



Application for the 2027 USEF Dressage Youth Training Series

Wellington, FL & Del Mar, CA

USEF invites dressage athletes between the ages 12 and 21 to apply for the East Coast segment of the USEF Dressage Youth Training Series and athletes between the ages of 12 and 25 to apply for the West Coast segment. These clinics will take place in Wellington, FL on January 8-10, 2027 and in Del Mar, CA on February 19-21, 2027.

These clinics are an educational opportunity for youth athletes competing in the FEI levels or currently schooling at the FEI levels (Children, Pony Rider, Junior, and Young Rider – East Coast / Children, Pony Rider Junior, Young Rider, and U25 – West Coast). 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 one of the clinics must submit an online application along with one letter of recommendation, a personal essay, as well as a video by the deadline noted below. A maximum of 15 combinations may be invited to participate in each 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 age of 12 and 14 by December 31, 2026. Horses/ponies must be at least 6 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Children Tests.
- **Pony Rider** – Athletes must be between the age of 12 and 16 by December 31, 2026. 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 age of 14 and 18 by December 31, 2026. 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 age of 16 and 21 by December 31, 2026. Horses must be 7 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Young Rider Tests.
- **U25 (West Coast only)** - Athletes must be between the age of 16 and 25 by December 31, 2026. Horses must be 8 years old or older. Combinations must be schooling or already competing in the FEI Intermediate II Test or the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test.

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. **Change the Year to 2027.**
5. Leave the Date Range boxes blank.
6. In the Title box blank – type training
7. Select the red Search button.
8. Scroll down the page until you find the clinic you are applying for.
9. **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**
10. Select the 'Apply' button.
11. 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 November 17, 2026:**

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 your future plans.
3. If you were unable submit your video through the online application portal, the video link must be received no later than 11:59pm, ET on November 17, 2026. Videos may sent be sent to kbrett@usef.org or to WhatsApp at 913-940-0645. Links to social media accounts will NOT be accepted.

Applicants will be notified if they have been selected on or around December 1, 2026. Preference may be given to USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program Members.

DON'T FORGET! YOUR APPLICATION, ESSAY, LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, AND VIDEO MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59PM, ET ON NOVEMBER 17, 2026 TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE CLINIC!

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