Howard Payne University

Cheer Team Tryouts 2020-2021

\*Tryouts will be Friday and Saturday, April 17th and 18th in the Wellness Center Gym on the campus of Howard Payne University\*

It is that time again for cheerleading tryouts at HPU. Please read all the information below and make sure you are committed to becoming a Howard Payne cheerleader before you tryout.

It is important to understand that Cheerleading is a year-long commitment at Howard Payne. This means you will cheer for football and basketball games, as well as be able to attend various HPU and community appearances/events. You might also be required to compete at a state or national cheerleading competition during the spring semester. This will be determined by the coach at a later time. You will be expected to follow the rules and requirements of the squad for the entire year. Please make sure that other activities, including jobs, social clubs, and intramurals do not conflict with Cheerleading.

Camp is mandatory! We are currently working to schedule camp for late July/early August. We hope to have the finalized date soon. Any candidate who cannot attend camp will be asked to resign from the squad.

Howard Payne University does not provide scholarships for Cheerleading. However, the University will pay for cheerleading uniforms, cheerleading summer camp, and travel expenses to away games. You are responsible for a fee that covers items you are able to keep (sports bra, workout gear, backpack, etc.). We will finalize those items and cost by tryouts. The cost should not exceed $200.

Tryout Information

HPU Cheerleading tryouts will be held on Friday, April 17th and Saturday April 18, 2020 on the campus of Howard Payne University. The size of the squad will be determined by the Coach at the time of tryouts.

TRYOUTS ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

Students must show proof of acceptance into the University, or current enrollment status on the day of tryouts. Each accepted student should receive a letter of acceptance by mail. Please make sure you have this letter on the day of tryouts. You may bring a copy of this letter or the actual letter itself. If you have a question regarding your acceptance into the University, please email Richelle Hair before tryouts.

Squad members must remain in good academic standing (2.0 GPA) within the University for the entire year. Each member must also be enrolled in at least 12 semester hours in order to remain eligible.

Students will need to complete a liability waiver before participating in the tryout clinic on Friday, April 17th.

The HPU Cheerleading tryout process will include:

Friday, April 17th will be the mandatory HPU Cheer tryout clinic in the Wellness Center Gym located on the campus of Howard Payne University. If you are planning on trying out you must be at this clinic. Doors will open at 5:30 for students to fill out and hand in all paper work in order to tryout. This paperwork includes: Acceptance letter (new students or transfers), liability waiver, and HPU tryout application.

The HPU Cheer Tryout Clinic will start at 6:00pm. Candidates need to wear cheerleading attire, which includes: Cheer shoes, white t-shirt, black shorts, bloomers (ALL GIRLS), and hair pulled back and out of the face. Stretching will begin at 6pm sharp. After stretching, candidates will practice jumps then learn material for tryouts. The material will be one simple sideline chant, one cheer and stunting practice. After learning the material, candidates will stunt. During stunt time, candidates will be given the opportunity to find a group they feel comfortable stunting with. After stunting and if time permits, candidates will be able to tumble.

Saturday, April 17th tryouts will begin at 10:00am in the Wellness Center Gym. Candidates will be allowed into the gym no earlier than 9:30am to warm up.

For tryouts all girl candidates need to wear a white t-shirt, black shorts, briefs (ALL GIRLS), hair pulled back out of the face, cheer shoes, and candidate number provided by the Coach. All guys need to wear tennis shoes, athletic shorts and a white t-shirt.

Tryouts begin at 10:00am sharp. Participants will enter the gym in small groups for part 1 of tryouts to perform the cheer and chant.

Results:

The Howard Payne University 2019-2020 Cheerleading squad members will be posted on the doors of Wellness Center gym at 12:30 p.m. or within 30 minutes after the last candidate has performed on Saturday, April 17th.

If you are one of the candidates chosen as a member of the 2020-2021 HPU Cheer squad you will need to be fitted for your uniform on Saturday, April 17th at 1:00 p.m. with our Varsity rep.

HPU Tryout Requirements for girls: There are no minimum requirements for tumbling. However, a standing back handspring, or other tumbling skills are a bonus and encouraged. Level or hyper-extended toe touches are expected. Candidates will show 3 jumps during tryouts. Candidates do not have to whip their jumps.

HPU Tryout Requirements for guys: A good attitude and willingness to learn are the most important factors.

\*\*If a candidate is unable to attend tryouts in person, please contact Richelle Hair for more information about submitting a video for consideration. If you have any questions regarding tryouts or cheerleading at HPU please do not hesitate to email Richelle Hair. I am excited about your interest in HPU Cheer and look forward to meeting you soon!

Sting’em Jackets

Richelle Hair

Cheer Team Coach

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