

# 2019 WINGS NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION

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The next USA Cross Country Championships will be held February 2, 2019 at Apalachee Regional Park in Tallahassee, FL. Once again, Wings of America will sponsor a team to represent Native America in the Junior men's and women's races. The organization will cover travel expenses and room and board for the fourteen young men and women selected to race in Wings uniforms. In addition to the trip to Florida, Wings will host 2019 team members in New Mexico during winter break for a multi-day training camp.

Wings created this opportunity in order to showcase the talents and positive achievements of American Indian youth and provide them with a cross-cultural learning experience. The program brings Native youth together from across the nation to compete as a team in an elite field of both high school and college runners. Many program alumni have earned the attention of college coaches and/or a spot on a junior national team to compete internationally with their performance at the USA Cross Country Championships. Wings teams have captured thirty national titles since their debut in 1988.

"Junior" Eligibility Requirements: Qualifying athletes must be 14 years or older on the day of competition (February 2, 2019) and cannot turn 20 during 2019.

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In order to be considered for the Wings National Team, high-school-aged runners MUST:

1. Complete the free 2019 Wings National Team Selection application on the Wings website no later than December 2, 2019
2. Run at least one of the following (5K) qualifying races:

▶▶▶▶ Any "NXR" (Nike Cross Regional) race held between November 10 and November 24.

Registration Information: [www.runnerspace.com/nxn](http://www.runnerspace.com/nxn)

▶▶▶▶ Any "Footlocker" regional race held between November 24 and December 1.

Registration Information: <http://www.footlockercc.com>

\*\*\*Eligible college-aged runners may submit late-season 6K (women) and 8K (men) race times on a case-by-case basis. Please contact Wings for more information.\*\*\*

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Final selections for the Wings National Team will be made by December 3, 2018. Upon notification, selected student-athletes must be prepared to begin a 8-week training plan in preparation for the USA Cross Country Championships and attend the training camp hosted for National Team Members in NM over winter break December 27th -30th.

For more information or to register as an eligible competitor, please visit:  
<http://www.wingsofamerica.org/2019wingsteamqualifying/>

CONTACT:  
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# QUALIFYING RACE REGISTRATION & TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

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Want to try out for the Wings National Team?

...but worried about the cost of entering a qualifying race?

Wings will assist qualified American Indian student-athletes and teams wishing to qualify for the Wings National Team under the following terms:

## RACE REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE:

In order for Wings to cover NXR or Footlocker Regional race registration fees, student-athletes must:

1. Have finished at least one official team race during the regular 2018 high school cross country season at (or below) the qualifying standards:

Men's Qualifying Time \_\_\_\_\_ (5K)- 17:05

Women's Qualifying Time \_\_\_\_\_ (5K)- 21:00

\*\*Contact Wings Program Coordinator for qualifying time in states where women run other than 5K\*\*

2. Complete the free 2019 Wings National Team Selection application on the Wings website at least ten (10) days before the qualifying race they wish to run.
3. Email the Wings Program Coordinator (alicia@wingsofamerica.org) at least ten (10) days before the qualifying race they wish to run to confirm their desire to be registered to compete.
4. Be able to provide proof of enrollment in a state or federally recognized Indian Tribe.
5. Provide a copy of their class schedule and a "grade check" showing they are in academic good standing (C-Average or better).

## TRAVEL & LODGING ASSISTANCE:

In addition to assisting with race registration fees, Wings will transport a limited number of student-athletes to the NXR Southwest regional race. Those traveling in Wings vehicles will be under the direct supervision of Wings personnel for the duration of the trip and must stay in accommodations arranged by the organization the night before competition.

Spots in Wings vehicles traveling to NXR SW will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis. Student-Athletes applying for travel assistance MUST meet ALL race registration assistance criteria (above) and submit ALL required paperwork/permissions at least seven (7) days before travel. If you hope to travel to with Wings, please contact the Wings Executive Director ASAP to reserve your spot in the Wings caravan.

Student-athletes from outside New Mexico and Arizona may apply for lodging assistance to help them attend the qualifying race of their choice. Please contact the Wings Program Coordinator ASAP if you would like to further explore this option.

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To register as an eligible competitor or apply for assistance, please visit:

<http://www.wingsofamerica.org/2019wingsteamqualifying/>

OR contact Program Coordinator, Alicia Littlebear, with questions:

Office Ph: (505) 982-6761

E-Mail: [alicia@wingsofamerica.org](mailto:alicia@wingsofamerica.org)

