

AFA Knowledge Transfer Questions College Coaches May Ask

When talking to potential student athletes, college coaches often ask questions that will help them understand not only how you play, but also how you think, your sport culture, and your self-assessment as a player, to help the coach determine how you might fit into their program. The coach wants to know about you as a student, an athlete and a person, and your potential for the school and program.

Below are some questions players have told us they were asked during interviews on the phone or during campus visits. Questions that are underlined will more than likely be asked in some form at some point in your discussions with a coach. Give all these questions some thought, so you can give an articulate answer if asked. Even better, copy this list and outline your key points for a thoughtful response to each question so you are totally prepared if the question arises! **IMPORTANT: In all your responses to the coach, be confident, genuine, and honest. It's okay to be nervous – the coach will expect you to be! Being prepared for these questions will help you respond more easily, but you don't want to come across as scripted and over-rehearsed. Remember, you are having a conversation with the coach, not a recital!**

You as a Student

- What are your grades like?
- Have you taken the ACT/SAT? If not, when will you take it?
- Have you registered for the Eligibility Center? If so, what is your ID number?
- Do you have a copy of your Transcripts? Can you send me a copy?
- How do you balance your time as a student and an athlete?

You as a Fan of the Game

- Who is your favorite US National/Olympic Team player? Why?
- Which professional team(s) do you follow?
- How often do you watch your sport? Where do you watch?
- Who is your favorite player of all time? Why?

You as an Athlete

- Why do you play?
- How would you describe your playing style?
- Of all the players who have ever played, or currently play, who plays the most like you do? Why?
- What are your strengths as a player?
- How are you continuing to build on your strengths?
- What are you developing on as a player?
- What are you doing to improve on your development?
- How do you work on your mental aspect of the game?
- What would you say are the strengths and weaknesses of your current coaches?
- Which coach has had the most impact on you and why?
- What improvements have you made recently in your game?
- What is your workout routine?
- How much time do you spend in team practice each week?
- How much time do you spend practicing on your own?
- What are your goals for the season?
- Where do you see yourself in five years?
- How do you feel about winning and losing?

You as a Potential College Student Athlete

- What are you looking for in a school?
- Have you visited our campus? If not, do you plan to visit?
- What would make you a good fit for our school and program?
- What can you offer me that another player cannot?
- What interests you about our school?
- What do you like about our program?
- Do you want to come here for the athletics or the academics?
- Do you plan to attend our summer camp?
- Why do you think you can play at this level?
- What other schools are recruiting you?
- What type of scholarship are you looking for?

You as a Person

- What are some of your interests outside of sports?
- What advice would you give a high school freshman?
- What are the words you live by? Do you have a motto or saying that reflects your philosophy in life?
- What does the phrase “give back to the game” mean to you?
- How do you feel about playing time?
- What are your relationships with your family like?
- If you were granted three wishes, what would you wish for?
- Do you see yourself as a leader?

LAST, BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST

- What questions do you have for me? *ALWAYS HAVE QUESTIONS PREPARED FOR THE COACH!*