



863 Elite Volleyball Academy Recruiting Guide

Use this guide to:

- Explore how the recruiting process works
- Explore tips on contacting collegiate coaches
- Discover what a recruiting video should look like



Getting Started

- Identify what you want to do for a living, your career. Determine what major you want to pursue, as well as a backup major should you find you don't like the first. Use this to identify colleges that offer your desired major (and backup major) and have a good reputation in that curriculum.
- Determine how far you want to live away from home. This is more important than you think. This is one of the biggest reasons that players transfer after their first season. You will get homesick, but can you deal with it? So determine how far from home you can tolerate and focus your search within that distance from home, your geographic area.
- Generate your list of colleges that match the above criteria, and then research their volleyball programs. Look for tell-tale negatives like high turnover rate of coaches, players, etc. Your list should include every college with a volleyball program that is within your geographic area and that offers the majors you are focused on.
- Create an athlete resume (position, height, GPA, ACT/SAT scores, volunteering, academic successes, school club involvement).
- Create a recruiting video as well as highlight videos for each of your matches throughout your season. There are good links below to help you with that. The video should be taken from behind you and make sure your number is identified so coaches can quickly locate you in the video.
- Once you're ready to begin reaching out to be eligible for recruitment you must register with the NCAA and NAIA. To register please visit these sites [NCAA](#) | [NAIA](#)
- Email coaches player information such as schedule, skills, and highlight video to get exposure. *Keep in mind that coaches cannot email you back until June 15th of your Sophomore year.*
- Almost every college has a recruiting questionnaire that allows you to submit your interest to the coaching staff. This questionnaire is usually on the athletics portion of the website for the university. Some of these can be fairly extensive. Make sure to respond to the questions on the questionnaire *in detail, specific to the university*. The goal here is to make the coaching staff feel that you have a true interest in that school and their program. A good tactic is to identify a player on the current roster that is similar to you and note similarities between you and



that person. These similarities can be physical traits, character traits, and athletic abilities.

Examples: State that you like the coach's coaching style, and then what you like about him/her and their program. Research the university and comment on how you like aspects of the university curriculum, social environment, athletics, etc.

- Attend college camps, clinics, and visits
- **Juniors:** Take official and unofficial visits to universities and have off-campus contact with college coaches
- **Seniors:** Send and receive direct communication from college coaches

There are rules and restrictions on recruiting and at certain times coaches cannot reach out to you. Check [this site](#) to find out more information about specific deadlines.

Questions to Ask a College Coach

- Are you recruiting my position in the year [insert year]?
- Where do I stand on your list of potential recruits?
- How do your players balance academics and volleyball?
- Do you offer summer camps?
- What type of academic support is provided for student athletes?
- What is your normal season schedule and out-of-season schedule?
- Does the team stay together in the same residence halls?
- What type of team bonding are held?
- Does the volleyball team have a weight training coach?
- What form of transportation is provided to and from games?
- Do your players graduate within four years?
- What medical resources do you have on campus and off campus for injuries, sickness, etc.?
- Are the players on your team close as family?
- Is there anything the coach may want from the student athlete (grades, film, etc.)
- Are you required to be on campus during the summer?



Emailing Collegiate Coaches

Subject Line: [Your Name] [Grad Year] [Position/Event] [1-2 Key Stats/Skills] [Video]

Dear Coach [Last Name],

I'm [Your Name], a [Year in School] at [High School] in [City, State], and I'm set to graduate in the class of [Graduation Year]. I [Play/Compete] in [Your Position/Event], and what makes me stand out as a potential recruit for your program is [List 2-3 standout skills/stats].

I'm really excited about your program because [Add 1-2 sentences about the research you did on the school, coach and/or sports program].

You can find my highlights and skill videos here [Insert Link].

I will be at [blank] Tournament in [City] this weekend, and have included my entire tournament schedule below. If you need anything further, please let me know. My email address is janesmith@mail.com.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you,

[Your Name]

[Graduation Year] [Position/Event]

[Phone] [Email] [Social Media Handle]

[Insert remaining-upcoming schedule]

Recruitment Video

Your video should include:

- Introduction including: name, graduation year, position, high school and club, number on jersey in video, and height



- Include two minutes of uncut/unedited game play
- A position specific skill video from the end zone view

[This video](#) is a great example from Rox Volleyball on what a recruiting skills video should look like.

Other Online Resources

- [USA Volleyball: Five Recruiting Tips](#)