

Welcome to Home Plate!

Fall signals another season of NCAA Baseball is right around the corner. I know that we are all anticipating the beginning of the season. The Home Plate central hub provides a common national platform where we can gather for mutual growth and improvement as we strive to improve the great game of college baseball. Below you will find eligibility requirements and important dates for the 2024-25 season.

If you received this letter via email, you have successfully registered for the NCAA central hub. If you are viewing this letter on <u>refquest.com</u> and have not registered yet, please click Register in the top right corner. Click <u>here</u> for more information on the NCAA's Officiating Background Check Program.

Please visit the Home Plate central hub frequently to stay current on the latest Baseball officiating news and information. On the central hub, you'll be able to read the latest rules interpretations from the secretary-rules editor and bulletins from the national coordinator, complete your requirements to be considered for a postseason assignment, and review videos of recurring plays and how they are to be officiated.

The 2025 NCAA online Umpire Clinic's segments will include the NCAA Rules and Officiating interpretations and Video. In addition, PowerPoint presentations, as well as Mechanics, Points of Emphasis, Professional Standards, Quizzes, Getting the Call Right, Handling Situations, Umpire Discussions, and Eligibility Requirements.

I am very pleased you have chosen to register with the NCAA. Thank you for being a critical part of the NCAA Baseball Umpire Program. If you have ideas or suggestions for improvement, please email me at **georgedrouches@gmail.com**.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the season.

Best wishes for a great season!

George M. Drouches

NCAA National Coordinator of Umpires



Eligibility Requirements for NCAA Postseason Consideration

To be eligible to be considered for NCAA postseason assignment, officials must complete the following criteria:

- Register on RQ+ (<u>refquest.com</u>)
- Consent to a background check
- Pass Rules Test
 - o 60 questions
 - o 85% score required to pass
 - o Two (2) attempts allowed
- Complete the NCAA online Umpire Clinic to its completion.
- View the Sports Wagering Educational Video in its entirety.

NCAA baseball leadership and/or NCAA staff may add additional eligibility items.

Important Dates

- Rules test open date Friday, January 3, 2025
- Rules test close date Monday, January 20, 2025
- Eligibility requirements deadline date Monday, January 20, 2025

Welcome Packets

To reduce the cost of registration, an official may "opt out" of receiving hard copies of the **2025 & 2026 Baseball Rules Book**. Please note you will automatically receive a hard copy of the **2025 CCA Baseball Umpires Manual**. Digital versions of the rules book, and CCA manual will be available under "Publications" on Home Plate.

General Liability, Professional Liability, and Accident/Medical Insurance

As a part of your RQ registration, insurance is included for all intercollegiate contests. The program provides insurance for contests officiated from August 1, 2024, to August 1, 2025.

- \$6,000,000 per incident (\$1,000,000 General Liability and \$5,000,000 Excess)
 - o Includes personal and advertising injury, bodily injury and property damage, damage to premises, abuse, and molestation (domestic and international)
- \$1,000,000 per occurrence for Professional Liability coverage
 - o Includes errors and omissions, coordinators/supervisors, game graders, evaluators (domestic and international)
- \$15,000 Accident/Medical per occurrence
 - o Includes accidental death and dismemberment, excess accident/medical beyond existing coverage





- Option to expand coverage GL/PL coverage for all non-intercollegiate events
 - o Ability to extend coverage for officiating high school and other sanctioned contests
- Option to purchase increased game fee replacement insurance
 - o This insurance offering is intended to cover instances where an injury or other medical event sustained from a covered accident renders you totally disabled and unable to work games you had been assigned. The coverage can pay fees for missed intercollegiate games, up to \$500 a week (for as many as 52 weeks).

Registration Fees

Division I: \$225 Division II: \$125* Division III: \$125*

*The \$125 registration fee for Division II and Division III officials will remain the same through 2029-30.