



# EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

For CheerABILITIES & DanceABILITIES Teams

## Quick Start Guide

# 2026





# The Exceptional Athlete International Championship for CheerABILITIES and DanceABILITIES Teams

Elite Division **CheerABILITIES** and **DanceABILITIES** teams from both the United States and around the world are invited to apply for at-large invitations to showcase their championship routines at the renowned Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando on Saturday, April 25, 2026!

A maximum of six CheerABILITIES teams and six DanceABILITIES teams will receive at-large invitations to perform on this prestigious stage. This is an incredible opportunity to shine on one of the most iconic stages in the world—don't miss out!

## How to get started

1. Complete the entry form.
2. Provide payment.

**Entry Fee:** \$50USD per routine

You may submit as many routines as you like, however only one team per club can earn an invitation.

**Example:** Starlight's DanceABILITIES Team A may submit a Pom routine and a Jazz routine for \$100USD. Similarly, Starlight's DanceABILITIES Team B may submit a Hip Hop routine and a Pom routine for \$100USD. While each team registers separately, only one team from Starlight will be eligible to earn an invitation.

3. Upload video #1.

### Video Submission Deadlines

- ▶ IASF Teams: Jan. 15, 2026
- ▶ USASF Teams: Jan. 15, 2026

Each team must submit a video of an unedited performance from either an event or a performance at your club's facility by the deadline shown above. Be sure your video link is operable and not set to private!

**Video/Payment submission link:** [https://usasf.formstack.com/forms/exceptionalathlete\\_videoqualification](https://usasf.formstack.com/forms/exceptionalathlete_videoqualification)

### Age requirements

All athletes (U.S. and non-U.S.) must meet the age requirement and all the rules outlined in the [USASF Age Grid](#).

**TIP:** If using a video from an event, inform your Event Producer in advance that your CheerABILITIES or DanceABILITIES team will be seeking a bid to The Exceptional Athlete International Championship. Be sure to request a copy of your team's performance on DVD or flash drive before leaving the event. In many cases, the video staff can retrieve your routine after your performance, saving you time.

## Virtual Round 1: Semifinals

- U.S. and non-U.S. teams will be evaluated using the USASF CheerABILITIES or DanceABILITIES score sheets:

**CheerABILITIES:** <https://usasfmain.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/Resources/2025-26/CheerABILITIES-Scoring-System-2025-26.pdf>

**DanceABILITIES:** <https://usasfmain.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/Resources/2025-26/DanceABILITIES-Scoring-System-2025-26.pdf>

- DanceABILITIES teams will be scored on a fair play score sheet. All genres will be judged against each other.

### Advancements

- Ten CheerABILITIES teams will advance to Round 2/Finals, including at least three U.S. teams and at least three non-U.S. teams.
- Ten DanceABILITIES teams will advance to Round 2/Finals, including at least three US teams and at least three non-US teams.
- Teams advancing to Round 2 will receive additional instructions for their video submission. No additional cost is required to submit a video for Round 2.

## Virtual Round 2: Finals

- Each of the 10 CheerABILITIES teams selected from the previous round must submit a second video to compete virtually. See video submission deadline below.
- Each of the 10 DanceABILITIES teams selected from the previous round must submit a second video to compete virtually. See video submission deadline below.

### Video #2 Submission Deadlines

- ▶ IASF Teams: Feb. 15, 2026
- ▶ USASF Teams: Feb. 15, 2026

### Advancements

- Six CheerABILITIES teams — including at least two U.S. teams and at least two non-U.S. teams — will receive at-large invitations to perform live during The Cheerleading Worlds in Orlando, April 25, 2026, where final placements will be announced.
- Six DanceABILITIES teams— including at least two U.S. teams and at least two non-U.S. teams — will receive at-large invitations to perform live during The Cheerleading Worlds in Orlando, April 25, 2026, where final placements will be announced.
- Teams receiving at-large invitations will be announced mid-January on : [iasfworlds.com](https://iasfworlds.com) and [usasf.net](https://usasf.net).



## Invitation Acceptance

- USASF teams must accept the invitation via their USASF *member portal* within 72 hours of receipt. Any USASF invitation not accepted may be reassigned to an alternate team at USASF's discretion.
- IASF teams must accept their invitation by replying to [EA@usasf.net](mailto:EA@usasf.net) and [scoring@iasfworlds.com](mailto:scoring@iasfworlds.com) within 72 hours of receipt.
- The number of participants who perform at the live EAIC Championship Showcase may not exceed the number of athletes who performed in the qualifying video.

## Invitational Live Performance

Teams invited to the Exceptional Athlete International Championship Showcase will perform live:

Saturday, April 25, 2026

CheerABILITIES Teams: ESPN Wide World of Sports® Complex

DanceABILITIES Teams: Coronado Springs Resort & Convention Center

Walt Disney World® Resort

Orlando, FL

## Awards

Teams performing at the Exceptional Athlete International Championship Showcase will receive medallions for each participant following their performance. Trophies will be presented in the awards venues after the division has concluded.

