WHO IS A PROSPECT?

- A prospective student-athlete (prospect) is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade, even if the individual has no intention of participating in intercollegiate athletics.

- You remain a prospect until one of the following occurs (whichever is earlier):
  - You officially register and enroll in a minimum full-time program of studies and attend class in any term of a four-year collegiate institution’s regular academic year (excluding summer); or
  - You participate in a regular squad practice or competition at a four-year collegiate institution that occurs before the beginning of any term (e.g., preseason football practice).

- You become a recruited prospective student-athlete when at least one of the following activities occur:
  - You are provided with an official visit;
  - A coach has arranged an in-person, off-campus contact with you or your parent(s), relatives or legal guardian(s);
  - A coach has telephoned you or a member of your family on more than one occasion; or
  - An institution has issued you a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletically related financial aid.

WHO IS A BOOSTER?

- A booster is an individual, independent agency, corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer) or other organization who is known (or who should have been known) by a member of the institution’s executive or athletics administration to:
  - Have participated in or been a member of an agency or organization promoting the institution’s intercollegiate athletics program;
  - Have made financial contributions to the athletics department or to an athletics booster organization of that institution; or
  - Have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution’s athletics program.

- Boosters cannot be involved in ANY way in your recruiting. Specifically, boosters may not:
  - Call, write or e-mail a prospect or the prospect’s parents, legal guardians, friends or relatives for purposes of athletics recruitment;
  - Mail anything to a prospect, including newspapers, clippings, posters, programs, etc.; and
  - Have on- or off-campus contact with a prospect, the prospect’s parents, legal guardians or relatives for the purpose of athletics recruitment.

- You (or your family) may NOT receive any benefit, inducement or arrangement such as cash, clothing, cars, transportation, gifts, loans or free or reduced cost services to encourage you to commit to attend a particular institution.
PRINTED CORRESPONDENCE

- In sports other than men’s basketball and men’s ice hockey, a prospect may not receive printed recruiting materials (including general correspondence) until September 1 at the beginning of the prospect’s junior year in high school.

- In men’s basketball and men’s ice hockey, an institution may not provide recruiting materials to a prospect (including general correspondence related to athletics) until June 15 at the conclusion of the prospect’s sophomore year in high school.

TELEPHONE CALLS

Sports Other Than Football or Basketball

- Telephone calls may not be made before July 1 following the completion of the prospect’s junior year in high school. After this time, the coach is limited to one telephone call per week.

Men’s Basketball

- An institution may make:
  - One telephone call per month to a prospect [or the prospect’s parents or legal guardian(s)] on or after June 15 of the prospect’s sophomore year through July 31 of the prospect’s junior year in high school.
  - Two telephone calls per week beginning August 1 prior to the prospect’s senior year in high school.

- An institution may make one telephone call per week to a two-year or four-year college prospect.

Women’s Basketball

- An institution may make:
  - One telephone call to a prospect [or the prospect’s relatives or legal guardian(s)] during the month of April of the prospect’s junior year in high school on or after Thursday after the conclusion of the Women’s Final Four.
  - One telephone call during May of the prospect’s junior year in high school.
  - One telephone call on or after June 1 – June 20 and one telephone call on or after June 21 – June 30 of the prospect’s junior year in high school.
  - Three telephone calls during the month of July following the prospect’s junior year in high school, with not more than one telephone call per week.

- Beginning August 1 following the completion of the prospect’s junior year in high school, the coach is limited to one telephone call per week.

Football

- An institution may make one telephone call to a prospect [including the prospect’s relatives or legal guardian(s)] from April 15 – May 31 of the prospect’s junior year in high school.

- Additional telephone calls may not be made before September 1 of the beginning of the prospect’s senior year in high school. After this time, the coach is limited to one telephone call per week.

Men’s Ice Hockey

- An institution may make one telephone call per month to a prospect (including the prospect’s parents, relatives or legal guardians) on or after June 15 after the conclusion of the prospect’s sophomore year in high school through July 31 after the prospect’s junior year.
• Additional telephone calls may not be made before August 1 of the beginning of the prospect’s senior year in high school. After this time, the coach is limited to one telephone call per week.

• **Telephone Calls Initiated by Prospect**
  o Coaches may receive telephone calls placed by a prospect at the prospect’s expense at any time. Please note that a coach cannot return your telephone call prior to the dates stated above.

**RECRUITING OPPORTUNITIES**

• In the sports of baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, softball, track and field/cross country and women’s volleyball there are certain periods of time when a coach may contact you off-campus and/or attend your practices or games to evaluate you. In all other sports, contacts and evaluations may occur at any time, except during a dead period.

**CONTACTS**

• Defined as:
  o Any face-to-face encounter between a prospect or the prospect’s parents, relatives or legal guardians and an institutional staff member or booster during which any dialogue occurs in excess of an exchange of a greeting; and
  o Any face-to-face encounter between a prospect or the prospect’s parents, relatives or legal guardians that is prearranged or that takes place on the grounds of the prospect’s educational institution or at the site of organized competition involving the prospect or the prospect’s high school, preparatory school, two-year college or all-star team.

• In-person, off-campus recruiting contacts are not permitted before July 1 following the prospect’s completion of the junior year in high school. In women’s gymnastics, in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts are not permitted before July 15 following the prospect’s junior year.

• A college coach must receive permission from your high school/preparatory school principal prior to contacting you at your educational institution.

**EVALUATIONS**

• Defined as:
  o Any off-campus activity designed to assess the academic qualifications or athletics ability of a prospect, including any visit to a prospect’s educational institution (during which no contact is made) or the observation of a prospect participating in any practice or competition at any site.

• Examples of an evaluation include:
  o Watching a prospect practice, compete, lift weights.
  o Meeting with a prospect’s high school counselor to review transcripts.
  o Talking to a prospect’s high school, preparatory school or junior college coach or instructors at the prospect’s educational institution.
  o Viewing videotapes of prospects while at an off-campus site (e.g., prospect’s educational institution, clinic).

**RECRUITING PERIODS**

• **Contact Period** – A contact period is that period of time when it is permissible for coaches to make in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts and evaluations.

• **Evaluation Period** – An evaluation period is that period of time when it is permissible for coaches to be involved in off-campus activities designed to assess the academic qualifications and playing ability of prospects. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall be made with the prospect during an evaluation period.
• **Quiet Period** – A quiet period is that period of time when it is permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts only on MSU’s campus. No in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts or evaluations may be made during a quiet period.

• **Dead Period** – A dead period is that period of time when it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the member institution’s campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospects to an institution’s campus. Coaches may still write or telephone prospects during such a dead period.

**SPORT SPECIFIC RECRUITING REGULATIONS**

In all sports, except for women’s gymnastics, in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts may not be made with a prospect or his/her family until July 1 following the prospect’s junior year in high school. In women’s gymnastics, in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts may not be made until July 15 following the prospect’s junior year in high school.

**Division I-A Football**

- For each football prospect, the football coaching staff may have up to six in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts and three evaluations during the academic year.
- One evaluation may be used during the fall evaluation period and two evaluations may be used during the spring evaluation period.

**Men’s Basketball**

- For each basketball prospect, the basketball coaching staff may have up to seven recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations combined) per academic year.
- During the prospect’s senior year, no more than three of the seven recruiting opportunities may be contacts.

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<th>HS Freshmen, Sophomores &amp; Juniors</th>
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**Women’s Basketball**

- For each basketball prospect, the basketball coaching staff may have up to five recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations combined) per academic year.
- During the prospect’s senior year, no more than three of the five recruiting opportunities may be contacts.

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All Sports Other Than Football or Basketball

- MSU may have up to seven recruiting opportunities (contacts and evaluations combined) per prospect.
- During the prospect’s senior year, no more than three of the seven recruiting opportunities may be contacts.

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