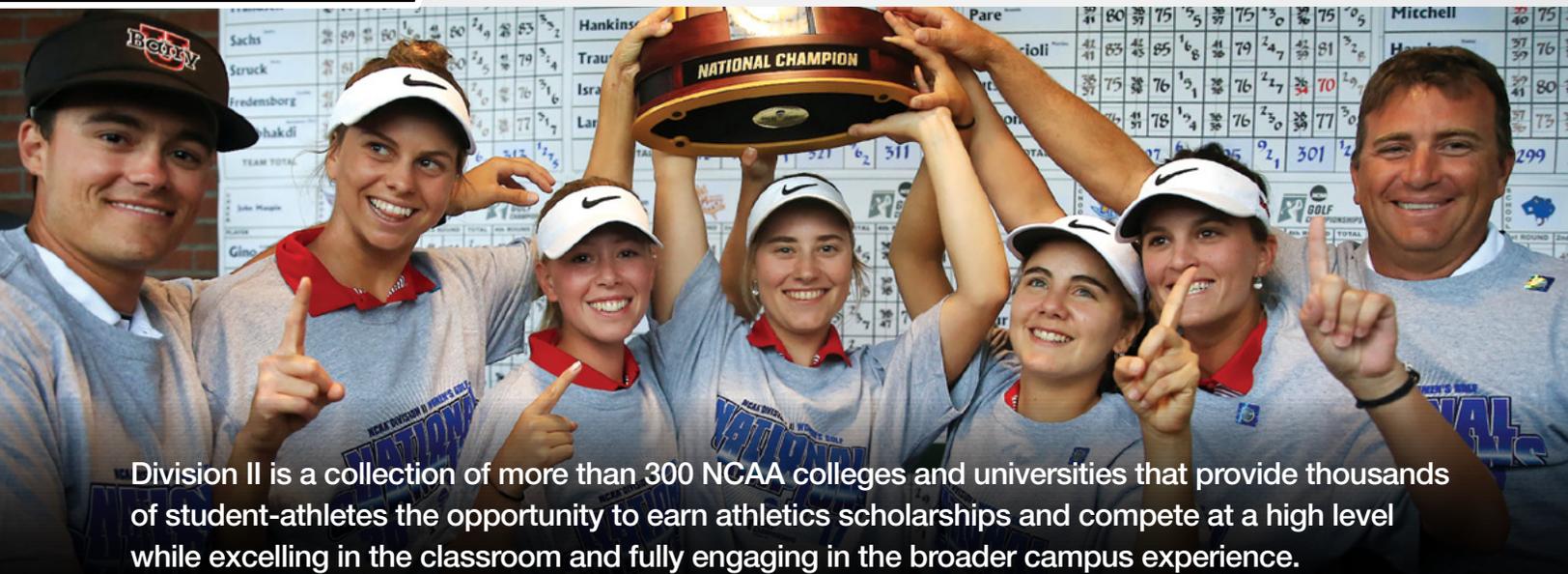


Presidential Perspective: Division II's Unique Attributes



Division II is a collection of more than 300 NCAA colleges and universities that provide thousands of student-athletes the opportunity to earn athletics scholarships and compete at a high level while excelling in the classroom and fully engaging in the broader campus experience.

As the leader of your institution, you have the opportunity to tout the benefits of Division II to your boards, state legislators, prospective students and their parents, campus personnel, and community stakeholders.

Division II's unique attributes offer a number of attractive selling points, including:

- ▶ Division II shapes student-athletes who graduate with the skills and knowledge to be productive citizens. Division II students are able to play sports, be integrated in campus life, do well in the classroom and graduate with distinction. They are able to have a much more well-rounded experience, because their seasons don't last all year long.
- ▶ Division II offers a unique "partial scholarship" model for financial aid in which most student-athletes' college experiences are funded through a mix of athletics-based grants, academic scholarships and employment earnings. The partial scholarship model allows Division II schools to recognize student-athletes for their skills through athletics-based aid, but student-athletes also can accept merit-based aid and academic scholarships.
- ▶ Division II students have an excellent opportunity to be highly skilled and highly decorated athletes, but the balanced approach allows them to become marketable in their career because they'll have time to focus on their academic pursuits, their grades, their internships, and whatever else it takes to prepare themselves for life after graduation.
- ▶ Division II students receive the coaching they need and the academic attention they deserve, which is a message that resonates, especially with parents.

Division II athletics programs promote a challenging equilibrium among excellence in the classroom, community engagement and rigorous athletics competition. Our student-athletes graduate, demonstrate leadership, interact with their communities and develop the skills they need to maintain healthy and productive lifestyles.

Gary Olson
President
Daemen College

High Academic Achievement – Low Cost

- ▶ Division II's academic philosophy emphasizes learning and development in a personal setting. Graduation rates indicate the success of that approach, as student-athletes graduate at rates several percentage points (usually 6-9 points) higher than their general student body counterparts (see ncaa.org/about/what-we-do/academics?division=d2 for more about academic success in Division II).
- ▶ The median expense for Division II athletics departments with football is roughly \$7.2 million, while that figure is almost \$19 million for Division I Football Championship Subdivision programs and almost \$75 million for programs in the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision.
- ▶ Even when applying generated revenues against total expenses, the median institutional subsidy to balance the athletics budget in Division I is more than \$16 million (FBS) and almost \$14 million (FCS). The subsidy in Division II is about \$6.1 million for schools with football and \$5.2 million for schools without.
- ▶ A recent study demonstrated that a school moving from Division II to Division I experienced an average real increase in athletics spending of \$3.7 million each year. Only \$500,000, on average, was offset by new revenue (tickets, media, agreements, donors, NCAA distribution, sponsorships). That means a reclassifying school would have to generate \$3.2 million each year from other sources of funding (for example, increased student fees, state government support, transfer of funds from other campus departments).



Division II athletics provides student-athletes with the opportunity not just for the competitive experience in athletics but also the full academic experience, and the undergraduate student life experience as well. That's what it means to have life in the balance, to be able to combine all of those great attributes of the college experience.

Allison Garrett
President
Emporia State University



For more information and resources, visit the "Tools to Tell the DII Story" on the Division II homepage at ncaa.org.