

1) Dedicating More Time to your On-field Activities than to your Schoolwork

The first question that every coach asks our recruiting staff at Baseball Factory is, “What are his grades?” If a player doesn’t have good enough grades, there is no reason for the coach to begin recruiting him. It is important that you spend as much time as possible studying and improving your grades. The better your grades, the more options you will have at the college level.

In addition, the NCAA requires that players maintain their eligibility throughout the entire year. In the past, players were only required to be academically eligible in the fall in order to compete in the spring. Players need to be eligible during both semesters in order to be allowed to play on their team. Therefore, it is even more important that you are strong in the classroom. Coaches cannot risk recruiting a player who may struggle academically and not be eligible. So, if grades weren’t already incredibly important, they are now. **Study hard!**

2) Limiting your Search to only Division I Schools

This is a problem that we come across every day with players and parents. There is a mentality out there amongst high school baseball players, and also many parents, that if you aren’t going to be able to play baseball at a Division I college, you shouldn’t play at all. **Getting stuck in that mindset will limit the options you have at the next level.**

The truth is that there are many Division II and Division III programs across the nation that can compete with Division I programs. There are over 1,600 college baseball programs and less than 300 of them are Division I. Keep the goal of playing **COLLEGE** baseball at the forefront, not playing **DIVISION I COLLEGE** baseball. Again, don’t limit your options. Pick the school that is the best fit for you.

3) Expecting College Coaches to Come see you Play

College baseball is not a revenue generating sport like football and basketball. As such, college coaches have very limited recruiting budgets, not to mention hectic schedules trying to manage their teams while recruiting for the future. While it is smart to send college coaches your spring, summer and fall baseball schedule, don’t expect them to come see you play.

Many players expect coaches to see them in one of their high school games and begin recruiting them because of that performance. **The truth of recruiting is that a coach normally won’t attend a game unless they already have interest in a player that is performing.** There is also the chance that the day a coach does show up at one of your games, you aren’t playing, or have a poor performance. You need to take additional steps to make yourself stand out above the other 200 players that coach is recruiting.

Write the coach a letter, email him, call him, set up a meeting with him to ask questions about his program, get a professionally edited video tape made for the coach to review. Take the initiative yourself and you will open many more doors. **The more interest you can generate by being proactive, the more likely that a coach will come see you play.**