



Application for the 2025 USEF Dressage Training Series

Del Mar, CA

USEF invites dressage athletes between the ages 12 and 25 to apply for the West Coast segment of the USEF Dressage Training Series (Clinic). This clinic will take place at HITS Del Mar Horsepark in Del Mar, CA on **February 20-23, 2025**.

The clinic is an educational opportunity for youth athletes competing in the FEI levels or currently schooling at the FEI levels (Children, Pony Rider, Junior, Young Rider, and U25). Throughout the week, participants will receive expert instruction on a variety of horsemanship topics in addition to intensive training sessions taught by top U.S. coaches.

Athletes wishing to be considered for this clinic must submit an online application along with one letter of recommendation as well as a video by the deadline noted below. A maximum of ten (10) combinations may be invited to participate in this clinic.

Applicants will be evaluated for clinic acceptance by the USEF Dressage Coaching staff and base their evaluations on the following criteria:

- Videos submitted. The video must show the athlete riding a complete dressage test at the level they are currently schooling or competing in.
- Information learned about the athlete in their personal essay and from the letter of recommendation.

It is important to note there is no guarantee that a combination will receive membership to the USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Dressage Program by participating in the clinic.

Application Requirements for Athletes and Horses:

- **Children** – Athletes must be between the ages of 12 and 14 by December 31, 2025. Horses/ponies must be 6 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Children Tests.
- **Pony Rider** – Athletes must be between the ages of 12 and 16 by December 31, 2025. Ponies must be 6 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Pony Rider Tests.
- **Junior** – Athletes must be between the ages of 14 and 18 by December 31, 2025. Horses must be 6 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Junior Tests.
- **Young Rider** - Athletes must be between the ages of 16 and 21 by December 31, 2025. Horses must be 7 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Young Rider Test.
- **U25** – Athletes must be between the ages of 16 and 25 by December 31, 2025. Horses must be 8 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Grand Prix 16-25, FEI Grand Prix, or FEI Intermediate II Test movements.

Step 1: Submit the Application:

1. Sign into your USEF account at www.usef.org
2. In your Member Dashboard, select the blue tile labeled 'Athlete Dashboard.'
3. Select the blue tile labeled 'Online Applications'
4. Leave the Date Range boxes blank.
5. In the Title box blank – type West
6. Select the red Search button.
7. Scroll down the page until you find the clinic you are applying for.
8. **Very Important: Leave the 'Submit App For' box blank unless you are submitting the application on behalf of another athlete and NOT signed into his/her USEF Member Dashboard**
9. Select the 'Apply' button.
10. Follow the steps from here.

Upon submission of your application, an automatic email will be sent confirming the date your application was received. Therefore, please ensure the email listed on the application is current. If you do not receive an

acknowledgment of your application, it is your obligation to contact USEF (kbrett@usef.org) to determine if it has been received.

Step 2: The second step of the application is to submit the following to Kristen Brett (kbrett@usef.org) no later than **11:59pm, ET on December 6, 2024:**

1. One letter of recommendation from your current trainer, or a trainer who has knowledge of your abilities, describing in detail your experience and capabilities.
2. Write a short essay describing your equestrian goals and future plans.
3. If you were unable to do so in your online application, don't forget to send a video link to kbrett@usef.org by 11:59PM, ET on **December 6, 2024**.

Applicants will be notified if they have been selected on or around **January 2, 2025**. Preference may be given to USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program Members.

D DON'T FORGET! YOUR APPLICATION, ESSAY, LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, AND VIDEO MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59PM, ET ON DECEMBER 6, 2024 TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE CLINIC!

Please feel free to contact Kristen Brett, Director of Dressage Programs at US Equestrian with any questions: kbrett@usef.org or at (859) 225-6919.