

## USA Climbing Invitations to 2021 Youth World Championships

The process to be used by USA Climbing for USA Climbing invitations to the 2021 Youth World Championships based on the results of the USA Climbing Youth National Championships is set forth below. This process was approved by the CEO and the Board of Directors, July 11, 2021, and these updates alter and augment the rules in USA Climbing Rule 29.5.

- The 2021 Youth World Championships will be held Aug 21-31, 2021, in Voronezh, Russia. Travel to Russia by US citizens requires a Russian Visa.
- A Russian Visa Invitation (Visa Invitation) is a letter from the Russian Climbing Federation provided to an individual to support the individual's application to the Russian government for a Russian Visa. USA Climbing will help facilitate getting the Russian Climbing Federation to provide these Visa Invitations.
- A USA Climbing Invitation to the 2021 Youth World Championships (USA Climbing Invitation) is the allocation by USA Climbing of one of the USA Climbing quota for the 2021 Youth World Championships. Note that a Visa Invitation does not guarantee a USA Climbing Invitation.
- For the 2021 Youth World Championships, the Russian Federation (the host Federation) has agreed to extend the July 9th deadline for USA Climbing to submit participant and (possibly) chaperone information (names, passport info, etc) for the generation of Visa Invitations, but has agreed to extend this deadline only to immediately after the Final round of each category/discipline.
- As such, USA Climbing will have a National Team Meeting directly following the latest Final round on each of July 14th, July 16th, and July 18th. The respective Youth National Team meetings are:
  - a. July 14th: Youth National Team meeting - YA/Jr Bouldering, YB Lead
  - b. July 16th: Youth National Team meeting - YB/YA/Jr Speed
  - c. July 18th: Youth National Team meeting - YB Bouldering, YA/Jr Lead
- Each Youth National Team meeting will be held following the latest Final round of the day. It should be held no later than two (2) hours after the conclusion of the Final Round of the latest Category that day.
- **Each Youth National Team meeting is the sole opportunity for competitors to "express interest" (Rule 29.5.1) for the 2021 Youth World Championships for the relevant Categories/Disciplines.**
- **USA Climbing will make a reasonable effort to publish the list of athletes eligible to register their interest for each Discipline at the 2021 Youth World Championships on the Youth National Championships results page, and such reasonable effort shall be deemed to meet the relevant requirement of Rule 29.5.2.**
- The number of chaperones (parents/guardians) per competitor is currently not yet determined, and this information will be published or presented no later than the start

## USA Climbing Invitations to 2021 Youth World Championships

of the Youth National Team meeting. USA Climbing hopes to facilitate at least one chaperone per competitor; more than two chaperones per competitor is not likely.

- In order for a competitor to be eligible for a USA Climbing invitation to the 2021 Youth World Championships, they must meet all of the following **in order to meet the requirements of Rule 29.5.1 ("expressing interest")**:
  - a. Attend the relevant Youth National Team meeting, with any desired chaperones [parent/guardian],
  - b. Present to USA Climbing a hard (printed) copy of their US Passport, as well as a copy of any proposed chaperones' passports.
    - i. In order to request a Russian Visa invitation letter, a US Passport must have at least two blank visa-designated pages, and must have an expiration date at least 6 months after an individual's stay in Russia. (March 1st, 2022 is approximately 6 months after the end of the 2021 Youth World Championships.) If these requirements are not met by the current passport, the US Passport holder should immediately begin an expedited process to meet these requirements, and USA Climbing should be notified at the relevant Youth National Team meeting of the status of such efforts.
  - c. Sign an agreement declaring their interest (Rule 29.5.1) to compete at the 2021 Youth World Championships.
  - d. Fulfill all these requirements by the **"expressing interest"** deadline that is **10:59pm PDT (11:59pm MDT) the day of** the relevant Youth National Team meeting.

**Any chaperones (parents/guardians) must meet these same requirements and deadlines as the competitors.**

***Late documentation or agreements will not be accepted.***

- **Any eligible competitor desiring to "express interest" in competing at the 2021 Youth World Championships who is unable to attend the relevant National Team meeting must contact USA Climbing at [team@usacimbing.org](mailto:team@usacimbing.org) prior to the start of the relevant National Team meeting. In order to be considered to have "expressed interest", such competitors are subject to the requirements to submit the required documents, including signed agreement, prior to the "expressing interest" deadline.**
- **USA Climbing will make a reasonable effort to make the Youth National Team meeting available via Zoom (or similar).**
- **In order to facilitate the possibility of filling a later-declined USA Climbing Invitation, USA Climbing will allow all eligible competitors to express interest. For example, if USA Climbing's quota were three (3) competitors per**

## USA Climbing Invitations to 2021 Youth World Championships

**Category/Discipline, then the highest ranked of the 4th and lower ranked interested competitors can express interest (submit passport copies and sign agreements as well), though there is no guarantee that USA Climbing will be able to "pass down" any USA Climbing Invitations that are accepted but later declined.**

- **USA Climbing will make reasonable efforts to obtain Visa Invitations for the greatest number of highest ranked competitors who "express interest", as allowed by the Russian Climbing Federation.**
- **Only those competitors who "expressed interest" by meeting the requirements and deadlines above, and the chaperones who met the same requirements and deadlines, will be on the list of Visa Invitation letter requests that USA Climbing submits to the Russian Climbing Federation.**
- USA Climbing is not responsible for arranging for the Visa, only the Visa Invitation letter.
  - a. Each competitor and/or chaperone (parent/guardian) will be responsible for submitting (directly or through a service they arrange) their passport and Visa Invitation letter to the Russian government, as well as any other necessary documentation, payment, etc., in order to obtain a Russian Visa.
  - b. USA Climbing will work with the Russian Climbing Federation to facilitate the Visa Invitation letters, and will provide the Visa Invitation letter to the competitor and/or chaperones (parents/guardians).
- Competitors who have received a USA Climbing Invitation, but later become unavailable, ineligible, or otherwise unable to compete at the competition must contact USA Climbing via [info@usacimbing.org](mailto:info@usacimbing.org) immediately.
- **IFSC has published that the registration deadline for the 2021 Youth World Championships is 06 August 2021 at 11:59 PM UTC+0.**
- **Rules 29.5.1 through 29.5.4 are therefore amended for the 2021 Youth World Championships as described above.**
- USA Climbing quota for the 2021 Youth World Championships may go unfilled given the compressed timelines associated with the Russian Visa application process and IFSC registration deadline.

*(see next page for "Intent to Compete" Agreement)*

## USA Climbing Invitations to 2021 Youth World Championships

I hereby express my interest in receiving a USA Climbing Invitation to the 2021 Youth World Championships, agree to meet the published requirements and deadlines, agree to inform USA Climbing in a timely manner of any updates or changes to my availability or interest or ability to compete in the 2021 Youth World Championships. I understand that not fulfilling these obligations may result in a quota spot for the 2021 Youth World Championships remaining unfilled. I attest that the information provided below is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Category: (circle one) FJr FYA FYB MJr MYA MYB

Discipline: (circle one) Lead Bouldering Speed

Competitor Final Rank: (e.g. 3rd place) \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Competitor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (if Competitor not 18+yrs)

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ (if Competitor not 18+yrs)

Passport Information:

**A hard copy or electronic copy of the relevant passport pages must be submitted by the "expressing interest" deadline.**

Role	Name	Passport number	Expiration Date	Issue Date
Competitor				
Chaperone #1				
Chaperone #2				