



## Tips from the Director

The purpose of this message is to provide audition candidates with tips regarding the audition process for the Detroit Lions Cheerleaders. There are many factors that go into the audition process; it is not just about the dance skills. Ambassadorship, image, athleticism, well-rounded dance, business skills, confidence, and showmanship are all equally important factors. Therefore, it is important to set expectations and get prepared! Below are some steps to better understand the audition process so that it is a positive and fun *learning* experience.

- Read the job description and take time to prepare. Preparation equals success!
- Set realistic goals for the auditions. For example, if you just recently heard about auditions, set goals to learn new dances moves, meet new people, and participate in a professional audition.
- If you have been planning to audition for a long time and/or have auditioned in the past, come up with ways to show renewed enthusiasm and skills, especially a positive image, including muscle definition and more flexibility.
- If you are on undecided about whether to audition or not, try it anyway. You never know how you will do unless you try. Attending an audition event of this caliber can open up many other opportunities.
- The audition process is a comprehensive experience to learn more about yourself, including how well you handle pressure in a large-scale capacity. Regardless of the outcome, you will have content for your resume to share with other employers.
- Set expectations. Auditions are challenging and sometimes it takes candidates more than one shot to reach the finals and/or make a professional team depending on how long they have been training and preparing. Remember, hundreds of candidates apply each year for a limited number of spots.
- Be a business professional prepared to represent a national brand. Do research and gain knowledge about the organization, the brand, and the history.
- Have a great resume that includes business and entertainment accomplishments. Be honest and don't embellish.
- Attend the PRE-audition clinic to learn all you can if they are offered.
- Train like an athlete. Get your body in the best possible shape. The job as a professional dancer is demanding. Athleticism, strength, and endurance are key.
- Train like a professional dancer. Brush up on all the basic dance skills. Learn and develop new skills as well.
- You are applying for a job as a public performer and brand representative. Be the best version of yourself and make your image a priority. Make sure your body, hair, face, skin, etc. look amazing.
- Auditions are fast paced and competitive, focus on doing your best to stand out.
- Demonstrate a high level of confidence and poise *throughout the entire audition process, not just when you think someone is watching you*. Demonstrate how you will handle the pressure.
- Returning member candidates must also set expectations and are not guaranteed a spot.

- Auditions take time because they are designed to provide equal consideration for all the candidates. Be patient.
- Meet new people and develop networks. You never know where things may lead whether you make the team or not. Have fun and be positive.
- Demonstrate a strong character with a high level of integrity, sincerity, genuineness, kindness, maturity, and gratitude. Carry forward the kind of character that you can deliver all year.
- If offered the job, be prepared to commit to a full year contract.
- Hundreds of candidates audition for a coveted spot, be prepared to set yourself apart from the other candidates.