot**; without them I wouldn’t have been able to gain such a **fantastic scholarship**. There is always someone to talk to and everyone is willing to offer **help and assistance**. My **personal consultant** has arranged appointments with me so that we could discuss things at different stages throughout, which was **very beneficial**.”

Martin Gibson | Soccer Student

“FirstPointUSA **promoted me** really well and **helped** to get me a **really good** scholarship to the University of Louisville.”

Kirsty McConnell | Field Hockey Student

“FirstPointUSA **gives you the backing** to be recognised and **stand out** amongst some of the **best student athletes** in the world. They give **expert advice** and have many **key contacts** in the USA that can enable them to find the **perfect university** for you.”

Adam Spawton | Golf Student

“FirstPointUSA have made me realise what I can achieve, have **given me an insight** into what I can expect and **guided me** down the path of **promoting myself**. All advice provided has been **concise and accurate**.”

Neil Shakeshaft | Golf Student

“FirstPointUSA **helped me** get a spot at an American college **within four months** and they were the **best company out there** for me.”

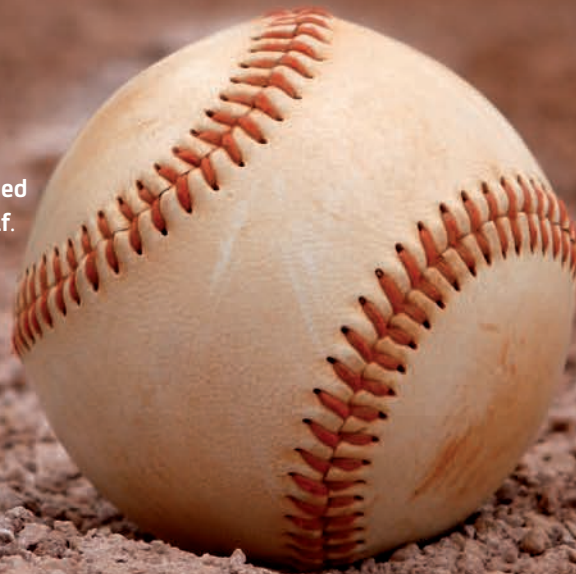
Lewis Pattullo | Golf Student

“FirstPointUSA have **helped me to get my profile out there** so I am known to a range of colleges across America, making the **recruitment process much easier**. They then know who I am, best times and what I want to achieve.

FirstPointUSA contacted teams personally on my behalf and **offered great advice** as the whole process can be very confusing.”

Rosie Monaghan | Swimming Student

Students



“**Without the help** of FirstPointUSA I wouldn’t be in the situation where I can **fulfil my dream**. They have been a **huge help** and guided me **all the way**”

Graeme Molloy | Golf Student

WHY DO AMERICAN COACHES USE FIRSTPOINTUSA?

College coaches in America have used FirstPointUSA for years and know that **we assess every athlete** before taking them on board. It saves coaches lots of time and effort. They also **know that all of our clients** are taken through the scholarship process comprehensively, which in turn makes their jobs easier.

WHAT IS A 100% SCHOLARSHIP OR 'FULL RIDE'?

A full scholarship can cover your tuition and fees, accommodation, food, books, and everything related to your sport. However, scholarships are offered on a percentage basis, from 0 – 100%. Only a coach or athletic director can decide how much scholarship money will be offered.

FOR WHICH SPORT CAN I GET A SCHOLARSHIP?

Athletic scholarships are awarded for the following sports: baseball, basketball, crew (rowing), cross-country, fencing, football (American), golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, indoor track, lacrosse, skiing, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, field, volleyball, water polo, women's field hockey and wrestling.

Archery, badminton, bowling, equestrian sports and squash have been designated as 'emerging sports' and scholarships in these sports are available to women only in an effort to achieve gender equality (equality between men's and women's scholarships).

A few universities offer martial arts, riflery, rodeo, rugby and sailing, but very few will provide scholarships for these sports.

HOW MUCH ARE ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS?

Award amounts vary, and can be anywhere from a few thousand dollars to nearly \$30,000 for one academic year. Athletic scholarships do not necessarily cover the full cost of tuition and maintenance. Scholarships are offered on a percentage basis (i.e. 75% scholarship will cover

75% of the total cost for one year), and universities have strict limits on the total amount they can award each year.

Because of these restrictions, a university may split a small number of large awards into a larger number of lesser-value awards. For example, a university that has three 100% scholarships to offer per year may split them up to award six 50% scholarships to twice the number of student athletes.

There are, however, exceptions for a few sports. American football, men's and women's basketball, women's tennis, women's gymnastics and women's volleyball awards must count as a full scholarship.

HOW LONG WILL I HAVE THE AWARD?

Scholarships are provided on a year-by-year basis, and can generally be renewed for up to four years, which is the normal time required to complete an undergraduate degree in the US. If you enter university with transfer credit or advance standing, you will still be considered a freshman (first year student) for athletic scholarship purposes.

WHO WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR AN AWARD?

It is likely that only students of the highest sporting standard will be considered, but in some women's sports, good 'club-level' may be sufficient. You must have recognizable achievements in your sport to be considered for an award. Check the websites of universities you are interested in for match results or events, to see how your ability compares.

CAN ANYONE BECOME A FIRSTPOINTUSA CLIENT?

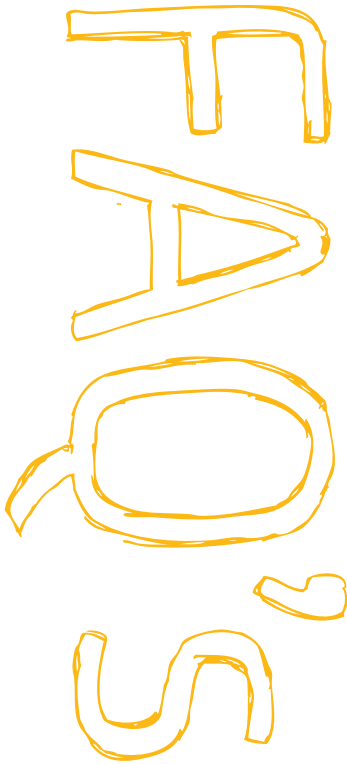
No; we consider every applicant seriously from an **academic and sporting** perspective before we **offer places** on the FirstPointUSA Scholarship Programme.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NCAA DIVISIONS I, II AND III?

NCAA Divisions are determined by specific requirements that include the number of sports sponsored by both genders and an average audience attendance number at games. Member institutions must adhere to the guidelines on the following page.

DOES FIRSTPOINTUSA CHARGE A FEE?

Only once it has been determined that the individual has a **strong chance of earning a scholarship**, and they meet the **eligibility requirements** of the **NCAA, NAIA, or NJCAA** – FirstPointUSA will then accept them onto the programme. On acceptance to FirstPointUSA, Terms & Conditions and a note of the fee will be provided. There are no additional fees.



WHAT IS AN ATHLETIC/SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP?

Playing for a college team on scholarship is one way to **help pay** for the cost of earning an undergraduate degree. You do not attend university solely to **play your sport**; you are also there to **earn a degree**.

DIVISION I: At least seven sports for men and women (or six for men and eight for women) including two team sports for each gender. There is a minimum required number of contests and participants for each sport, as well as scheduling criteria. There are maximum financial aid award amounts for each sport that a Division I school cannot exceed. The level of athletic ability within the NCAA is highest at Division I level. To play regularly on a Division I team, students must have proven outstanding abilities within their sport.

DIVISION I-A AND I-AA: These schools meet the Division I criteria and also offer American Football as one of their sports. Division I-A teams are large programmes and must meet minimum audience attendance requirements. Division I-AA teams do not need to meet these attendance requirements. Football games are often televised, and each year teams compete for a place in "Bowl Tournaments."

DIVISION II: At least four sports for men and four for women, with two team sports for each gender. There is a minimum required number of contests and participants for each sport, as well as scheduling criteria. There are maximum financial aid awards for each sport that Division II schools must not exceed. Division II schools are nearly as competitive as Division I in recruiting athletes with the best athletic ability. The athletic standard is also nearly as high.

DIVISION III: At least four sports for men and four for women, with two sports for each gender. There is a minimum required number of contests and participants for each sport, as well as scheduling criteria. Division III does not award financial aid on the basis of need or academic excellence. Proud athletic rivalries tend to favour Division III athletics, and a competitive standard is still needed to participate.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO PLAY FOR NCAA DIVISION UNIVERSITY?

A student athlete playing at a college with any NCAA Division must meet both general and academic eligibility requirements. For Division I, a student has five years from the date of his/her enrolment at any university in the world to compete for four years of competition.

However, he/she must stop competing on the day he/she turns 25 and any scholarship must finish at the end of that semester. Divisions I and II have no age limits and allow 10 semesters of college attendance (which need not be consecutive) to compete four years of eligibility.

WHO GRANTS ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS?

Athletic scholarships are **granted by the university** or in some cases by the athletic association in which a university participates. Athletic directors or coaches of your sport often play a central role in award decision-making, so it is **important to establish contact** with these individuals at an early stage of your application process.

WILL THE COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY PAY FOR MY FLIGHT?

No, the NCAA prohibits any member institution from paying for the travel to and from the student-athlete's home. There is some scope for the **school to pay for an official visit**. The NAIA member institutions may pay for flights to and from your home.



Baseball/Basketball/Bowling/
Cross Country/Fencing/
American Football/Field
Hockey/Golf/Gymnastics/
Ice Hockey/Lacrosse/Rifle/
Rowing/Skiing/Soccer/
Swimming & Diving/Softball/
Tennis/Outdoor Track/Indoor
Track/Water Polo/Volleyball/
Wrestling//