

**Title:** Bass Fishing Your Way Through College

**Keywords:** bass fishing, collegiate level bass fishing, anglers, varsity bass fishing, scholarships, bass fishing scholarships, sponsorships, fishing team, fishing club, college fishing team, corporate sponsorships for anglers

**Social Media Excerpt/Blurb:** If you love bass fishing, you may already know that although collegiate level bass fishing doesn't get a lot of publicity, it's experiencing quite a surge in popularity. College-bound anglers looking to bass fish at a competitive level through their college years now have plenty of options!

**Blog Post Body:**

If you love bass fishing, you may already know that although collegiate level bass fishing doesn't get a lot of publicity, it's experiencing quite a surge in popularity. College-bound anglers looking to bass fish at a competitive level through their college years now have plenty of options!

**Colleges with Bass Fishing Programs**



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Today there are over 700 colleges with bass fishing teams in the United States. Most of these are club teams, but there are several schools with varsity bass fishing programs as well. With

collegiate level bass fishing teams in at least 36 states, you can fish at a college level almost anywhere in the country.

Colleges with top-rated bass fishing teams include Auburn University, UNC Charlotte, North Carolina State University, Oklahoma State University, Virginia Tech and Bethel University.

Alabama's Auburn University hosts many events for the Southern Collegiate Bass Fishing Series. Their bass fishing team tends to dominate fishing competitions across the country.

UNC Charlotte and North Carolina State University's bass fishing teams share a home state with prime fishing territory as well as a tendency towards winning national championships.

Virginia Tech boasts a very professional and well-resourced bass fishing team with sponsorships from many high-profile fishing brands.

Based in McKenzie, Tennessee, Bethel University may be somewhat obscure, but they have held the number one spot in the Bassmaster rankings in the past. They were also the first college program to offer bass fishing scholarships.

### **Joining the Club**

Once you decide which schools you may be interested in attending, it's time to contact their fishing teams. You can do this via email or by attending an introduction day on campus and looking for the fishing club's booth. Find out what the process for joining is and when they meet. (<https://anglr.com/college-fishing-101/>)

Although many college fishing teams will allow any enrolled student who pays club dues and has access to equipment to join, some teams have additional requirements, including team tryouts. Fishing club coaches are generally looking for anglers with a great GPA, a passion for the sport of bass fishing, a positive attitude and team/tournament fishing experience.



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## **Paying Your Way**

Although around ten college programs now offer bass fishing scholarships, it's much easier to get an academic college scholarship, as there are so many more of these available. This is an additional incentive to maintain a great high school GPA.

Colleges that offer bass fishing scholarships include Bethel University, Blue Mountain College , Dallas Baptist University, Drury University , East Texas Baptist University, Lander University , McKendree University and Savannah College of Art and Design.

There are also some sponsorships available for anglers enrolled in certain academic programs, such as Agriculture and Fish Studies. One such scholarship is the Noreen Clough Memorial Scholarship for Females in Fisheries

(<https://nc.fisheries.org/2019-clough-memorial-scholarship/>).

Corporate sponsorships for anglers are another option to help finance your college tuition.

These include the Lew's & Strike King's Freshman Scholarship Program <https://www.lews.com/>

and/or <https://www.strikeking.com/>) and the Shimano Varsity Scholarship program ([http://fish.shimano.com/content/fish/northamerica/us/en/homepage/VARSITY\\_PROGRAM.html#Shimano%20Varsity%20Program%20Scholarship](http://fish.shimano.com/content/fish/northamerica/us/en/homepage/VARSITY_PROGRAM.html#Shimano%20Varsity%20Program%20Scholarship)).



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Tournaments such as Unity College's Fishing for Scholarships tournament (<https://www.unity.edu/>) and the Student Angler Federation's Annual High School Fishing World Finals and National Championship offer scholarships to tournament winners. And because the NCAA is not currently involved in bass fishing tournaments, collegiate teams can use corporate sponsorships and tournament winnings to pay for gear, travel expenses and more.

No matter your academic interest, preferred location, financial situation or desired level of competition, there's a college bass fishing option for you!