

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR CICs AND CCIs
{an abridgment of the FEI & USEF Rules for Eventing for easy reference }

National Qualifying Result (**NQR**) is the score requirement set for CIC/CCI One-star Levels (USEF Appendix 3).

- ▶ Dressage Score earned in a USEF Dressage Test: No more than 50 penalty points.
- ▶ Dressage Score earned in a FEI Dressage Test: No more than 75 penalty points.
- ▶ Cross-country Score: No Cross-country jump penalties and no more than 36 time penalties.
- ▶ Show Jumping: No more than 16 Show Jumping jump penalties. Time penalties are not applicable for qualification purposes.

International Qualifying Result (**IQR**) is the score requirement set for CIC/CCI Two, Three & Four-Star Levels (FEI Article 506)

- ▶ Dressage Score earned in a USEF Dressage Test: No more than 50 penalty points.
- ▶ Dressage Score earned in a FEI Dressage Test: No more than 75 penalty points.
- ▶ Cross-country Score:
If a CIC is used as a qualifier, no Cross-country jump penalties. If a National Horse Trials and/or a CCI are used as a qualifier, no more than 20 Cross-country jump penalties. Applicable to all (CIC/National/CCI), no more than 36 Cross-country time penalties.
Note: At Four-star Events, the IQR for Cross-country time penalties is no more than 48.
- ▶ Show Jumping: No more than 16 Show Jumping jump penalties. Time penalties are not applicable for qualification purposes.

APPLICABLE TO ALL LEVELS LISTED IN THE CHART BELOW:

1. Qualifications must be achieved within the current and preceding two calendar years with **at least one** of the qualifying competitions achieved in the current or preceding calendar year (January to January). If a CIC is the last qualifier it must be obtained at least 10 days before the event in which it is needed; if the last qualifier is a CCI it must be obtained at least 24 days prior to the cross-country test of the event in which it is needed.

2. A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration (Annual Renewal) before the first FEI Competition of the season.

3. A horse must have:

- USEA Full Registration
 - USEF Life Registration
 - FEI Registration (Annual Renewal) before the first FEI Competition of the season.
 - Valid National Passport (only for use at domestic competitions at the one and two-star levels) or
 - Valid FEI Passport (required for three and four-star levels and for all competitions, regardless of level, outside of the U.S).
 - Age of horse: CIC1/2* at least 5 years of age, CIC3* at least 6 years of age; CCI1/2* at least 6 years of age, CCI3/4* at least 7 years of age.
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LEVEL	MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
CIC One-star	Both the competitor and the horse must have obtained NQR's at 3 Preliminary Level Horse Trials, may include a P3D, or higher. Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.
CCI One-star	Both the competitor and horse must have obtained NQR's at 4 Preliminary Level Horse Trials, may include P3D, or higher. Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.
CIC Two-star	Both the competitor and the horse must have obtained IQR's at 2 Intermediate Level Horse Trials or higher. Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.
CCI Two-star	Both the competitor and the horse must have obtained IQR's at either: 1 CCI1* or 1 CIC2* And 1 CIC2* or 2 National Intermediate Level Horse Trials USEF requirement: Both competitor and the horse must have a total of 3 IQR's at the intermediate level (National or FEI). Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.
CIC Three-star	Both the competitor and the horse must have obtained IQR's at: 1 CIC2* and 1 National Advanced Level Horse Trials Or 3 CIC2* USEF requirement: Both competitor and the horse must have a total of 2 IQR's at the advanced level (National or FEI). Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.
CCI Three-star	Both the competitor and the horse must have obtained IQR's at: 1 CCI2* And, 1 CIC3* And, 1 CIC3* or 1 National Advanced Level Horse Trials Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.
CCI Four-star	Both the competitor and the horse must have obtained IQR's at: 1 CCI3* And, 1 CIC3* or 1 CCI3* And, 1 CIC3* or 1 National Advanced Level Horse Trials Qualifications are not required as a horse/rider combination.

MAINTAINING YOUR QUALIFICATIONS

Establishment of Qualifications (FEI Article 506.9): When a rider and horse obtain a qualifying result at the higher level of competition then rider and horse are “established” (qualified to compete) at the higher level. For example when a rider and a horse (does not have to be as a combination) obtains a qualifying result at a CCI2*, both are “established” at the CCI2* level and lower levels, including a CIC2*. This establishment lasts for the remainder of the calendar year in which it was obtained and 2 succeeding calendar years.

Extend Establishment (FEI Article 506.10): At the CCI and CIC levels an establishment may be extended by obtaining qualifying results at other events of the same type and level within the two year period granted above, each extension remaining effective for the remainder of the calendar year in which it was obtained and two succeeding years.

- **For CCI Levels** when establishment has expired, it can be renewed at any time (even 2 to 3 years later) at 2 CIC/CNC (national horse trials) of the same level or higher during the 12 months before the event in question. Both qualifying competitions must be **without cross-country jump penalties** and achieve the qualifying scores for dressage and show jumping. Note: For the four-star Level, two qualifying scores without cross-country jump penalties at either a CIC3* or National Advanced Horse Trials fulfills this requirement.
- **For CIC Levels the above process to renew establishment does not apply: should your establishment expire after the two succeeding years for a CIC it may not be renewed.**

Definition of type and level: Type is CCI (3-day Event) or CIC (horse trials). Level is the degree of difficulty denoted with star designations: One-star = Preliminary, Two-star = Intermediate, Three-star = Advanced or Four-star = higher Advanced). If you are established at a CIC you are **not** established at a CCI of the same star level; however, if you are established at a CCI, you are established at a CIC of the same star level or lower.

Permanent Athlete Qualification (FEI Article 506.8): When an athlete has, since January 1, 2002, achieved 5 qualifying results at a four or three-star international Event, he/she can compete at that type/level (or lower) for life without the need for further qualifying results. Exception: Championships where qualifications are based on horse/rider combination. CCIs will count toward permanent qualifications for CICs of the same level, but CICs do not count towards permanent qualification for CCIs of the same level. Note: A horse ridden by a permanently qualified rider must still fulfill the minimum eligibility requirements. A horse never obtains a permanent qualification.

Exemptions from Minimum Eligibility Requirements: Under exceptional circumstances only, if the horse is unqualified, a qualified rider may apply for a waiver of the MERs. To apply for such consideration, contact USEF Athlete Services in Gladstone, NJ: 908.326.1162 at least four weeks prior to the event. Applications are available on the USEF website (www.usef.org) under Disciplines and Breeds, Athlete Services. Requests must be accompanied by a detailed summary of both the rider and horse’s performance record, including all the horse’s competitions at national and international (CIC/CCI) levels during the current and previous calendar year.

The request will be reviewed by the USEF Credentials Committee and if approved, sent on to the FEI as a written request from the National Federation requesting an exemption. The FEI must receive this request at least ten days prior to the event – late request will not be accepted. Once approved by the FEI, the NF will contact the Organizing Committee of the competition to notify them of your exemption, which the organizer must agree to accept.
