



USA Dressage Minimum Entry Requirements for CDIs

updated 9.1.2024

For purposes of this chart, only one score per respective test may be earned over the course of a weekend.

	Canada, Central/South America, Asia, Australia	Europe	USA
Big Tour	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in the FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Prix Special, FEI Intermediate II or USEF Developing Grand Prix at 2 different CDI events or 66% at 2 different CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete/horse combinations must have an overall average of 66% or higher on the USEF Grand Prix 8-month ranking list. If the combination resides outside of the U.S., they must have competed in two CDN (national competition) events in the FEI Grand Prix or FEI Grand Prix Special earning 68% or higher from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in a CDI or national level Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special or consecutive level (see chart in DR 119), at two different CDI or national competitions from two different judges, within the 3 competition years preceding the CDI competition.
Medium Tour	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in the FEI Intermediate A, FEI Intermediate B, or FEI Intermediate II Tests at two different CDI events or 66% at 2 different CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.		Athlete must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in a CDI or national level Intermediate A or Intermediate B or consecutive level (see chart in DR 119), at two different CDI or national competitions from two different judges, within the 3 competition years preceding the CDI competition.
Small Tour	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in the FEI Prix St. Georges or FEI Intermediate I at 2 different CDI events or 66% or higher at 2 different CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.		Athlete must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher in a CDI or national level Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I or consecutive level (see chart in DR 119), at two different CDI or national competitions from two different judges, within the 3 competition years preceding the CDI
U - 25	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall score of 60% or higher in the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test or the FEI Intermediate II Test at 2 different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete/horse combinations must have achieved an overall score of 64% or higher in 2 FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Tests or FEI Intermediate II Tests at 2 different CDI or CDN events within 12 months of the start dates of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	No requirement
Young Rider, Junior, Pony Rider, Children	Athlete/Horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 60% or higher from their relevant Team/Individual Test at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start date of the event from a panel of two or more judges.	Athlete/Horse combinations must have achieved an overall average of 64% or higher from their relevant Team/Individual at two different CDI or NAYC/USEF Qualifying Competitions within 12 months of the start date of the event. Scores from European CDN (national competition) events with two more Judges officiating may also be considered.	No requirement
Young Horse (5, 6 year old)	Horse must have achieved an average over a 7.5 (75%) in their relevant tests at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event. Tests of the equivalent level may also meet this requirement.	Horse must have achieved an average over 8.0 (80%) in their relevant tests (or tests of equivalent level) at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event.	No requirement
Young Horse (7 year old)	Horse must have achieved an overall average of 7.0 (70%) or higher in their relevant tests (combined quality & technical marks) at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event. Tests of the equivalent level may also meet this requirement.	Horse must have achieved an overall average over 7.5 (75%) or higher in their relevant tests (combined quality & technical marks; scores from tests of equivalent levels may also count) at two different CDI or CDN (national competition) events within 12 months of the start of the event.	No requirement
Amateur	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement





1. OVERSUBSCRIPTION AT CDI EVENTS

Unless another method of selection has been published for the event, should there be more applications than invitations, on the deadline of FEI Definite Entry for the event; an athlete's ranking on the Grand Prix 8-month Ranking List (or for other categories, 12-month ranking of applicants from FEI and USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying classes) will be used to determine the invitations.

USEF may designate certain events as selection or observation events as part of selection processes for Games, Championships, Finals, etc. Athletes in contention for these Games, Championships, Finals, etc. may be given priority over other athletes. Additionally, athletes which are part of a designated European Tour, the Elite Program, Pre-Elite List, Development Program or Emerging Program may receive priority for an invitation if the event is one of their pre-established targets.

2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

CDI5* Events

Athlete/horse combinations have achieved the minimum FEI Criteria to compete at CDI5*/CDIO5* events per FEI Rules and have a minimum of 70% on the USEF 8-month Grand Prix Ranking List. In extraordinary circumstances, for U.S. events only, a waiver may be requested by those athlete/horse combinations that have achieved a minimum of 68% on the USEF 8-month Grand Prix Ranking List. The waiver request will follow the same process as foreign competition waiver requests as seen below.

CDIO Events

Applications are required to be considered to compete at a CDIO (Team Competition). All such applications will be subject to approval and selection per the Selection Procedures published for CDIO events. The complete selection procedures for CDIO events can be found [HERE](#) on the USEF website.

3. APPLICATION TO COMPETE IN FOREIGN COMPETITIONS

A. Applications to compete outside of the U.S. are found by:

1. Sign-in to the Athlete's USEF Account [HERE](#).
2. Scroll down to: FEI Competition Entry & Competing Abroad
3. Open Online Application to Compete Abroad

B. Application Fees (Non-refundable):

- v' \$75 application fee for each competition
- v' \$200 waiver request fee (if applicable)

- v' \$750 Prepaid annual application fee (optional): this fee is due when submitting the first application for the competition year. This fee applies to the first ten (10) FEI competitions held outside of the U.S. Athletes competing less than 10 competitions do not receive a refund, credit, or partial credit for the prepaid application fee.
- ✓ \$75 late fee: An athlete who submits an application 14 days or less from the start of the competition may be subject to an additional late fee. The late fee may be applied even if an athlete provides payment for the prepaid annual application fee.

FOREIGN COMPETITION WAIVERS

If an athlete or horse does not meet the criteria noted above to enter a foreign CDI, under extraordinary circumstances, the USEF Dressage Sport Committee, or its designees, may grant a waiver to the above criteria to compete at foreign CDIs. Athletes must submit the Waiver Request found [here](#). **Athletes needing to submit a waiver should do so as early as possible, please allow up to 3 weeks for processing waiver requests.** The following criteria will be used to evaluate Waiver Requests:

- Previous international experience of the athlete, and/or athlete/horse combination. Including but not limited to:
 - Athlete's experience on a Championship Team(s)
 - Combination has met part of the requirement to compete abroad (ie. has one score from a CDI or CDN at the same level as the request but not second score)
 - Athlete has met the score requirements for membership to the Elite or Pre-Elite program
 - For YH divisions, the experience of just the horse may be considered
- The impact that the event may have on the success at a future team event, Championships, etc.
- The impact that the event may have on the development of the athlete, the horse or the combination.
- The athlete and/or horse recently moved up to the level and had success in their more recent level.
- Applicant provides other competition records that demonstrate they have an upward trajectory of scores and likelihood of achieving over 70% at the applicable level.
- Veterinary or Medical circumstances that may have prohibited the athlete and/or horse from competing (additional information may be requested to verify these circumstances)
- Athlete and/or horse have relocated or are currently training in an area outside of the US.

USEF Athlete Services will not request invitations to CDIs until a waiver has been granted.



If a waiver is approved the combination or horse must receive a score greater than or equal to the minimum eligibility score or average (ie. 66% in the FEI Grand Prix for Big Tour) to participate in another event of the same level without resubmitting a waiver request.

USEF Athlete Services will not request invitations to CDIs until a waiver has been granted. All entries are subject to FEI nominated and definite entry dates listed in applicable FEI Definite Schedules.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CDI EVENTS

Once an athlete has submitted an application to compete and should you need to withdraw, the following steps are to be taken immediately:

REMINDER: USEF fees are non-refundable regardless if you compete or withdraw.

A. Withdrawing from competition before an entry has been submitted on your behalf or before the Organizing Committee has confirmed an invitation:

- ✓ Send an email to USEF Athlete Services feientries@usef.org and include the reason for the withdrawal.

B. Withdrawing from a competition after an entry has been submitted on your behalf and/or after the Organizing Committee has confirmed your invitation:

Concurrently email USEF Athlete Services feientries@usef.org and the Organizing Committee. The email is to state the reason for the withdrawal and an apology to the Organizing Committee for any inconvenience your withdrawal may have caused. The Organizing Committee's contact information can be found in the schedule for that particular event.

