

MEMBERSHIP: National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II (NCAA DII)

CONFERENCE: The Pacific West Conference (PacWest)

**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT:**

*Azusa Pacific's intercollegiate athletic program focuses on the total development of the student-athlete. Through modeling biblical principles, the athletic program seeks to maximize each athlete's God-given talent, thus bringing glory and honor to Jesus Christ through performance and ministry.*

**FOUR PILLARS OF AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY MEN'S SOCCER:**

☐ **CHARACTER:** Azusa Pacific Men's Soccer strives to develop men of character, with Christ at the center, showing discipline, love, and integrity on and off the field.

☐ **COMMUNITY:** The team is a united group, a brotherhood, where the building of strong relationships that last beyond the field and the four years is a high priority.

☐ **COMMITMENT:** We have unyielding dedication to our teammates, our program, and our university. We show this commitment in our work ethic and steadfastness and in our style of play.

☐ **COMPETITIVE GREATNESS:** We have the strongest desire to compete at the highest level and to maximize our individual and collective abilities in every match.

**THINGS WE LOOK FOR IN A PLAYER:**

☐ **TECHNIQUE:** All good players must have the technical ability to play at a high level, and also the technical speed for the college game. This is the foundation upon which quality soccer is built, and a priority for all Cougar soccer players.

☐ **TACTICAL UNDERSTANDING:** Players must have the ability to read the game well and have a good understanding of the overall tactics of the game. Azusa Pacific soccer puts a premium on those players who have intelligence and insight on the field.

☐ **SPEED AND ATHLETICISM:** The physical demands of the college game are great, and every player must have the speed and athletic ability to play at this level.

☐ **PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER:** We look for important aspects of a player that cannot be measured, traits such as discipline, toughness, communication,

and selflessness, all of which will influence success in our program.

**STYLE OF PLAY:** We play a possession style, building out of the back and through the midfield into the attacking third focusing on ball movement between all players. Therefore it is essential that all of our players are technically sound and tactically intelligent.

#### **HISTORY:**

- ☐ NAIA National Championship 2007
- ☐ NAIA National Final Four 2005, 2006, 2007
- ☐ GSAC Championship 1994, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2008

#### **FORMER COUGARS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCCER:**

- ☐ Vinicius Dantas (2010):  
FK Molde - Norway
- ☐ Reid Baker (2009):  
FC Korsholm - Finland
- ☐ Steven Lenhart (2007):  
MLS, San Jose Earthquakes
- ☐ Andriy Budnyy (2005):  
Syracuse Silver Knights
- ☐ Morgan Cathey (2005):  
Former member of Ajax Cape Town in South African Premier League
- ☐ Jake Ward (2002)  
: Former member of the MISL San Diego Sockers
- ☐ Matt Evans (2001):  
Former member of PSL champion Utah Blitz
- PJ Brown (1998):  
Drafted by MLS's Colorado Rapids 1998, former A-League player in San Diego.
- ☐ Carlos Ochoa (1997):  
Former member of the Mexican National Team and Chivas Guadalajara

#### **THE RECRUITING PROCESS**

We are committed to finding top-level players who also fit into the community of Azusa Pacific University. The team is chosen through the recruiting process as opposed to preseason open tryouts. Therefore, it is important for interested players to understand the following process:

1. We need to get to know you as a player through the following:

- ☐ Attend one of our College ID Camps
  - Visit [www.apu.edu/athletics/soccer/mens/camps](http://www.apu.edu/athletics/soccer/mens/camps) for dates and registration form
  - Email us ([menssoccer@apu.edu](mailto:menssoccer@apu.edu)) your player profile

- Email us your NCAA Eligibility Center Number
  - To register, go to [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

□ Send us a game/highlight DVD. The best film includes 5-10 minutes of highlights and at least one half of a high-level game. Make sure to clearly identify your jersey color and number.

Mail to:

*Azusa Pacific University*  
*Attn: Athletic Department / Men's Soccer*  
*PO Box 7000*  
*Azusa, CA 91702*

□ Email your game schedule if you play club soccer, or will be attending a tournament, in southern California. We actively recruit many of the club tournaments, including Surf Cup, Nomads, Temecula, and Cal South National Cup, along with the U.S. Soccer Development Academy games.

2. You need to get to know us as a program. If possible, plan to see us play a game in order to get a firsthand look at the level of play, the team's style, and the atmosphere surrounding a game. More insight into our program, and game highlights, can be found under the Stories tab on our website. If you are planning to visit the campus, please contact the coaching staff and we would be happy to meet with you to discuss the soccer program.

3. After you have been identified as a potential player, the coaching staff at Azusa Pacific can set up a time for you to come on an official visit to APU. According to NCAA rules, a recruit can come in and train with the team on one occasion during spring of their senior year. Before spring of your senior year, it is best to follow step 1 above.

#### **ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Soccer scholarships are awarded based on performance, and at the discretion of the coaching staff.

#### **APU ACCEPTANCE STANDARDS**

- 910 SAT or 19 on the ACT
- 3.0 GPA
- If one of the above standards is not met, APU may look at class rank

#### **NCAA STANDARDS FOR ELIGIBILITY for incoming freshman:**

**IMPORTANT:** In order to be eligible, according to NCAA rules, you must meet the following requirements.

1. 820 on SAT or sum score of 68 on ACT
2. 2.0 GPA in core courses

For more information, visit [www.ncaa.org/](http://www.ncaa.org/).

## ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS/ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

For general information on the school, visit our website: [www.apu.edu/](http://www.apu.edu/).

For specific information on academic scholarships, visit  
[www.apu.edu/sfs/undergraduate/apuscholarships/](http://www.apu.edu/sfs/undergraduate/apuscholarships/).

For information on the admissions process, including an online application, visit  
[www.apu.edu/apply/dom/ugrad](http://www.apu.edu/apply/dom/ugrad).