



UCONN

SPIRITPRIDETRADITION

TRYOUT INFORMATION PACKET

2017-2018

SPIRIT, PRIDE, & TRADITION PROGRAM

The Spirit, Pride, & Tradition Program (SPT) includes Jonathan the Husky (mascot), the UConn Cheerleading Team, and the UConn Dance Team. These student ambassadors represent our University on and off campus all season long and display great pride in what they do. From cheering on the sidelines at football and men's & women's basketball games, to hosting clinics and attending community outreach events; the spirit and passion of the individuals who make up the Spirit, Pride, and Tradition Program is truly inspiring.



JONATHAN THE HUSKY

The University of Connecticut Mascot has been a tradition for decades. From attending campus and community events, to bringing smiles to thousands of husky fans at sporting events and making appearances all across the country, Jonathan is one of the most recognized and photographed symbols of the pride and spirit of UConn. The identities of the student leaders selected to wear the costume remain a secret, even on campus. However, their energy, and fierce but friendly pride shines through. The opportunity to represent UConn in this fashion is quite the honor!

Who is eligible to tryout?

All full-time students who are enrolled at the University of Connecticut Storrs Campus and are in good academic and disciplinary standing are eligible to tryout. The University's academic policy can be found here: <http://policy.uconn.edu>

Incoming freshmen and transfer students are eligible to tryout prior to their first year at UConn, and must present a letter/email of acceptance from the University's admissions office. If you have not received your acceptance letter/email, you may still tryout 'pending admission'.

Are there technical requirements?

Yes. All candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Ability to take creative/innovative photos
- A prepared skit - between :30 and :45 seconds - can include props and music/voice recordings
- Cardio & fitness - Each mascot must be able to perform 35 consecutive push ups
- General dance ability
- Ability to interact with fans
- Overall energy and situational creativity
- Presence in the suit

What are the general expectations if I make the team?

- After classes, this MUST be your priority
- 1-2 appearances per week throughout the semester, in addition to scheduled game rotations. Game rotations may fall during various University breaks.
- Mandatory attendance NCA/NDA Camp (August)

JONATHAN THE HUSKY (continued)

- Pre-camp practice (most likely early August) & early move in one week prior to classes
- Travel - select football and post-season basketball tournaments as assigned
- Maintain academic eligibility per SPT policy
- Weekly/bi-weekly practices and meetings as needed (additional training/practices/study hall as assigned)
- Upkeep and cleanliness of the costume and apparel
- Independence, responsibility, dependability, creativity, & strong communication skills

Register For Tryouts TODAY Online At:

<http://spirit.uconn.edu/tryouts/>



UConn CHEERLEADING TEAM

The UConn Cheerleaders are visible representatives of UConn as well as the state of Connecticut. These men and women can be seen at all home and select away football games, men's and women's home basketball games, on the road at AAC and NCAA Tournaments each March, and at many events on and off campus in the community throughout the semester. The team also attends NCA Camp in Boston each season! The cheerleading team is full of hard working, dedicated, and committed individuals who represent UConn at the highest level. There is nothing like the excitement of being a part of the Husky Nation: performing at some of the largest, nationally televised games and traveling to various venues around the country. It is an honor and a privilege to get the opportunity to represent the University of Connecticut and earning a place on this team has the potential to create fantastic opportunities and experiences of a lifetime!

Who is eligible to tryout?

All full-time students who are enrolled at the University of Connecticut (including regional campuses and commuter students) and are in good academic and disciplinary standing are eligible to tryout. The University's academic policy can be found here: <http://policy.uconn.edu>

Incoming freshmen and transfer students are eligible to tryout prior to their first year at UConn, and must present a letter/email of acceptance from the University's admissions office. If you have not received your acceptance letter/email, you may still tryout 'pending admission'.

Are there technical requirements?

Most importantly, candidates for the cheerleading team are expected to have a strong understanding of fan interaction and crowd-leading techniques, sharp and precise motions, and the ability to project energy, confidence, and excitement. In addition to select cheers, chants, and the fight song, candidates will be evaluated on their jumps, and stunting ability (Flyers - leg/back flexibility, advanced twisting and inversion dismounts, full ups, etc. Bases - the ability to base body positions, advanced twisting and inversion dismounts, full ups, etc.). For tumbling, we ask that you perform your highest level skill. Male candidates will be asked to demonstrate partner stunting potential (chair, toss hands, toss hands extension), as well as motion/cheer technique. Overall, we are looking for well-rounded cheerleaders, with great attitudes, a strong work ethic, and an eagerness to learn.

UConn CHEERLEADING TEAM (continued)

What are the general expectations if I make the team?

- After classes, this MUST be your priority
- 1-2 appearances per week throughout the semester, in addition to scheduled games. Games may fall during various University breaks.
- Mandatory attendance NCA/NDA Camp (August)
- Pre-camp practice (most likely early August) & early move in one week prior to classes. Additional practices may be added over the summer.
- Travel - select football and post-season basketball tournaments as assigned
- Maintain academic eligibility per SPT policy
- Approximately 6-9 hours of practice per week (additional training/practices/study hall as assigned)
- Respect to teammates and coaches, strong work ethic, and a 'team' mindset

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<http://spirit.uconn.edu/tryouts/>



UConn DANCE TEAM

The University of Connecticut Dance Team can be seen entertaining crowds at the home football games, men's and women's home basketball games, and other campus/community events throughout the year. The dance team performs hip hop, jazz, pom, and novelty dances choreographed by the coaches and team members. They attend NDA Camp each summer in Boston and also have the opportunity to work with some of the nation's leading choreographers in preparation to represent UConn at the NDA Collegiate Nationals in Daytona Beach, FL each April. It is an honor and a privilege to get the opportunity to represent the University of Connecticut and earning a place on this team has the potential to create fantastic opportunities and experiences of a lifetime!

Who is eligible to tryout?

All full-time students who are enrolled at the University of Connecticut (including regional campuses and commuter students) and are in good academic and disciplinary standing are eligible to tryout. The University's academic policy can be found here: <http://policy.uconn.edu>

Incoming freshmen and transfer students are eligible to tryout prior to their first year at UConn, and must present a letter/email of acceptance from the University's admissions office. If you have not received your acceptance letter, you may still tryout 'pending admission'.

Are there technical requirements?

Candidates for the dance team are expected to have a strong understanding of sideline cheering, jazz, pom, and hip hop dance styles as well as solid technical skills (triple/quad pirouettes, a variety of leaps, flexibility, fouette a la seconde turns, foundational Hip Hop skills such as a headstand, kip up and headspring, along with solid showmanship, and confidence). We are looking for well-rounded dancers, with great attitudes, a strong work ethic, and an eagerness to learn. Since UConn Dance Team members perform in venues that accommodate thousands of fans, they must have an engaging, outgoing personality, and energy that can be felt from a very far distance.

What are the general expectations if I make the team?

- After classes, this MUST be your priority
- 1-2 appearances per week throughout the semester, in addition to scheduled games. Games may fall during various University breaks.
- Mandatory attendance NDA/NCA Camp (August)
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UConn DANCE TEAM (continued)

- Pre-camp practice (most likely early August) & early move in one week prior to classes. Additional practices may be added over the summer.
- Travel - select basketball/football games as assigned and NDA College Nationals
- Maintain academic eligibility per SPT policy
- Approximately 9 hours of practice per week (additional training/practices/study hall as assigned)
- Respect to teammates and coaches, strong work ethic, and a 'team' mindset

Register For Tryouts TODAY Online At:

<http://spirit.uconn.edu/tryouts/>

SPT CONTACT INFORMATION

- If you have any questions regarding cheer, dance, or mascot tryouts, please email: [Spirit@uconn.edu](mailto:spirit@uconn.edu).
- Information will be updated on our website at www.spirit.uconn.edu. Please check your email and the website often.
- Don't forget to register for tryouts online!

We look forward to continuing to build amazing
teams for the 2017-2018 season!