2016 Cheerleader Tryouts General Information

1. Please email cheer@latech.edu by Monday, April 25, 2016 if you are planning on tryout out. Please include your name, age, and contact information.

   **Deadline for application packet** is Friday, April 29, 2016. You can bring it to the Housing Office located in Wyly Tower 227, or mail it to Attention: Tech Cheer- P.O. Box 3174, Ruston, LA 71272. Do not email it.

   Your packet is not complete without the following attachments: **A)** a recent picture, **B)** $35.00 application fee (cash, check, or money order), **C)** proof of insurance (make a copy of your insurance card and attach it to the application), **D)** physician release form signed by a physician, **E)** a copy of your unofficial transcript (from the registrar), **F)** letter of recommendation from previous cheer coach if this is your first time trying out at Tech. **G)** If you are a freshman or first time Tech student you also need to provide proof of acceptance/enrollment. As a freshman, your ACT scores will be used as an indicator of academic ability. If you are a current Tech student or a transfer student, you must have an overall GPA of **2.3.** If you choose to pay your fee with a check or money order, please make it payable to Louisiana Tech Foundation.

2. **Clothing: Girls**- Please wear a sports bra, shorts, and bloomers under your shorts. Wear your hair (half up/half down) and make-up the way you would on game day. We are looking for a neat collegiate appearance. Please wear a Louisiana Tech University shirt only, no other university shirts, all-star programs, or high school clothing is permissible. **Guys**- Wear a Louisiana Tech University t-shirt and shorts. We want to see a neat collegiate appearance.

3. **Tryouts will be held in the Blue Gym of the Lambright Intramural Center.**
   **Friday, April 29, 2016 – 5pm – until:** Collegiate appearance and Fight Song performance including standing tumbling and walk-in stunt.
   Cuts will be made during or after the tryout. Interview times for Saturday will be given after cuts are made. Interviews are done by the program advisors and coaches.
   **Saturday, May 1, 2016 – 8am – noon & 1pm – until:** Running tumbling, additional partner stunts, and sideline performance including toss stunts.
   (We will determine if additional cuts are needed after Saturday morning.)
   **Sunday, May 2, 2016 – 10am – until:** The time for posting the new team will be given at tryouts.
   All team members will have a mandatory meeting/practice 30 minutes after tryouts are officially over. This practice will be a 1-2 hour practice and will be closed. No parents, coaches, or friends will be allowed at this practice. Once the 2016-2017 team has been selected you must provide a check or money order for $150.00 made payable to Louisiana Tech Foundation before leaving. This will be applied to your cost of camp gear and will be further explained at the first practice. The new team will also receive fundraiser information at this practice and be measured for uniforms.

4. You will be weighed at tryouts as part of an overall fitness assessment, and you will be expected to maintain an optimal fitness level throughout the year. Our program for Louisiana Tech does not have a weight or height restriction, our girls usually range in size from 95-115 pounds and our guys vary in size. The typical size range and height does fluctuate from year to year. Cheerleading is an intense activity with high impact on joints. Our program stresses physical fitness for safety for both girls and guys. As long as you are adaptable to stunt with several partners you will be considered. Coed stunt experience is essential.
5. Cheerleading tryouts are closed to the public. No parents, coaches, etc. are allowed to watch tryouts. Tryouts will be conducted in a clinic/judging format. Candidates will be evaluated on tumbling (running and standing), stunting, fight song (taught at the tryout), cheerleading and crowd leading appeal, and fitness and physical appearance. When choosing the team, we consider if the person is coachable and can easily make corrections as well as gets along well with other members of their team and coaching staff. It is imperative to understand that this is not your old team and the coaches are not your old coaches. Be coachable and adaptable. Being able to learn and try new things is essential to being part of the team. Below is a list of tryout goals but does not guarantee a spot on the team. Tryouts are subjective and selections by the coaches and advisors are final. Squad members will be selected based on the above evaluations and how they will work within the Louisiana Tech University Cheerleading program.