

COLLEGE RECRUITING STRATEGY

RECRUITING ROADMAP

TARGET LIST · TIMELINE · WHAT COACHES WANT

The 4-year process — mapped out so you know exactly what to do and when to do it.

PREPARED FOR

MARCUS DELGADO

POSITION
CMCLASS OF
2027TARGET
D1 / D2 TARGETGPA
3.8 UW

01

YOUR TARGET LIST STRATEGY

REACH • TARGET • SAFETY — CALIBRATED TO YOUR LEVEL AND GOALS

GRAD YEAR	POSITION	TARGET DIV	GPA	SAT/ACT
2027	CM	D1 / D2 Target	3.8 UW	SAT 1410

TARGET LIST STRATEGY

Based on your technical level, GPA, and geography, we're splitting your target list across D1 (reach), D2 (primary target), and D3 (safety). Your GPA is a major asset — several D1 academic schools become realistic because of it. Focus: Northeast region within 4-hour drive.

02

SCHOOL TARGET LIST

UPDATE WEEKLY • EVERY CONVERSATION, EVERY EMAIL, EVERY RESPONSE

SCHOOL	DIV	TIER	COACH	PRIORITY	STATUS
Boston College	D1	REACH	Head Coach J. Walker	HIGH	Awaiting response
Boston University	D1	REACH	Head Coach R. Esposito	HIGH	Email sent
Georgetown	D1	REACH	Head Coach M. Nolan	HIGH	Not contacted
Providence College	D1	REACH	Head Coach C. Gabarra	MED	Not contacted
Bentley University	D2	TARGET	Head Coach T. Sullivan	HIGH	Call scheduled
Adelphi University	D2	TARGET	Head Coach B. Garrity	HIGH	Interested
Le Moyne College	D2	TARGET	Head Coach R. Rejman	MED	Email sent
Merrimack College	D2	TARGET	Head Coach T. Knipe	MED	Not contacted
Saint Anselm	D2	TARGET	Head Coach J. Denier	MED	Not contacted
Pace University	D2	TARGET	Head Coach D. Fokin	MED	Not contacted
Southern NH Univ.	D2	TARGET	Head Coach M. Trott	LOW	Not contacted
Franklin Pierce	D2	TARGET	Head Coach P. Galanis	LOW	Not contacted
Tufts University	D3	SAFETY	Head Coach K. Ference	MED	Very interested
Amherst College	D3	SAFETY	Head Coach J. Serpone	MED	Not contacted
Williams College	D3	SAFETY	Head Coach E. Raboin	LOW	Not contacted
Endicott College	NAIA	SAFETY	Head Coach M. Gilfoil	LOW	Not contacted

03

RECRUITING TIMELINE BY GRADE

START EARLY — THE PROCESS BEGINS SOONER THAN MOST FAMILIES REALISE

PHASE • FOUNDATION

8TH / FRESHMAN

- Play at the highest competitive level you can access.
- Focus 100% on development — not exposure.
- Build academic habits. GPA matters more than you think.
- Watch college soccer — identify styles you want to play in.

PHASE • AWARENESS

SOPHOMORE

- Research target schools — academic fit + athletic level.
- Attend ID camps at schools you're seriously interested in.
- Build your first highlight reel (rough version is fine).
- Begin light contact with coaches at target schools.

PHASE • ACTIVE OUTREACH

JUNIOR

- Your most important year. Email your full target list by September.
- Attend showcases for your target division (ECNL, Jefferson Cup, etc).
- Prepare for official and unofficial campus visits.
- Take SAT/ACT by spring — coaches need academic clarity.
- Narrow your list to 6–8 active programs by year-end.

PHASE • DECISION

SENIOR

- Finalise your top 2–3 choices early in the fall if possible.
- Complete official visits before October.
- Decide with full information: playing time, scholarship, academic fit.
- Send professional closing emails to withdrawn programs.
- NLI signing period in November — know your deadlines.

04 WHAT COLLEGE COACHES EVALUATE

FROM A PROFESSIONAL PLAYER'S PERSPECTIVE — IN PRIORITY ORDER

01 CHARACTER FIRST

Coaches recruit players they want to spend 4 years with. Attitude, coachability, and how you respond to adversity are evaluated before talent. Be professional in every interaction — email, call, visit, training. Every moment is the interview.

02 POSITION-SPECIFIC TECHNICAL QUALITY

Not just 'good player.' Coaches need you to do a specific job at their level. Understand what your position demands at their style of play — and show it clearly in your footage. A CM at Georgetown does different things than a CM at Williams. Show the right thing.

03 ACADEMIC STANDING

D1 coaches cannot spend time on players who won't qualify academically. Have your GPA and test scores in every outreach email. Remove that variable early — it unlocks conversations. A 3.6+ GPA opens doors that closed for other players.

04 WORK RATE & ATHLETIC PROFILE

Coaches watch what you do when the ball is not at your feet. Pressing, recovery runs, tracking back, second efforts. Your sprint count in a match tells them more than any highlight clip.

05 COACHABILITY IN LIVE SETTINGS

At ID camps and showcases, coaches watch how you react to instruction. Do you nod and keep making the same mistake? Or do you adjust on the next rep? Coachability is tested in real time.

06 COMMITMENT LEVEL TO THEIR PROGRAM

Coaches read your emails for personalisation. 'I watched your game against X and loved your pressing triangles' beats 'Great program!' every time. Do your homework and show it.

THE ROAD AHEAD

KEEP GOING.

"Recruitment is not about talent. It's about process. The players who end up where they want to go are the ones who started early, followed up twice as often as everyone else, and made it easy for coaches to say yes. Nothing in this document is complicated. It just has to get done."

— ALBERT ARAMAYO

Professional footballer • National team • Founder, FP by Aramayo

YOUR NEXT STEPS

- 01** Review your target list weekly. Update the status column every Sunday.
- 02** Send your first outreach email to a REACH school this week. Use the templates.
- 03** Attend at least one ID camp in the next 90 days at a top-3 target school.

PLATFORM

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INSTAGRAM

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