

IMREPREADY

RECRUITING TIMELINE

Every rep counts. Own your process.

FRESHMAN • SOPHOMORE • JUNIOR • SENIOR

A complete guide to navigating the college football recruiting process

YOUR EFFORT DESERVES A REAL PROCESS

There is a lot of noise in recruiting. Rankings, social media, highlight offers, and outside opinions pulling your attention in every direction. None of that moves the needle. What moves the needle is owning your process and staying focused on the things that actually matter. That is what this timeline is built around.

Some athletes waste time chasing the wrong things. Some settle because they never got honest guidance. Some put in real work but had no direction for it. This timeline is for all of them.

ImRepReady exists to close that gap. You have been putting in the work. This is how you increase your chances of that work taking you somewhere.

FRESHMAN YEAR

Build the foundation, for real

Strong grades start now, not later. Learn your school's graduation requirements, core course requirements, and NCAA eligibility academic requirements before someone else has to tell you. Develop daily habits in the classroom, in the weight room, and on the field.

At this stage, typically only FBS programs are beginning to identify freshmen, and it is a very small pool of elite prospects. That is not most players. So stop worrying about recruiting and start building real habits and real development.

Be dependable. Be coachable. Be accountable. Nobody is watching your recruiting profile yet, but they are talking to your coaches and your opposing coaches.

ACADEMIC FOCUS

- Know exactly what your school requires to graduate
- Understand the core course requirements for both NCAA and NAIA eligibility
- These are not the same thing and not knowing the difference can cost you options later
- Build real study habits and time management skills now because the workload only increases

THE MISTAKE I SEE MOST *Worrying about recruiting before you have built anything worth recruiting.*

SOPHOMORE YEAR

Start putting in the work

This is when it starts getting real. Earn your varsity opportunities and make the most of them. Film matters now. What you do between the lines is what coaches are going to watch.

D1 coaches can begin reaching out via text, email, and direct message starting June 15 after your sophomore year. D2 contact opens fully after sophomore year as well. D3 and NAIA programs are not typically recruiting this far out. That is not a knock on those programs. That is just how they operate. Their timelines are different, and hearing nothing from them as a sophomore is not a signal that you are behind.

What you should be doing is going to camps, and not just for exposure. Go to compete. Go to measure yourself against the best in your class. Go to get real feedback on where you stand. Do not go to a D1 camp just to say you went. Go where you can show out and grow. Start having that honest and tough conversation about where you stack up and what you need to improve, then get to work.

ACADEMIC FOCUS

- Maintain a strong GPA
- Stay on track with your core courses and NCAA and NAIA eligibility requirements
- Start your SAT and ACT prep early
- Do not let testing sneak up on you junior year

THE MISTAKE I SEE MOST *Confusing social media attention with real recruiting interest. Followers do not get you offers. Film and grades do. An*

JUNIOR YEAR

This is the evaluation year. Do not waste it.

Junior year is where real separation happens. Your film from this year carries the most weight. This is what coaches are building their boards around.

Visit schools and build real relationships. Take advantage of junior days and gameday visits. Use those experiences to gauge the level of talent, feel the atmosphere, and pay attention to how you are treated. Junior year is a good year to start evaluating where you realistically fit and what level is the right one for you, athletically and academically.

FBS programs extend most of their offers during the summer before junior year and are offering pretty much up until the end of your junior season. FCS programs recruit differently. A lot of those offers come during the season, right after it ends, and continue into the spring after your junior year. That is not slow recruiting. That is their process. Understand it and stay ready for it.

If you have not had real communication from FBS programs by the beginning of senior year, that is when it is time to be honest about where your opportunities actually are. Not as a failure. As a strategic adjustment to a process where real opportunities exist at multiple levels.

ACADEMIC FOCUS

- Take the SAT or ACT and aim for your best score
- Get your transcripts in order
- Stay eligible because none of the other stuff matters if you are not

THE MISTAKE I SEE MOST *Chasing attention from programs that are not actually recruiting you instead of building real relationships with the one*

SENIOR YEAR

Stay locked in. Real opportunities are still in front of you.

By this point the market has given you a pretty clear signal of what level you are capable of playing at. Accept it, lock in, and take full advantage of it. The programs recruiting you right now are real opportunities. Treat them that way.

The spring going into your senior year is when a good number of FCS schools are actively offering. Camp season is critical. Some prospects are going in to solidify committable offers. Some are going in hoping to gain them. Either way, being prepared and ready to compete is what separates the players who leave with something from the ones who do not.

FCS, D2, D3, NAIA, and JUCO programs are all recruiting seniors. These are real paths to playing college football at a high level.

Update your film early. Stay consistent with your communication. Be responsive. Stay locked in through your season. Keep training. Keep producing.

ACADEMIC FOCUS

- Maintain grades and eligibility through signing day
- Get your admissions paperwork and financial aid forms done fast
- Delays cost players spots

THE MISTAKE I SEE MOST

The offer you are holding out for may not come. The ones in front of you will not wait. Know the difference before the

FINAL MESSAGE

There is no single path to playing college football.

The athletes who find their path share one thing in common. They took ownership of their process, stayed realistic about where they stood, and kept putting in the work regardless of what was happening around them.

That is what this is built on.

Every rep counts.