



UNM SPIRIT PROGRAM 2015-2016 CHEER & DANCE TRYOUT PACKET

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**IMPORTANT DATES:
MONDAY, APRIL 13 - ALL REQUIRED FORMS DUE
SATURDAY, APRIL 18 - DANCE TRYOUTS
SUNDAY, APRIL 19 - CHEER TRYOUTS**



**UNM SPIRIT PROGRAM
2015-2016 CHEER & DANCE
TRYOUT INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Please mail, fax, email or hand-deliver the **REQUIRED FORMS** (pages 9 – 15) by **Monday, April 13, 2015** to:

University of New Mexico - Department of Athletics

Kelly Grice – Spirit Coordinator

Colleen J. Maloof Administration Building

MSCO4 2680 – 1 University of New Mexico

Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

Fax: (505)925-5609

unmspirit@unm.edu

FORMS TO RETURN BY 4/13/15:

- Judges Reference Sheet – page 10 of packet (with picture attached; no larger than 4x6)
- Participant Release and Waiver Form – page 11 of packet
- Information & Emergency Contact Sheet – page 12 of packet
- Uniform Sizing Information Sheet – page 13 of packet
- Grade Release Form – page 14 of packet
- Coach's score and recommendation – page 15 of packet (Must be signed and sent in by coaching reference, this does not apply to current 2014/2015 UNM spirit members)
- Copy of health insurance card/information (student insurance not accepted)
- Copy of UNM Spring Registration or copy of UNM Letter of Acceptance

**Please bring the following with you to the tryout check-in:
Saturday, April 18th for Dance or Sunday, April 19th for Cheer:**

 **\$20.00 cash tryout fee** 

For questions or any additional information:

Please contact Kelly Grice – Spirit Coordinator at: (505)925-5613 or via email at: unmspirit@unm.edu



**UNM SPIRIT
PROGRAM
CHEER TRYOUT
INFORMATION**

Tryout Information: UNM Coed and All-Girl Cheer

Thank you for your interest in the UNM Spirit Program!! We look forward to seeing you at tryouts. Tryouts are intended to be a low stress event. For that reason they will be conducted in a practice-like environment. Candidate's skills, talents, and their ability to work with current and prospective team members, will be evaluated. A short interview with the candidate may be conducted at any time during the sessions. You may be asked to perform a specific skill at any time during the sessions. The Spirit Coordinator, coaches and one or two UNM Spirit Program alumni will evaluate the candidates and determine the teams.

UNM Cheer Tryout Schedule of Events

All events are closed to the public

Sunday, April 19, 2015	9:00-10:00am:	Registration and Tumbling Warm-Up
	10:00am-11:00am:	Tumbling tryouts and Cuts
	11:00-12:00pm:	Lunch Break (on your own)
	12:00-5:00pm:	Learn Chant, Fight Song, and Stunting (Evaluation will be occurring during the entire day)
	6:00pm:	2015-16 Team Announcement and Mandatory Meeting for ALL newly selected Spirit Program Members in The Pit.

Coed, and All-Girl Minimum Qualifications for Tryouts:

- Incoming freshmen and transfer students must have completed the regular admissions application process before the posted deadlines and be accepted to UNM.
- Candidates must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the university.
- Candidates must possess sufficient physical fitness and proper training to execute all required skills during the selection process.
- Candidates must have proof of Health Insurance. (Student insurance not accepted)
- The tryout packet and release form must be completed in its entirety and submitted by the stated due date.

APPEARANCE

Please be aware that this is an important part of your tryout process. You should appear "game ready" throughout the entire tryout. **No jewelry of any kind.**

What to wear if trying out for Coed cheer: Please make sure your selections are appropriate and we suggest that you wear red, grey, black or white. Wearing other University apparel is not recommended.

Ladies: Athletic shorts with a sport bra and cheer shoes. Female applicants must have hair pulled up and away from the face and wear cheer bloomers or spandex under shorts.

Men: Athletic shorts, t-shirt or tank and cheer shoes.

What to wear if trying out for All Girl cheer: Athletic shorts, t-shirt, tank or sport bra and cheer shoes. Please make sure your selections are appropriate and we suggest that you wear red, grey, black or white. Wearing other University apparel is not recommended. Must have hair pulled up and away from the face and wear cheer bloomers or spandex under shorts.

TUMBLING

All tumbling must be performed safely without a spotter. In addition to the preferred skills, we will ask you to perform any additional tumbling you may have up to two passes.

Female Required Skills:

Standing Back Tuck, perform best standing pass and running pass

Female Preferred Skills:

Running Round-off Back Tuck

Male Preferred Skills:

Standing Back Tuck and Running Round-off Back Tuck

PARTNER STUNTS

All Stunting must be performed with a potential member of the 2015-2016 University of New Mexico Cheerleaders attending the tryouts. For the All-Girl team, applicants can tryout for one stunting position of your choice (base, back or flyer). We are looking for strength, technique and body awareness in stunting technique and additions to the skills in the loads and dismounts of the skills. If a female applicant is trying out for All-Girl and Co-ed, she must tryout with both sets of preferred skills.

COED STUNTS:

Required: Stretch full down and two optional stunts

Preferred: Arabesque

ALL-GIRL STUNTS

Required: Stretch full down, Back skill to a 540 (Either an arabesque, skater, Scorpion)

Preferred: Full up

SIDELINE & FIGHT SONG

Both the sideline and fight song will be taught at the tryout. We will be looking for proper motion technique, rhythm, memorization, natural enthusiasm, ability to learn choreography and crowd leading ability.

Other technical skills may be requested and considered during tryouts.

Candidates will also be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Strong leadership qualities
- Charismatic presence/personality
- Work Ethic and ability to work positively with others
- Enthusiasm and confidence
- Ability to engage an audience
- Physical Fitness and Athletic Appearance

Video Tryout Information:

It is STRONGLY encouraged for every applicant to attend the tryout, but video tryouts will be accepted for out-of-state applicants only. Please perform your school fight song and one sideline cheer along with all the required and preferred skills on the video. All required information must be included in the packet and received by **Monday, April 13, 2015**.

Please contact **Kelly Grice at (505)925-5613 or UNMSpirit@unm.edu for additional information.**



**UNM SPIRIT
PROGRAM
DANCE TRYOUT
INFORMATION**

Tryout Information: UNM Dance

Thank you for your interest in the UNM Spirit Program!! We look forward to seeing you at tryouts. Candidate's skills, talents, and their ability to work with current and prospective team members, will be evaluated. A short interview with the candidate may be conducted at any time during the sessions. You may be asked to perform a specific skill at any time during the sessions. The Spirit Coordinator, coaches and one-two UNM spirit program alumni, will evaluate the candidates and determine the teams.

UNM Dance Tryout Schedule of Events

All events are closed to the public

Saturday, April 18, 2015	10:00:	Registration Warm-Up
	10:45am:	Technique Auditions
	12:45:	Advancement Selections
	1:00:	Lunch (on your own)
	2:30:	Warm-up
	3:00:	Choreography auditions
	5:30pm:	2015-16 Team Announcement and Mandatory Meeting for ALL newly selected Spirit Program Members in The Pit.

Dance Team Minimum Qualifications for Tryouts:

- Incoming freshmen and transfer students must have completed the regular admissions application process before the posted deadlines and be accepted to UNM.
- Candidates must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the university.
- Candidates must possess sufficient physical fitness and proper training to execute all required skills during the selection process.
- Candidates must have proof of Health Insurance. (Student insurance not accepted)
- The tryout packet and release form must be completed in its entirety and submitted by the stated due date.

Tryouts will consist of the following:

The first round of auditions will be based on dance technique, physique, and interview questions that will be asked at random. At the completion of this round, those selected to advance to the next round will be announced.

The second round of auditions will be based on the performance of choreography that will be taught at the audition as well as individual choreography that dancers will have the opportunity to prepare at the audition. There will be a minimum of two pieces of choreography that will be taught by coaches. They will each be approximately 45 seconds. Each dancer will also perform his/her own individual choreography. The song for individual choreography will be the same for each dancer. It will be selected by the coaches, and will be released the day of the audition. Dancers will have approximately 20 minutes to prepare their individual choreography prior to performing it. At the completion of the choreography round, those selected for the 2015-2016 Lobo Dance Team will be announced.

Audition Attire:

Dancers should wear booty shorts, and a sports bra or half top (no longer than the length of a sports bra). Any color is acceptable. Tights are optional. Jazz shoes, foot undeez, dance paws, pirouettes etc. are acceptable forms of shoes. Hair should be worn down and full make-up is expected. Dancers are expected to look professional and "game ready" for the duration of the audition.

Dance Team Required & Preferred Skills

Required Skills:

- A la seconde turns (6 sets of 8 minimum)
- Single leg-hold turn
- Turning toe touch
- Triple/Quad+ pirouettes (in various leg and arm placements)
- Leg extensions
- Assisted penché
- Penché
- Leap variations
- Pirouettes into leg skills, jumps, and leaps
- Firebird

Preferred Skills:

- Aerial
- Front/Back Walkover
- Double/Triple leg-hold turn
- Various tumbling skills (back handspring, front/back tuck etc)
- Toe Rise

Video Audition Requirements:

Video audition submission is reserved for dancers with extenuating circumstances or who do not live in Albuquerque, NM. **Prior approval from the Spirit Coordinator or Lobo Dance Coaches must be given and videos must be received by April 13, 2015.** Please contact **Kelly Grice at (505)925-5613 or UNMSpirit@unm.edu for additional information.**

The video submission must consist of the following:

- A close up shot that includes an introduction of the dancer along with her age, specialty styles and years of experience.
- A 45-second performance of jazz choreography (dancer must be performing solo)
- A 45-second performance of contemporary/lyrical, pom, or hip hop choreography (dancer must be performing solo)
- Execution of **all** required skills
- Execution of any applicable preferred skills)
- Execution of any specialty skills otherwise not performed as part of the required or preferred skills.
- All required and preferred skills should be demonstrated separately from the choreography sections, even if the choreography includes said skills.

*Please note that clips from prior performances/competitions will not be accepted.



**UNM SPIRIT
PROGRAM
MANDATORY FORMS**

(Must be received by Monday, April 13, 2015)



UNM Spirit Program

Participant Release and Waiver Form

Name of Participant _____

Liability Release: I _____, participant or as parent or legal guardian of _____, a minor (if participant is under the age of 18), hereby grant the permission necessary to allow participation in the UNM Spirit Program Tryouts. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the participant, further agree to release and to hold harmless The University of New Mexico, Athletic Administration, UNM Spirit Program and Spirit Program Staff from any and all liability arising out of or connected with the UNM Spirit Program Tryouts. This includes any claim arising out of or connected with any illness or injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic and /or death) that participant may incur or sustain during the clinic or any activity associated with the event. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of all risk for my heirs, estate executor administrator, assignees and for all members of my family.

Assuming Risk: I, in my own behalf and on behalf of participant, acknowledge and agree that such participation subjects the participant to the possibility of physical illness or injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic, and/or death) and that I acknowledge that the participant is assuming the risk of such illness or injury by participation in the UNM Spirit Program Tryouts. Because of the dangers of participation in the UNM Spirit Program Tryouts, I recognize the importance of following the instructions regarding practicing and performing based on the AACCA rules/guidelines set forth.

I, on my own behalf and on behalf of participant, hereby warrant that I have read this Participant Release and Waiver Form in its entirety and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this form releases The University of New Mexico, Athletic Administration, UNM Spirit Program and Spirit Program Staff from liability and contains an acknowledgement of my voluntary and knowing assumption of the risk of injury or illness. I, on my own behalf and on behalf of participant, have signed this document voluntarily and of my own free will.

**Signature of Parent of Legal Guardian
(if participant is under the age of 18)**

Date

Relationship to Minor: _____

Signature of Participant

Date

Every participant must have an original, completed and signed release form to turn in with their tryout application in order to participate.

UNM SPIRIT PROGRAM
2015-2016 INFORMATION & EMERGENCY CONTACT SHEET

Applicant Name: _____

Banner ID # _____ Birth date (mm/dd/yy): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Parent Phone: _____

Parent E-mail: _____

Insurance company name: _____

Policy #: _____ Policy holder name: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact #: _____

UNM SPIRIT PROGRAM
2015-2016 UNIFORM SIZING INFORMATION SHEET

Applicant Name: _____

T-Shirt Size _____ Polo Shirt Size _____ Short Size _____

Warm-up Size: Women's Size _____ OR Men's Size _____

CHEER TEAM APPLICANTS:

Cheer Uniform Top Size _____ Cheer Uniform Pant/Skirt Size _____

Nike Shoe Size _____

DANCE TEAM APPLICANTS:

Jazz Shoe Size (Dance) _____

Dance Pant Size _____ Dance Top Size _____ Bra Top Size _____

When selecting sizes, make sure they will fit comfortably. Member will need to purchase another item – at team member's expense - if fit is too tight.

In my absence, I authorize the above stated sizes to be ordered on my behalf if I am selected as a 2015-2016 UNM Cheerleader or Dancer.

Applicant Signature

Date

2015-2016 UNM SPIRIT PROGRAM

Grade Release Form

I understand that in order to be eligible to audition for the University of New Mexico Spirit Program, I must already be accepted to UNM and have a 2.0 cumulative GPA. I hereby give authorization to the administration of the Spirit Program to confirm my eligibility. I also understand that if selected, I must obtain a 2.0 GPA and be a full time student (12 hours) for the semesters that I am participating on the team. This authorization is also good for that period. I understand that if my grades fall below a 2.0 GPA, I fall below full time status and/or do not fulfill my responsibilities as a UNM representative; I can be suspended or removed from the team through the recommendation of the Spirit Group Staff.

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Signature

Date

UNM SPIRIT PROGRAM

2015-2016 Tryouts: Coach's Score and Recommendation

(This page does not apply to current 2014/2015 Spirit Members)

Applicant:

Please fill out the top portion of this form and submit it to a current Cheer, Dance or Sport Coach to be completed.

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Contact Phone & E-mail: _____

Coach/Reference:

Please complete the information below concerning the applicant listed above. This individual is trying out for a position as a University of New Mexico Cheerleader or Lobo Dancer. Your input and honesty is valued and greatly appreciated. This form will factor in to the applicant's tryout score.

Coach/Reference Name: _____

Coach Contact Phone & E-mail: _____

Coach's Score:

On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 is Low; 10 is High) please score the applicant on all factors of your program. This can include, but not be limited to: dedication, attendance, attitude, natural enthusiasm, commitment to school, team and community.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Coach's Recommendation:

Please take a moment to include any relevant information that you believe would be important for a future coach. Please attach a separate paper if necessary.

(Coach's Signature)

(Date)

Please mail in a sealed envelope or fax this form back to the address listed below no later than Monday, April 13, 2013:

University of New Mexico – Department of Athletics
Kelly Grice – Spirit Coordinator
Colleen J. Maloof Administration Building
MSCO4 2680 – 1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

Fax to:
(505)925-5609