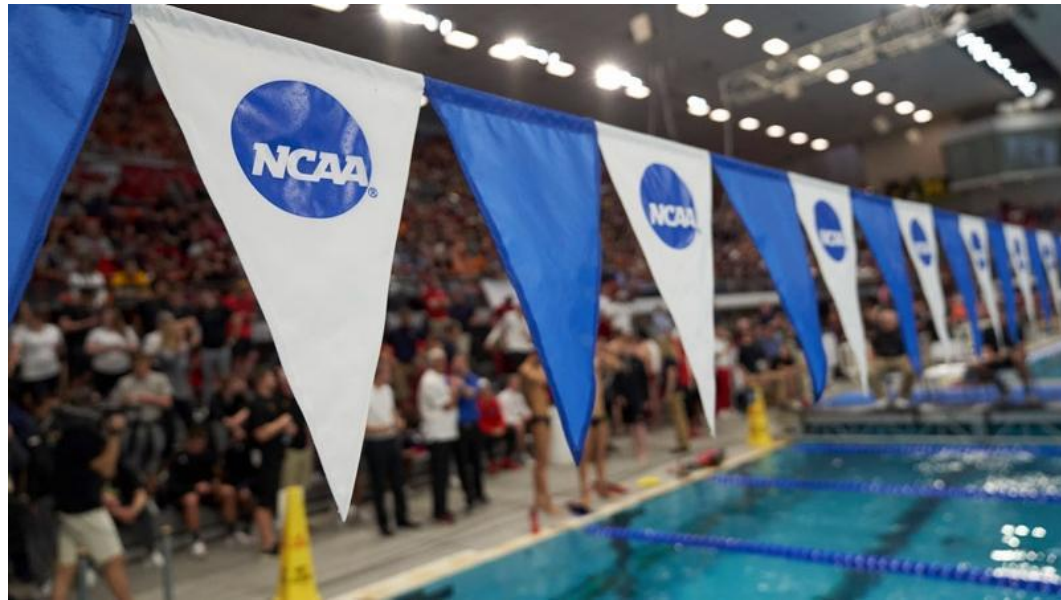


UNIVERSITY SWIMMING



For swimmers who want to continue their competitive experience after high school, the main dilemma is between:

STATES



CANADA



Both options have pros and cons.
It comes down to the swimmers' desire,
distance from home, academic preference
and the type of deal they might offer you.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES



US RECRUITING OF CANADIAN ATHLETES

-

SWIMMING

The recruiting process for swimmers is twofold:

- i) the University recruitment and commitment process**
- ii) NCAA recruiting guidelines and NCAA Eligibility process**

THE UNIVERSITY RECRUITMENT AND COMMITMENT PROCESS:

There are two popular recruiting sites that a swimmer can begin the recruitment process:

- **Swimcloud**
- **CollegeSwimming**

The screenshot shows the Swimcloud website interface. The browser address bar displays 'swimcloud.com'. The page features a navigation menu on the left with options: Results, Top Times, Team Rankings, Recruiting, Videos, Meet Simulator, and Help. The main content area is titled 'Results' and includes a search bar and sorting options for 'Latest' and 'Top Weekly'. A grid of meet results is displayed, including 'SCAR v UNC', 'UK vs UL, senior meet', 'UT vs Georgia', 'Florida vs Auburn', 'NC State vs UVA', 'Shamrock Sessions - Women's Meet', 'NU - IOWA - PSU', 'Wisconsin vs. Minnesota vs. Purdue', 'Texas A&M v LSU 2021', and 'GT vs Vanderbilt'. Below the results is a 'Championship Meets' section with four cards for 'NAIA Championships', 'NCAA Division II Championships', 'NCAA Division III Women's Championships', and 'NCAA Division III Men's Championships'. A blue banner at the bottom states: 'Swimcloud helps coaches, swimmers, and parents to make better decisions, improve performance and reach more people.' To the right of the banner is a 'Get started' section with links for 'Coaches', 'Swimmers', and 'Associations'.

Both sites are run by the same organization; therefore, it does not matter which site you open an account with as it will migrate to the other account.

Choose one of the sites and register your swimmer, there is a fee which is roughly \$100 CDN / year.

The account needs to be opened by the swimmer with their email address, not the parents'.

The parents open the account, and pay for the account, however all information and emails are going to the swimmers only.

This entire recruiting process needs to be athlete driven...**ATHLETES ONLY!**

The University recruiters do not want parent involvement and it will in fact hinder any chances your swimmer may have with recruitment.



As difficult as that is, these teams are looking for independent, mature athletes.

Once the account is open, the two most important pieces of data are:

- **swimmer's personal information**
- **swim times**

Make sure to be honest in filling out this data. Times can be uploaded directly from Swim Canada or manually if they are older meets.

Pictures and videos are always a good thing to have....remember you are selling an athlete and their abilities.

Samples of Oksana's Profile:

Oksana Chaput
Winnipeg, MB CAN
Class of 2021
Manta Swim Club

Highlights

Committed University of Minnesota | Power Index 9.63 | Manitoba rank 1st | 2021 rank 119th

I am thrilled to announce my verbal commitment to continue my academic and swimming career at the University of Minnesota! The moment I stepped on campus and met the coaches and the team, I knew this was a perfect fit for me! I would like to thank my friends, family and coaches for all their love and support. I'm excited to represent the University of Minnesota and be part of a history of academic and swimming success! Go Gophers! #SkiUMah

2019

- RBC Canadian Swimming Championships**
 - 4 time Finalist
 - 6th place 200 L Free - 2:05.00
 - 6th place 50 L Free - 26.39
 - 7th place 100 L Fly - 1:02.10
 - 7th place 100 L Free - 56.90
- Canadian Junior Championships**
 - Champion
 - 1st place 200 L Free - 2:03.66
 - 6 time Finalist
- Jul 24**
 - 2nd place 400 L Free - 4:24.88
 - 2nd place 100 L Free - 57.27
 - 2nd place 800 L Free - 9:11.77
 - 5th place 200 L Fly - 2:19.88
 - 7th place 50 L Free - 26.91
 - 8th place 100 L Fly - 1:03.33

Stylized Chart: A purple diamond-shaped chart with labels: Free, IM, Back, Fly, Breast, Sprint, Distance.

Speedo Western Canadian Championships

- Champion
- 1st place 100 L Fly - 1:02.20
- 6 time Finalist
- 2nd place 100 L Free - 57.42
- 2nd place 200 L Free - 2:04.79
- 2nd place 400 L Free - 4:27.72
- 2nd place 50 L Free - 26.61
- 3rd place 50 L Fly - 28.23
- 4th place 200 L IM - 2:23.46

Apr 11

2018

- Swim Canada Junior Championships**
 - 3 time Finalist
 - 5th place 100 L Fly - 1:04.43
 - 6th place 100 L Free - 58.92
 - 7th place 50 L Free - 27.35

Rankings

SEASON 2019-2020

National	CAN Club (Open)	CAN Club (15-18)
Canada 66th	Club 36th	Club 16th
	Manitoba 1st	Manitoba 1st
	Manta Swim Club 1st	Manta Swim Club 1st



Once this is filled out, and all data is entered...you wait.



You have to be patient, as the NCAA has strict guidelines for recruitment windows.



During these windows the criteria the NCAA has set out only allows for a contact email.

Oksana Chaput | Swimcloud

swimcloud.com/swimmer/418362/

swimcloud CollegeSwimming

Search anything

Prairie Winter International
Dec. 12-15, 2019

Event	Time	Place	Round	Imp
50 S Free	25.90	1st	Finals	-
50 S Free	25.95	1st	Prelims	-
100 S Free	56.95	-	Timed Finals	-
100 S Free	55.41	1st	Finals	-
100 S Free	56.30	1st	Prelims	-
200 S Free	2:00.91	1st	Finals	-
200 S Free	2:02.05	1st	Prelims	-
400 S Free	4:18.50	2nd	Finals	-
400 S Free	4:21.66	1st	Prelims	-
800 S Free	8:53.35	1st	Timed Finals	-
50 S Fly	28.19	-	Finals	-
50 S Fly	28.59	-	Prelims	-
100 S Fly	1:00.72	1st	Finals	-
100 S Fly	1:01.91	1st	Prelims	-
200 S IM	2:18.18	1st	Finals	-
200 S IM	2:17.66	1st	Prelims	-
400 S IM	4:51.29	2nd	Finals	-
400 S IM	4:54.84	1st	Prelims	-

Progress Overall

Privacy Terms Coaching Jobs

If a team shows interest, they may tag you on your SwimCloud account. This may or may not lead to them contacting the swimmer

The screenshot displays a user profile on the SwimCloud website. The browser address bar shows the URL `swimcloud.com/swimmer/418362/`. The page title is "CollegeSwimming".

Navigation Menu:

- Home
- Profile
- Results
- Top Times
- Team Rankings
- Recruiting
- Videos
- Email
- Meet Simulator
- Help

Progress Graph:

The "Progress" section shows a line graph for "Overall" performance from 2015 to 2020. The y-axis represents a score from 500 to 750. The data points are approximately: 2015 (480), 2016 (650), 2017 (730), 2018 (700), 2019 (750), and 2020 (760).

Year	Overall Score
2015	480
2016	650
2017	730
2018	700
2019	750
2020	760

Videos Section:

Two video thumbnails are shown, both titled "Toyota US Open" from Dec. 04-07, 2019 in Atlanta, GA. The first is for the "400 L Free Women - Prelims - Heat 11" and the second is for the "50 L Free Women - Prelims - Heat 2".

Photos Section:

A collage of photos includes a swimmer in a "MINNESOTA" jersey, a swimmer in a yellow and red suit, and several action shots of swimmers in a pool.

Footer:

Privacy Terms Coaching Jobs

Some recruiters will not tag you, yet you may still receive a contact email even though you may not have been tagged on SwimCloud.

If a team contacts the swimmer, you, the parent, will also receive an email notifying you that the recruiter/coach has contacted the swimmer. This ensures transparency, that the parent knows a contact has occurred, as their swimmer is a minor and this is not only an NCAA guideline, but the Law. It protects the integrity of the swimmer.

At this point it is up to the swimmer ONLY if they decide to initiate contact with the coach.



In Oksana's experience, the first few email contacts she pursued led to some text or phone conversations.

These conversations are worthwhile as they allow the athlete to become used to speaking with recruiters. This may or may not lead any further contact.

It is an initial contact and may or may not be to the liking of the coach or athlete. In some cases, Oksana did not pursue any schools she did not want to engage with.

Parents are **NOT** part of these calls. If the parent is on the call and the recruiter realizes it, that will be the end of the conversation. Why??? Because they are recruiting your swimmer...not you; they only want to speak to the swimmer.



Advice for the swimmer: pick schools you would like to go to....however the reality is that each school is looking for very specific swimmers.

Their rosters are cyclical...students graduate each year, so they may only be looking for either male or female swimmers with certain strokes and certain distances, and certain numbers of swimmers.

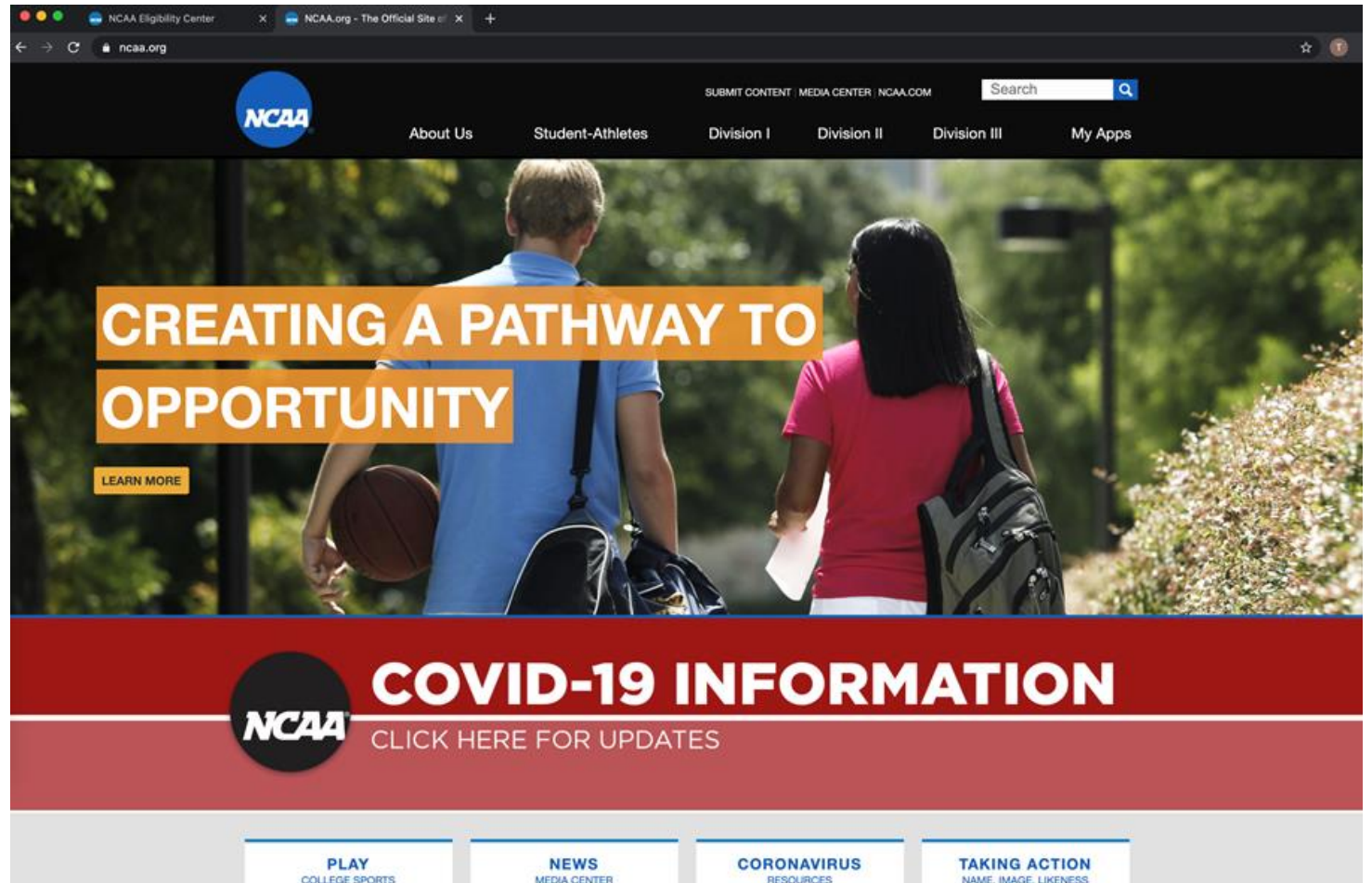
Remember... there are never any guarantees for universities you may want.



NCAA RECRUITING GUIDELINES AND PROCESS:

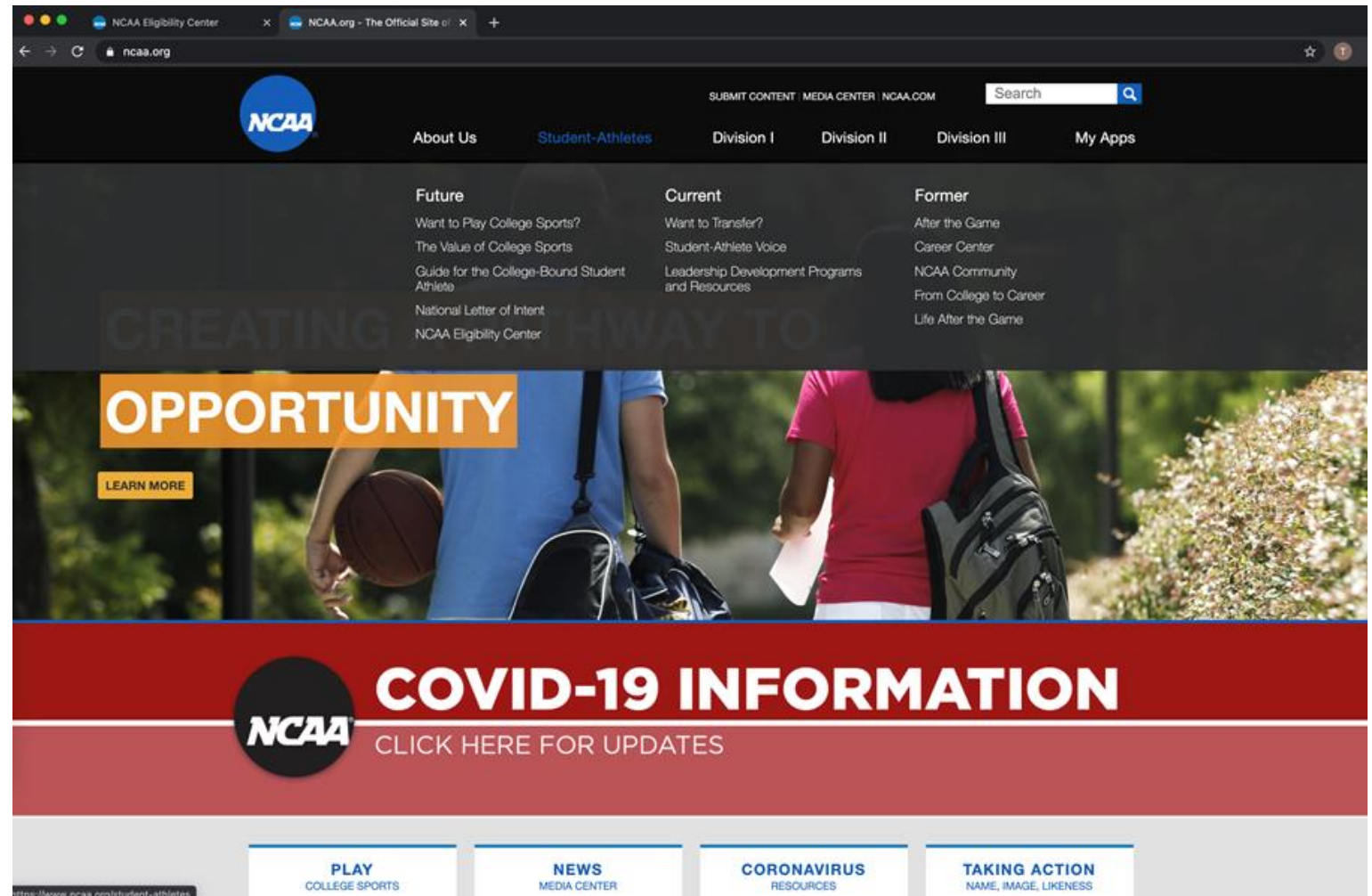
The next step is to register with the NCAA Eligibility Centre:

<https://www.ncaa.org/>



The image is a screenshot of the NCAA website homepage. At the top, there is a dark navigation bar with the NCAA logo on the left and links for 'About Us', 'Student-Athletes', 'Division I', 'Division II', 'Division III', and 'My Apps' on the right. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of a young man in a blue shirt holding a basketball and a young woman in a pink shirt walking away from the camera on a path. Overlaid on this image is the text 'CREATING A PATHWAY TO OPPORTUNITY' in white on an orange background, with a 'LEARN MORE' button below it. Below the banner is a red horizontal bar with the text 'COVID-19 INFORMATION' in white, and a smaller red bar below it with the text 'CLICK HERE FOR UPDATES'. At the bottom, there is a light gray bar with four buttons: 'PLAY COLLEGE SPORTS', 'NEWS MEDIA CENTER', 'CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES', and 'TAKING ACTION NAME, IMAGE, LIKENESS'.

The swimmer need to build a profile and acquire an NCAA Athlete ID #.



The parent should create an account with the swimmer.

The cost is roughly \$120 CDN.

There is a great deal of information to be entered.

This is the most important site as the NCAA manages all athletes in all sports and sets all recruitment guidelines and eligibility criteria.

All information needs to be CORRECT AND ACCURATE...everything you do here affects Athlete eligibility.

This is a three-year process. If you have a swimmer wanting to start this process...begin in grade 10. The process was one year...but the NCAA has changed its guidelines in May 2019, and it now is a three-year process with achievable criteria in each of the three years.

YES...it is a lot of work...but very fulfilling. There are over 200 D1 schools and twice as many D2 schools. There is a great deal of scholarship monies in the US for both male and female swimmers.



THINGS
TO KEEP IN
MIND

I would **NOT** recommend finding a recruiter.
They are expensive and this is a business for them.
They will work for their own interests.

Their rates can be cost \$4000 to \$8000 USD...and no guarantees.
We looked into it and dumped that idea very quickly



More helpful sources:

<https://collegeswimmingrecruiting.com/>

Gives you an idea of the NCAA level of the swimmer based on times.

<https://www.ncsasports.org/>

NCSA is good when researching schools; they have a map of the US with all D1 and D2 schools that offer men or women's swimming.

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/act-vs-sat-how-to-decide-which-test-to-take>

ACT vs. SAT: How to Decide Which Test to Take.

CANADIAN
UNIVERSITIES



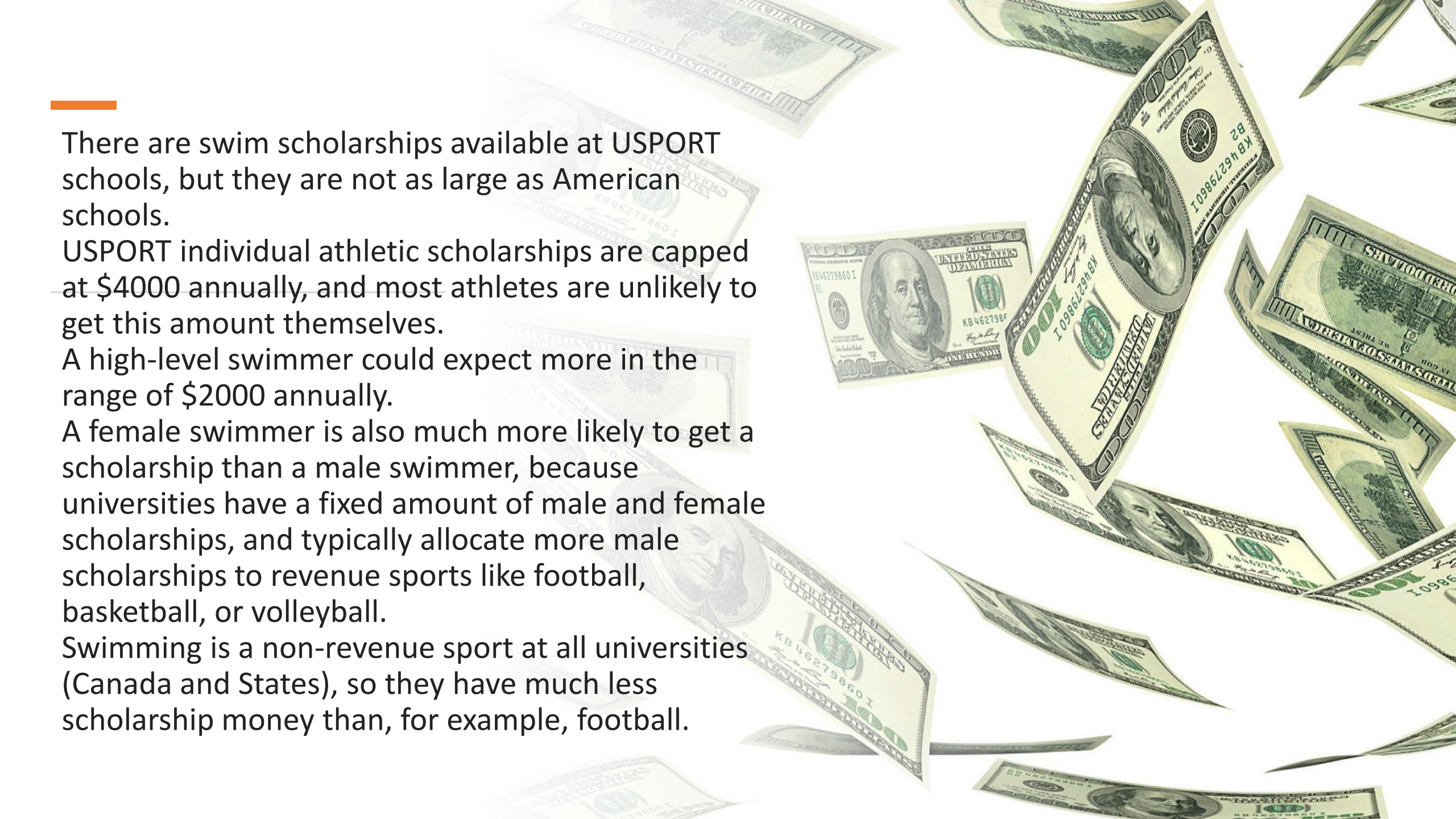
CANADIAN RECRUITING

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SWIMMING

Different universities approach the recruiting process differently. Universities may reach out to you through email, through your coach, or at meets. But sometimes you may need to reach out to the coach yourself. It really depends on the school and the caliber of swimmer that you are.

Pretty much all USPORT swim teams host recruitment trips where groups of prospective swimmers come to the university to meet the coach, swim a practice with the team, and do other activities like tour the campus.



There are swim scholarships available at USPORT schools, but they are not as large as American schools.

USPORT individual athletic scholarships are capped at \$4000 annually, and most athletes are unlikely to get this amount themselves.

A high-level swimmer could expect more in the range of \$2000 annually.

A female swimmer is also much more likely to get a scholarship than a male swimmer, because universities have a fixed amount of male and female scholarships, and typically allocate more male scholarships to revenue sports like football, basketball, or volleyball.

Swimming is a non-revenue sport at all universities (Canada and States), so they have much less scholarship money than, for example, football.



There are also many scholarships based on **academic performance** that are also available, including **entrance scholarships** (which you don't even need to apply for).

It is worth mentioning that in Canada, tuition can vary a lot from school to school, and so does scholarship money.

Swimmers should look into all these things when considering scholarships and financial situations, because their scholarship may not help them much financially when it comes to some of these universities with higher tuition.

i.e. – Western can offer significantly more scholarship money than, for example, McMaster. But McMaster is still cheaper because of the tuition difference.

In Canada, university tuition can range from around \$5000 annually (like McMaster) to \$11,000+ annually (like Waterloo).

USPORT swimming is broken up into **four conferences**: Ontario University Athletics (OUA), Canada West, RSEQ (Quebec and Ottawa), and Atlantic University Sport (AUS).

MEMBERSHIP MAP



University of Alberta
Brandon University
UBC
UBC Okanagan
University of Calgary
University of the Fraser Valley
University of Lethbridge
University of Manitoba

MacEwan University
Mount Royal University
UNBC
University of Regina
University of Saskatchewan
Thompson Rivers University
Trinity Western University
University of Victoria
University of Winnipeg



Algoma University
Brock University
Carleton University
University of Guelph
Lakehead University
Laurentian University
McMaster University
Nipissing University
Ontario Tech University

University of Ottawa
Queen's University
RMC
Ryerson University
University of Toronto
Trent University
University of Waterloo
University of Western Ontario

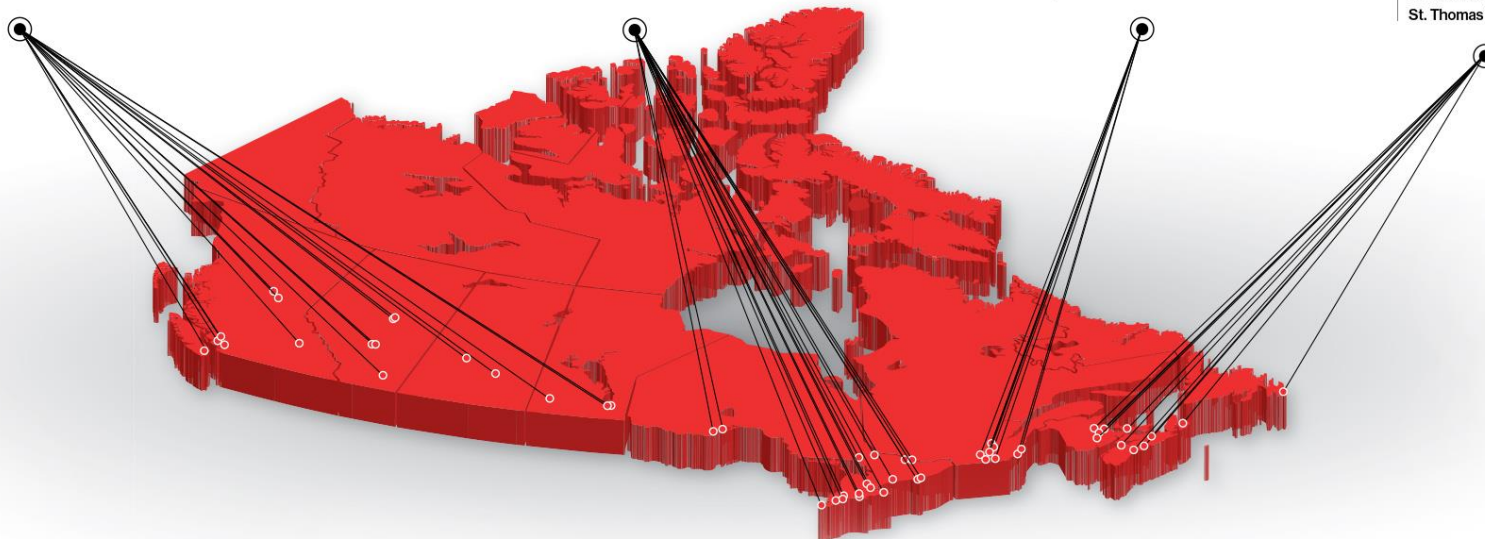
Wilfrid Laurier University
University of Windsor
York University



Bishop's University
Concordia University
Université Laval
McGill University
Université de Montréal
Université du Québec à Montréal
Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
Université de Sherbrooke



Acadia University
Cape Breton University
Dalhousie University
Memorial University
Mount Allison University
Université de Moncton
University of New Brunswick
University of PEI
Saint Mary's University
St. Francis Xavier University
St. Thomas University



Within these conferences, teams are broken up into two divisions.

These divisions change from year to year depending on the teams' performance from the previous year.





USPORT swim teams will have **three main meets:**

- i) Divisional Championship
- ii) Conference championship
- iii) National Championship (USPORTS)

USPORTS are on a qualification basis; times can be found online.

Aside from these meets, there are smaller, one-session "dual meets" between two teams throughout the season. A team will normally have three or four of these in a season. Different teams also travel to select club meets to get extra racing opportunities in (and to give swimmers and coaches an opportunity to do some club recruiting).

It's important to understand that there are places in Canada where **swimmers without National times** can have a very good chance of being on the swim team and get an education from a top ranked university.

McMaster, McGill, Waterloo, and Alberta are all examples of schools with really strong international reputations where swimmers without National times have a decent shot at making the team.



From a marks' standpoint, there are schools in Canada that have swim teams and fairly low academic requirements.

Schools like Brock, Lethbridge, UNB, Regina, and Laurentian are examples of schools that lots of kids can get into and continue swim careers and get a degree.



In general, Canadian University tuitions are **much lower** than in the States and not having to worry **about health insurance** and **increased travel expenses** makes cost a lot less of a factor than some may think.



Q & A

If you have more questions, you contact Tom Chaput at
thechaputs@shaw.ca