2021-22 UTEP Cheerleading VIDEO Tryouts

April 30, 2021

**In accordance with the guidance of The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at El Paso, the UTEP Cheer program will move forward with tryouts for the 2020-2021 season, virtually.***

The University of Texas at El Paso is looking for athletic men and women to audition for the cheer and stunt team. Book scholarships are available to select members of the team. Members will have an opportunity to cheer for football, volleyball, soccer and basketball; travel to numerous away games; make public appearances; and compete for spots on our national competition team.

The UTEP Cheer Team consists of two (2) teams:

Orange Team (large coed partner-stunt team). **Girls must have a minimum standing tuck and standing back- handspring back tuck. Males need no tumbling or stunting experience, but will be evaluated based on progress within a specified time range.**

Blue Team (all-girl/small coed group stunt team). Girls must have a minimum standing back -handspring and running tumbling. Males must have a minimum back handspring and/or learn to partner stunt within a specified time range.

***ALL interested applicants must have the following documents on hand and ready to submit at the first initial team meeting -TBD:

- Tryout Application
- Copy of a current physical
- Sickle cell test (Email Coach B bmarquez6@utep.edu for dr. order) (Can be administered at CPL Labs, 4224 N. Mesa)
- Proof and copy of insurance
- Tryout application with liability waiver (last 5 pages).
- Character Profile **
- UTEP Acceptance Letter
*Character Profile from current cheer coach, sport coach or teacher must be emailed by April 28, 2021, to Coach Bianca at bmarquez6@utep.edu in order for video submission to be cleared for judging.*

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Incoming freshman must have already applied and been accepted to UTEP (acceptance letter required).
- Minimum Academic Standing (minimum 2.0 GPA).
- Undergraduates must be enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours.
- Graduate students must be enrolled in at least nine (9) semester hours.
- Current Medical Insurance. Please email copy before first practice. If you are not currently insured, you may not participate. No exceptions!
- Copy of Physical and Copy of Sickle Cell Test Results (administered at CPL Labs, 4224 N. Mesa)

**VIDEO SUBMISSION CRITERIA**

Videos must be submitted via YouTube link. Upload video to YouTube as a private link. Email link to bmarquez6@utep.edu by 5:00pm (MST) on April 30, 2021, with the subject: “Your Full Name; UTEP Cheer Tryout”

**Video Outline:**

1. **Name and current school.** (You must have already applied and been accepted to UTEP.)
2. **Explain** why you feel you would be an asset to the UTEP Cheer Program.
3. **Standing Tumbling:** in this order (if applicable): back handspring, back tuck, back handspring back tuck
4. **Fight Song:** Must learn UTEP fight song. Link will be released on April 26th. Girls should perform the All-Girl version, but be able to adapt to coed.
   Guys who tumble must show tumbling. Guys who stunt should mark skill.
5. **Running Tumbling:** Most elite pass (This can be sent from previous footage as a link in the same email).
6. **Stunts:** Email as previous footage taken within the year (photo or video).
***There will be a complete tryout reassessment of finalists during the first week of practice which could be as late as June. At that time coaching staff will determine your placement on Orange Team, Blue Team or dismissed****

**What To Wear In Video Tryout:**

**GAME DAY APPEARANCE:** Look Professional

1. **Girls** - Solid sports bra with black or navy spandex (no school logos)
   
   **Guys** - Solid tee shirt (tucked in) with black or navy shorts (no school logo)

2. Keep make-up to a minimum; clear or nude nail polish; no jewelry, neatly groomed; no bangs; detailed appearance expectations will be discussed at meeting.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Everyone is a finalist** until grades/transcripts are checked at the end of the spring semester and a reassessment of skills have been made.

***There will be a complete tryout reassessment of finalists during the first week of practice which could be as late as June. At that time coaching staff will determine your placement on Orange Team, Blue Team or dismissed****

**Stunting Guidelines**

- Males should be able to lift at least 130lbs pounds above their heads.
- Males are not required to have cheerleading experience, but must either be able to partner stunt (technique will be taught) or tumble.
- The coach must clear girls weighing over 120lbs. before they can stunt.
- Those weighing over 130 lbs. will be recommended for all-girl/smoed team.

**Remember only those cleared by the coaching staff can stunt if they are over 120 lbs. This will be based on musculature and body structure, the safety of the men doing lifting and the safety of the women being lifted.**
Finalists will be notified by email by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. There will be a virtual mandatory meeting for all finalists - TBA.

**CHEER PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS**

- Cheerleading at UTEP is a full-time commitment.
- Practice begins in June (tentative)
- Summer vacations will not be excused. There may be an opportunity for a week vacation the end of July (dates TBD).
- There will be consequences for anyone who misses practices, workouts...
- Practices are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30am-12:00pm
- Mandatory strength & conditioning two-three times a week on Mondays and Wednesdays (2:00pm-5:00pm).
- Four (4) hours of mandatory study hall each week.
- Community Service
- Campus Engagement

Next year’s team will go through rigorous and extensive conditioning in order to be ready for, games, appearances, and mandatory national competition. In addition, cheerleading-practice, games, strength and conditioning, and your academics must have priority over work schedules and any other extracurricular activity! Make sure you are willing to make the commitment.

You are not permitted to be on an all-star team and cheer at UTEP. Make a choice!

UTEP Cheer is governed by a set of by-laws, in addition to, compliance of University Student Code of Conduct. Rules and Regulations of the UTEP Cheer Program will be presented at first initial **MANDATORY** team meeting - TBA.