



## New Mexico Rapids Soccer Club

### Factors to Consider when Selecting Schools of Interest

#### Academic Factors to Consider When Identifying Schools of Interest

- 4-year vs. 2-year
- Private vs. public
- Academic reputation
- Academic climate
  - Highly competitive or supportive
- Academic programs
  - Highly focused, broad ranging, transferability, requirements for major
- Admission requirements
- Size
- Location/distance home
- Residence hall facilities
  - On-campus requirements, availability, food services
- Residential or commuter
  - Suitcase campuses
- Campus Location
  - Urban, suburban, rural
- Career services available
  - Job placement percentage, graduate or professional school attendance
- Cost
- Financial aid
- Academic calendar
- Typical/average class size
  - Student-faculty ratio
- Academic support services
  - Tutoring, special needs
- Retention/graduation rates
  - Freshmen retention
- Entry level course instructors
  - Graduate assistants or professors
- Cooperative education, internships, undergraduate research, study abroad
- Single-sex vs. co-ed
- Religious affiliation
  - Services for your denomination
- Ethnic diversity
- Fraternity/sorority system
- Social/club/recreational activities and facilities
- Climate
- Service Academies

#### Athletic Factors to Consider When Identifying Schools of Interest

- Program affiliation
  - NCAA I, II, III, NAIA, etc.
- Competition level
  - Overall
  - Championship caliber
- Quality of schedule
- Demands and time commitment of team members
  - In-season
  - Off-season
  - Strength and conditioning
- Scholarship, invited and uninvited walk-on status
- Player retention and turnover
  - Juniors and seniors
- State/public university roster make-up
- Opportunities to contribute
  - Competitive fit
  - System/style of play
  - Where the coach would utilize you
  - Number and class year of players in your role
  - Important to play right away
- Soccer facilities
  - Match/practice fields, weight room, etc.
- Team travel
  - Missed class time
  - Mode of transportation
  - Meal allowances
- Coaching staff
  - # and qualifications
  - Other responsibilities
  - Coaching style and philosophy
  - Tenure: past and future
- Program reputation and visibility
  - Are big crowds and national media attention important
- Athletic department commitment to soccer
- Team atmosphere
  - On the field
  - Social
  - Players you would get along with
- Academic and athletic balance – coach expectations