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## Crunching the Numbers: Soccer Scholarships



By **Ryan Wood**  
Active.com

You've played your way to a respectable high school and club soccer career. You've put together a [recruiting video](#), and you have an idea of different schools you would be interested in attending.

Now what?

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There are a couple of big steps to be made before [recruiting](#) gets rolling. One is being proactive, and the other is being informed.

Being on top of what different schools can offer you--and being realistic about where your talents could fit in--will make it easier to be effective when you make college [soccer](#) coaches aware of your abilities. The first step is knowing the number of scholarships out there so you have a better idea of what coaches have to work with.

Here's a quick rundown:

### NCAA Division I

**How Many Schools:** There are 199 men's soccer programs in Division I, including powerhouses like Indiana and UCLA. There are 320 women's programs, including titans like North Carolina, Notre Dame and Portland.

**Scholarship Count:** Women's soccer is allowed 14 scholarships. Men's soccer is allowed 9.9 scholarships.

**Scholarship Breakdown:** Scholarships can be full or partial rides at the Division-I level, but with rosters exceeding 20 players, they are used carefully.

### NCAA Division II

**How Many Schools:** There are 179 men's programs and 227 women's programs in Division II soccer.

**Scholarship Count:** Women's soccer has 9.9 scholarships to work with. Men have nine scholarships.

**Scholarship Breakdown:** Partial rides are common in Division II soccer, as coaches can distribute the money to as many players as they wish.

### NCAA Division III

**How Many Schools:** Division III soccer consists of 401 men's programs and 424 women's programs. Powers include Messiah (Pa.) College for the men and Wheaton (Ill.) College for the women.

**Scholarship Count:** Athletic scholarships are not offered in Division III

athletics.

**Scholarship Breakdown:** With no athletic scholarships, students often find financial aid or academic scholarships to assist with costs while playing soccer.

### NAIA

**How Many Schools:** There 218 men's programs in the NAIA and 223 women's programs.

**Scholarship Count:** Both men's and women's soccer are allowed 12 scholarships per team.

**Scholarship Breakdown:** Partial scholarships are common. Strong students who meet certain academic criteria can receive aid without it counting toward the program's limit.

### NJCAA Division I

**How Many Schools:** There are 136 men's soccer programs at the junior-college level and 118 women's programs.

**Scholarship Count:** Men's and women's soccer are allowed 18 scholarships at the junior-college level.

**Scholarship Breakdown:** Many scholarships at the junior-college level are full rides, but partial rides are common, too.

### NJCAA Division III

**How Many Schools:** There are 78 men's programs in NJCAA Division III, and 58 women's programs.

**Scholarship Count:** Much like Division III four-year schools, D-III schools at the junior-college level do not offer scholarships.