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7-21-2020

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### Recommended Citation

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# Georgia Southern University Athletics



## Volleyball Earns AVCA Team Academic Award

The Eagles posted a 3.35 grade point average in 2019-20.

Marc Gignac

Women's Volleyball

Posted: 7/21/2020 11:21:00 AM

**LEXINGTON, Ky.** – The Georgia Southern volleyball program earned the The United States Marine Corps (USMC) and the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award for the 2019-2020 season, the AVCA has announced.

The Eagles posted a 3.35 grade point average for the 2019-20 academic year and tallied a 3.45 grade point average in the spring. The award, initiated in the 1992-93 academic year, honors volleyball teams that maintain a year-long grade-point average of 3.30 on a 4.0 scale or 4.10 on a 5.0 scale.

"I am proud of our team as this award recognizes their commitment and pursuit of excellence to academic integrity, one of our program's cornerstones," said head coach [Chad Willis](#). "Alongside [Kayla Velasquez](#) and support staff, our student-athletes worked diligently to stay positive, organized and steadfast amidst a tough spring semester as a result of the COVID-19 impact. We're appreciative to the AVCA and the United States Marine Corps for sponsoring this award and their continued commitment to honoring academic achievement."

A total of 1,313 teams earned the honor, topping last year's record by almost 200 teams, and 232 programs received team academic honors for the first time in 2020.

In terms of USMC/AVCA Team Academic Award winners by subgroup, girls high school led the way with 461 recipients. In all three NCAA Women's Divisions, over 50 percent of the membership won the award, led by 68 percent in DI, 57 percent in DII and 53 percent in DIII. In the emerging sport of beach volleyball, 49 percent of teams won the award and in the fastest growing sector of collegiate men, 38 schools were honored, doubling the number from the previous year.

Georgia Southern is set to return 12 letterwinners and six starters from the 2019 team and scheduled to open the 2020 season in August.

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