



Selection Procedures for the 2021 World University Games

This is an urgent/last call for collegiate athletes interested in representing the U.S. to compete in the 2021 World University Games (WUG), hosted by the International University Sports Federation (FISU). The WUG will take place in Chengdu, China from August 18 - August 29, 2021. The table tennis events will take place from August 20 - August 27.

All athletes eligible according to FISU criteria **and** NCTTA eligibility requirements will be eligible to participate. The team selection will be based on **USATT ratings published as of April 19, 2021. If you would like to participate or have questions, please send an email to Games@nctta.org by 11:59pm PST on April 19, 2021.** Please direct all correspondence regarding the 2021 WUG to Games@nctta.org. We also encourage everyone to spread the word to eligible friends, club members, etc. who may be interested in participating. More detailed information regarding eligibility and selection criteria are below.

NCTTA cancelled all events in the 2020-2021 season due to safety concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore is not able to base selection for the 2021 WUG on NCTTA ratings, nor host a trial to select athletes to participate. NCTTA has determined that use of USATT ratings as the selection criteria for the 2021 WUG is the most fair and widely applicable selection criteria available this year. Please note that the selection procedures laid out here apply **only** to the 2021 WUG.

We encourage all interested parties to be prepared and submit their statements of interest to Games@nctta.org as early as possible; time is of the essence. For example, if your passport is expired or will expire soon, you should renew it ASAP.

*****Please note that all participants will be responsible for all expenses, including registration fees, airfare, etc. (i.e. your trip to the 2021 WUG must be self-funded). Specific details are below. NCTTA is not able to provide any funding to participants for the 2021 WUG.*****

Definitions/Acronyms:

1. **WUG:** World University Games (pka Universiade)
 - a. An international, multi-sport event that takes place every odd year.
 - b. The **2021 WUG** will be held in Chengdu, China from August 18 - August 29.
2. **FISU:** International University Sports Federation
 - a. Organizer of the WUG.
 - b. FISU sets the rules of the tournament and eligibility criteria for participants. The regulations for the 2021 WUG can be found here:
https://www.fisu.net/medias/fichiers/wug_21_regulations_v3.pdf.
3. **BTI:** BTI Events
 - a. Organizing committee for Team USA.
 - b. They are responsible for assisting all USA athletes participating in the 2021 WUG (i.e. in sports other than table tennis).
 - i. E.g. BTI will collect payment/fees from participants to pay to FISU on their behalf.
 - ii. E.g. BTI will provide Team USA apparel that participants must wear during opening, closing, and medal ceremonies.
 - c. We are subject to certain deadlines imposed by BTI that are non-negotiable, such as final deadlines for participants to pay fees, confirm their participation, etc.
4. **NCTTA events:** Events hosted by NCTTA as part of the NCTTA season calendar
 - a. These events include: divisional and regional tournaments and the National Championships.
 - b. These events use NCTTA ratings.
5. **USATT ratings:** USATT uses a points-based rating system to reflect the relative level of players.
 - a. An explanation of how the USATT rating system works can be found here:
<https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Table-Tennis/Ratings/Rating-System>.
 - b. USATT ratings can only be obtained by playing in USATT-sanctioned events.
 - c. USATT membership is required to play in USATT-sanctioned events.
 - d. USATT ratings are searchable here:
<https://usatt.simplycompete.com/userAccount/s2>. *If your name does not appear, either you do not have a USATT rating or your USATT rating/membership is not current.* You will be responsible for updating your rating.
6. **Players or athletes:** Eligible individuals who would compete in the applicable table tennis event.
 - a. Players must meet the eligibility criteria as per FISU **and** NCTTA eligibility requirements.

Eligibility:

The eligibility requirements for athletes participating in the 2021 WUG as per FISU are below:

Each athlete must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible to participate on Team USA (see pages 24-25 of the [2021 WUG Regulations](#)).

1. Be a national/citizen of the United States of America;
 - a. Athletes participating must represent the same country/region as in their respective ITTF events. Changes of sport nationality/citizenship must follow ITTF rules;
2. Be born between 1 January 1996 and 31 December 2003;
3. Be currently officially registered as proceeding towards a degree or diploma at his/her university or similar institute, the status of which is recognised by the appropriate national/regional academic authority of their country/region OR
4. Former students of the institutions mentioned in 3) who have obtained their academic degree or diploma in the calendar year preceding the event;* and
5. Not be under a current suspension from FISU, ITTF, NCTTA, or USATT.

*Note: #3-4 above indicate that incoming first-year students and some alumni may be eligible.

In addition, athletes must meet NCTTA's minimum eligibility requirements, which are as follows:

1. Undergraduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester/quarter and 18 credit hours per academic year (fall, spring, and summer) **and** meet a cumulative GPA of 2.0 out of a 4.0 scale or be in "good standing."
2. Graduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester/quarter and 12 credit hours per academic year (fall, spring, and summer). PhD students are included in this definition. Dissertation hours at some universities are mislabeled as non-academic credit; we can accept an advisor's letter on university letterhead to prove this information. Graduate students must also meet a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 out of a 4.0 scale or be in "good standing."
3. Students in their first semester of enrollment and incoming first-years are exempt from the GPA requirement, but not the minimum credit requirement.

Finally, BTI also requires that athletes meet the below criteria (BTI will provide these forms):

1. Sign the "Comprehensive Acceptance of USA Team Agreements" form.
2. Sign the "USA Team Honor Code and Code of Conduct" form.
3. Sign the "USA Team Authorizations, Waiver and Release Form".

As per BTI: Random drug testing may be done on athletes. All athletes that win a medal will be tested. The tests are done by WADA and positive results can affect NCAA, NAIA, or NJCAA eligibility.

Selection Procedure:

- NCTTA is solely responsible for selecting the athletes to represent the USA in the table tennis events at the 2021 WUG.
- Because NCTTA did not host any NCTTA events during the 2020-2021 season, we will use **USATT ratings published as of April 19, 2021** to select athletes.
 - If you do not have a current USATT rating, you will need to play in a USATT-sanctioned event *in time for your USATT rating to be published by the April 19, 2021 deadline*; USATT ratings are not instantaneously processed or published, so you should sign up for a USATT-sanctioned event as soon as possible.
 - USATT membership is required to participate in USATT-sanctioned events. If you are not a current USATT member, you should sign up to become a member as soon as possible.
- To be considered for selection, you must email Games@nctta.org **by 11:59pm PST on April 19, 2021**. We encourage interested people to gather the below documents as soon as possible. We will respond to confirm your eligibility or request further information.
 - In your email, please include the following information:
 - Name
 - University or college
 - Date of birth
 - Current USATT rating - search for your name and rating from USATT's database: <https://usatt.simplycompete.com/userAccount/s2>. **If your name does not appear, either you do not have a USATT rating or your USATT rating is not current.** It will be your responsibility to confirm the status of your USATT membership and take the necessary steps to update your rating (e.g. by signing up for a USATT sanctioned tournament).
 - [NCTTA eligibility form](#) filled out and signed by your institution's registrar's office.
 - As of now, it is anticipated that FISU is likely to limit teams to 2-3 men and 2-3 women. As such, the top 3 USATT-rated men and women as of April 19, 2021 will be selected. Selection will take place and be announced no later than 12pm PST on April 20. Selected individuals will be promptly notified. Individuals of both genders outside of the top 3 will be added to a running list of Reserves ("Reserves list").
 - In the event of a tie for the final spot, the player will be selected via random selection. The selection will take place in the form of a virtual coin flip, with both parties invited to view via Zoom or other web conferencing application.
 - Once notified of their selection, athletes will have **7 days to confirm their participation in the 2021 WUG with NCTTA and submit required forms/paperwork and payments directly to BTI. If you do not submit your materials timely, we will begin the process of asking players on the Reserves list to take your spot.**
- Reserves list: After April 19, 2021, you may continue to submit your name to be put on the Reserves list. If for any reason any of the original top 3 men and women is unable to attend the WUG, we will contact individuals on the Reserves list in descending order of USATT rating **as of April 19, 2021** to invite them to take a spot on the team instead. **The Reserves list will be closed to further names on May 7, 2021.**

- This process would continue until either there are 3 men and 3 women on the team or until we reach BTI and/or FISU-imposed deadlines to select players.

*****We strongly encourage all individuals interested in participating to submit their names to Games@nctta.org as soon as possible.*****

Costs:

All participants will pay a fee to BTI, which is responsible for the following:

- Ground transportation while at the WUG, including airport (Chengdu airport only), game, and practice transfers
- Rooms in the Athletes Village
- Three meals a day in the Athletes Village
- Athletes Village accreditation (picture ID), additional cost if lost.
- USA WUG Team office and staffing
- USA WUG Team doctor and 24-hour medical clinic in Athletes Village.
- Official USA WUG Team apparel, which must be worn at Opening, Closing, and medal ceremonies
- USA WUG Team pins to trade with other countries' athletes
- March in the Opening and/or closing Ceremonies behind the United States flag
- Pre-Games organizational help and website access
- Tickets for other selected WUG events
- Getting visas for US Citizens
 - Non-citizens will be responsible for obtaining their visas for entry into China
- Fees required by FISU (e.g. processing, technology, sanctioning fees)

The estimated cost per player due to BTI is **\$2895**. This fee covers all of the above for 11 nights: arriving August 17 and departing August 28. If you choose to stay at the Village for longer, you may do so for \$125 per person per additional night. This cost covers room, meals, and ground transportation within the Village and to competition and practice venues. Participants will submit payment directly to BTI. Money paid to BTI is **non-refundable**. NCTTA is not able to provide financial assistance for the 2021 WUG; participants are free to engage in their own personal fundraising activities.

In addition to the above fee to BTI, all participants will be responsible for all of their own expenses, including the following:

- Airfare (including COVID-related protocols such as testing; see below)
- Ground transportation
 - Domestically in the US (i.e. to get to/from your domestic airport)
 - Within China if you choose to leave the Village grounds (e.g. for sightseeing/leisure, etc.) and/or if you fly into/out of an airport other than Chengdu Airport
- Obtaining a US passport
- Incidentals (leisure, laundry, etc.) while at WUG
- Extra luggage costs (if applicable)
- Lodging outside of the Athlete's Village at WUG, if applicable (e.g. quarantine in China)
- Anything outside of what your payment to BTI already covers

Travel Considerations:

The following information is provided for your convenience only, and is not a substitute for your compliance with all applicable travel requirements imposed by any country or regulatory agency.

To our knowledge, China imposes a mandatory 14-day quarantine for all travelers entering the country. This means you will need to plan to fly into China at least 14 days before August 17 **and** budget for a 14-day stay in a government-selected facility or hotel at your own expense. If your quarantine is in a city other than Chengdu, you will need to arrange travel from your quarantine city to Chengdu. If you fly into Chengdu, BTI will pay for your ground transportation from the Chengdu airport to the Athlete Village, as noted above. A summary of key information is below, but **you are strongly advised to familiarize yourself with COVID-related travel restrictions and requirements imposed by China (as per the [US Embassy in China](#)) and advice from the [US Department of State](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)**. The following information is current as of March 5, 2021, but is likely to change between now and your departure date. **You are strongly advised to stay up-to-date on regulations and requirements surrounding international travel.**

- The Department of State's latest travel advisory on China is at Level 3 (Reconsider Travel), as of December 17, 2020, due to "arbitrary enforcement of local laws."
- As of December 1, 2020, the Chinese Embassy/Consulates General will issue a QR code with "HDC" mark for passengers flying from the U.S. to China. Foreign passengers can apply for the QR code with "HDC" mark by logging on to <https://hrhk.cs.mfa.gov.cn/H5/>. The passengers can fill in their information, declare their health status and upload the test certificates, passports, itinerary and other documents as required online, which will then be examined and verified by the Chinese Embassy/Consulates in the U.S. Upon approval, they will receive the QR code with "HDC" mark. Foreign passengers must present the electronic or printed code, and follow the procedures for inspection by relevant airlines during boarding. For test requirements please read the [Embassy notice on 29th October 2020](#) carefully.
- As of December 23, 2020, [travelers to China must complete a COVID PCR test and an antibody test in their departure city](#). Please follow guidance on the [PRC Embassy website](#) to identify approved labs. The latest notice is from [January 5, 2021](#). You will need to produce copies of your negative test results in order to board. As per the [October 29 Embassy notice](#) referenced above, passengers bound for China via direct flights must take their tests within 48 hours before boarding. Upon receiving the certificates of negative results of both tests, they need to submit them to the Chinese Embassy/Consulates (based on the consular district of the testing place) and apply for a green health code with the "HS" mark or a certified health declaration form.
 - Passengers bound for China via connecting flights must take both tests in the U.S. within 48 hours before boarding, **and** then take both tests a second time in their last transit country within 48 hours before boarding the plane to China. Passengers must apply from the Chinese Embassies/Consulates in BOTH countries (the U.S. and the last transit country) for green health codes with the "HS" mark or certified health declaration forms with their certificates of negative results of both tests.
- Incoming visitors to China must quarantine for at least 14 days upon arrival. Testing upon arrival and for release from quarantine may include blood tests, as well as oral, nasal, and anal swab tests.
- Within China, there are currently no curfews or restrictions on movement, and COVID-19 precautions and preventative measures vary from location to location. Grocery stores, restaurants, and hospitals are operating. Large gatherings are common. However,

conditions are subject to change pending Chinese authorities's responses to outbreaks, which could include mass testing, closures, transportation disruptions, lockdowns, family separation, or other measures.

- On January 12, 2021, CDC announced an [Order](#) requiring all air passengers **arriving to the US from a foreign country to get tested no more than 3 days before their flight departs and to present the negative result or documentation of having recovered from COVID-19 to the airline before boarding the flight**. Air passengers will also be required to confirm that the information they present is true in the form of an attestation. This Order is effective as of January 26, 2021. Alternatively, travelers to the U.S. may provide documentation from a licensed health care provider of having recovered from COVID-19 in the 90 days preceding travel. Check the CDC website for additional information and [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
 - This means you will need to be tested for COVID in **China** within 3 days of your departing flight.

Key Dates/Deadlines:

Event/Action Needed	Date(s)
Email Games@nctta.org indicating your interest in participating in the 2021 WUG (there will still be an opportunity to be put on the Reserves list if you miss this deadline, but initial entrants will receive priority).	11:59pm PST, April 19
Date for published USATT ratings to be used by NCTTA to select athletes for 2021 WUG team	April 19
NCTTA will select and notify the top 5 rated eligible men and women to represent Team USA in the table tennis event at the 2021 WUG (NCTTA will also publish the names of selected players), and will continue to accept names for the Reserves list	No later than 12pm PST on April 20
For the initial 10 selected athletes: confirm your participation to NCTTA and make necessary payments to BTI	April 27
For anyone from the Reserves list to confirm their participation to NCTTA and make necessary payments to BTI	7 days from the date of invite by NCTTA
Reserves list closed to further participants (i.e. we will no longer accept names to put onto the Reserves list)	May 7
Final list of participants, payment in full, and all required forms/paperwork due to BTI	May 15
Recommended arrival to China	No later than August 3* ** *You will need to provide proof of negative COVID test (PCR) and antibody test within 48 hours of boarding your flight to China **You will need to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival to China
Recommended arrival to the Athlete's Village	August 17
2021 WUG	August 18 - August 29
2021 WUG Opening Ceremony	August 18

Table tennis event at 2021 WUG	August 20 - August 27
Recommended departure	August 28* *in order to re-enter the US, you will need to get a negative COVID test in China no more than 3 days prior to your flight