

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is requiring all Division III student-athletes to know their sickle cell trait status by testing. This change is in effect for the 2022-2023 school year and will not permit student-athletes to waive testing. This includes try-outs and out of season training.

Information describing the nature of sickle cell trait, the individuals that might be at risk, and signs and symptoms that may occur in individuals who have the trait can be found on the NCAA website at the following address:

**<http://www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/sickle-cell-trait>**

Please review the material to familiarize yourself with Sickle Cell Trait and the current guidelines for managing the condition.

You were likely already tested as a newborn baby, although variations on implementing this testing vary by state and country. You can consult your primary care physician to determine if this test has been performed previously and results recorded, however some states such as New Jersey do not require a newborn's pediatrician to be informed of the test results for Sickle Cell Trait and this information might only be available by contacting the hospital where you were born. **If you wish to present proof of prior testing, an official copy of the laboratory test showing Hemoglobin Solubility result is required. A written note from the doctor indicating the athlete's sickle cell trait status is NOT an acceptable form of confirmation.**

In the event that you have not been previously tested or do not have access to those records and wish to determine your trait status, information and instructions on scheduling an appointment for a blood test and payment details is included below.

Albright College is not financially responsible for the cost of testing and this will be the sole responsibility of the student-athlete.

Sickle cell trait does not prevent any student - athlete from participation. However, student-athletes carrying the trait, their coaches, and medical personnel should be aware of their status so the student-athlete can be monitored appropriately, and measures can be taken to minimize any potential risk associated with participation in intercollegiate athletics.

In summary, you have two choices regarding this new requirement.

1. You can provide a copy of prior test results for sickle cell trait.
2. You can elect to get tested at your own expense.

**There is potential that you will not be permitted to begin participation in athletic activity including strength and conditioning session, practices and competitions until their medical chart contains either a confirmed laboratory test result for sickle cell trait or a waiver from the student-athlete.**