

Common Myths about College Recruiting: from the American College Connection

1. **If I'm fast enough my grades won't matter.**
College coaches cannot afford to take a chance on a swimmer no matter how fast they are if they can't stay academically eligible. That's a fact!
2. **Coaches will find me.**
Recruiting budgets are continually being cut so most coaches don't have a way to find potential recruits. They have scholarship money, but they don't have enough recruiting money to find recruits.
3. **I can wait until after my junior year to get the recruiting process started.**
All of the good coaches like to identify talent at an early age. The problem they face is how to keep up the with swimmer's progress. The key is to get on the "radar screen" early and keep the coaches updated throughout high school.
4. **I received a blank questionnaire in the mail so that means that I am being recruited.**
Many coaches do a "shotgun" approach by mailing out thousands of questionnaires to recruits they have never even heard of.
5. **If I send out my resume' coaches will start recruiting me.**
The typical college coach receives dozens of recruiting packets from well meaning swimmers and parents every week. The fact is most of the information never gets looked at and sits in a pile on the coaches desk.
6. **Nobody has contacted me so I am not good enough to swim in college.**
There are hundreds of college swimming programs around the country searching for student-athletes that they can develop. The latest we started with a recruit was a month after she graduated from high school and she was barely under a minute in the 100 yard free. After we were done, she was recruited by 29 college coaches and is currently on a swimming scholarship at a four year school
7. **D-I is the only place to swim.**
This is a huge misconception. There are many D-II, D-III and NAIA schools that offer great academics and much stronger swimming programs than many D-I schools.

Consider The Following Numbers:

	Girls	Boys
Number of students between the ages of 14 and 18 who swim	159,000*	108,000*
Number of graduating high school seniors each year.	40,000	27,000
Approximate number of swimming scholarships available each year at Division I and II programs.	558	373
Your chances of getting a full scholarship.	1 in 71	1 in 72