



College Swimming & Recruiting

As a SUSA High Performance group member, one of the important things to be thinking about is swimming in college. Here is an info sheet to help you on your journey. Check out Utah Swimming's website, swimutah.com, for really good info on [College Swimming](#).

Things to do:

- NCAA Clearing House: Make sure you meet with your school counselor to make sure you are taking the required classes to be NCAA eligible.
- List of Colleges: Where do you want to go? Make a broad list of colleges to start doing research on (10-12). What level or college are you looking at (I, II, III, NAIA, NJCAA)? Every college will have many similarities but what makes them distinct and interesting to you? Start narrowing your search using the Consideration Points below.
- Online Questionnaires: Once you make your lists of schools, go to each individual colleges website and fill out their online potential athlete's questionnaire. This will get your name and info into their system and is the best place to start letting a school know you are interested in them.
- Recruiting Services: There are several recruiting services available and most, if not all, will have some sort of fee (some are in the \$Thousands so do your research). My recommendation for starting with CollegeSwimming.com and SwimCloud.com. Pretty much every single college checks out this platform. Remember that you have to do the work and keep your information current and up to date.
[Registering with SwimCloud](#)
[How to Use SwimCloud for Recruiting](#)
- Personal Info/Bio: Create a personal info sheet for yourself, including a bio, that you can reference when you are filling out questionnaires. It should contain all pertinent personal info, education information such as GPA and test scores, extracurricular activities, etc. If using a recruiting service, be sure to keep your platform up to date with current info/times/etc.
- Recruiting Trips: You can take 5 official visits to potential colleges. Potential visits are offered by and paid for by the college. You can go on as many unofficial visits as you want.
- Keep a Log: Log any/all interactions with coaches and notes after each visit/meeting/call. Use this as a reference when making your decisions.
- Be Honest: Be truthful with your answers and questions. They just aren't interviewing you, but you are determining if this is somewhere you want to spend multiple years of your life. Ask the coaches and athletes the hard questions. (Where did they fail? What lessons did they learn that they need to grow from? Are the athletes truly united and a family? Are the coaches approachable? Does the team have a good reputation on campus and in the community?)

Consideration Points:

When you are looking at potential colleges to swim for, there are several consideration points that need to be prioritized to help you make your decision. You must decide what things are the most important. *Swimmers and parents* should go through the consideration points together to determine how to prioritize the factors. Here are some consideration points:

Location and climate:

Is the school someplace you can live with? Is it close to home and does that matter? Do you like the climate (if you don't do well in the snow, or hot, think twice)? Is it a college town that is small and isolated? Are the outside opportunities that interest you? What is the social setting like?

Cost:

What is the annual tuition and is it affordable to you and your family? Are scholarships offered, both athletic and academic? What financial aid options are available? Are you able to work while you are a student athlete?

Education field of studies:

Do they have a major you are interested in? What is the required workload you must maintain to be a collegiate athlete? What help is offered through the swim program to athletes?

Facility:

What are the facilities like? Are you good with water and lane lines, or do you need shiny and pretty?

Coaches:

How are the coaches? Do you see yourself being able to talk to the coaches when things are rough? What do the current athletes think about the coaches? Are they willing to talk about their weaknesses and things that need to be done differently or better?

Athletes:

How do you see yourself fitting in with the program? Do they have similar values to your own? Is it a Men's only, Women's only or combined program? If single gender, are you ok with that? Is there team unity?

Helpful Articles

[The Ever Changing World of College Recruiting for Swimmers](#)

[Advice for the High School Swimmer Considering College](#)

[What Coaches Want](#)

[College Recruiting: 5 Considerations](#)

Resources:

[NCAA Clearing House](#)

[CollegeSwimming.com](#)

[SwimCloud.com](#)

[Collegeswimmingguide.com](#)

[SwimUtah.com](#)

[KING Aquatic Club](#) – lots of info