



EAST COAST SHOWDOWN

A BHANGRA & GARBA-RAAS DANCE COMPETITION

RAAS REGISTRATION PACKET

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WELCOME TO ECS!

Dear East Coast Showdown Applicant,

The East Coast Showdown (ECS) Executive Board at the University of Virginia is proud to announce our tenth annual Bhangra and Garba-Raas competition! With the success of the past nine years, East Coast Showdown is excited to be even bigger and better this year. The competition will be held on February 20th, 2027 at the MLK Performing Arts Center in Charlottesville, VA. Our competition aims to increase awareness of South Asian culture while also uniting the community by showcasing these two different dance forms. We are proud to announce our continued partnership with Sakhi. All the proceeds of ECS 2027, net operating expenses, will be donated to Sakhi in order to support our international community.

Our executive board consists of individuals with dance experience from many different backgrounds who are excited to celebrate the diverse cultures of South Asia. We understand the hard work that goes into cultivating a team, and we would like to honor that by striving to provide one of the best experiences in the circuit while satisfying all teams' needs. We would like to thank you for your interest in ECS and would be honored to have your team participate in our competition. We can't wait to see what your team has to offer and bring you a weekend filled with fun, competition, and southern hospitality!

In this packet you will find:

- Important Timelines
- Audition Video Guidelines
- Application Fees
- Registration Information
- Rules & Regulations
- And Much More

Please read all the information carefully and keep in mind that all of the deadlines will be strictly followed. Again, we would like to thank you for your interest in the East Coast Showdown Competition. We are looking forward to working with you and hope that you have an amazing experience with us! Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns at ecs.reg@gmail.com. We ask that you send all application and registration relate

Meera Shah and Sanjum Sandhu
ECS Registration Chairs 2026-2027

Neha Amarnath, Ronit Shah, and Sanjana Rao
East Coast Showdown Directors

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Early
Application

OCT 25
11:59 PM EST

- APPLICATION ON BHASKAR
- AUDITION VIDEO
- NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE

\$75

Regular
Application

NOV 1
11:59 PM EST

- APPLICATION ON BHASKAR
- AUDITION VIDEO
- NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE

\$80

Late
Application

NOV 5
11:59 PM EST

- APPLICATION ON BHASKAR
- AUDITION VIDEO
- NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE

\$90

Acceptance
Notification

NOV 15
11:59 PM CST

Acceptance
Confirmation

NOV 17
11:59 PM CST

- EMAIL CONFIRMATION
- SUBMIT SECURITY DEPOSIT OF \$200



COMPETITION INFO

A minimum of 12 people must be on the roster not including alternate dancers. Additional roster members after 20 members must pay an additional fee per dancer.

Each competing team must include current college/university students with a MAXIMUM of 2 non-current students, if affiliated with a particular university or college.

If the team is an independent organization, then everyone on the roster except for two people must be currently enrolled at a university.

All roster members must submit (1) a government-issued ID as well as (2) a student ID (unless they are one of the two non-university members on the team).

Student and government IDs must be uploaded in the following format (.jpg or .png)
i. TeamName_FirstNameLastName_StudentID ii. TeamName_FirstNameLastName_GovernmentID



\$500
**SECOND
PLACE**

\$1000
**FIRST
PLACE**

\$350
**THIRD
PLACE**

COMP WEEKEND

There will be **16 teams** selected to compete: 8 Bhangra and 8 Garba-Raas. The two styles will **not** compete against each other. Each dance style is judged separately. Here is what to expect from the weekend

MIXER DAY

Friday, February 19th, 2027

4pm

Teams are required to arrive by 4 PM on Friday to attend prop setup and the mandatory team mixer.

Teams must stay at the designated East Coast Showdown hotel.

Team Captains are required to attend a captains' meeting after the mixer.

COMP DAY

Saturday, February 20th, 2027

A mandatory tech rehearsal at the show venue will take place on Saturday.

Each team will be assigned 17 minutes of stage time.

Following that, teams will have 10 minutes to watch their onstage rehearsal video and an additional 15 minutes of offstage rehearsal.

TOTAL PERFORMANCE LENGTH

5.5-7 MINS

PROP SET-UP AND TAKE-DOWN

1.5 MINS

INTRO VIDEO
NO LONGER THAN

1.5 MINS



HOW TO APPLY



EARLY

\$75

Sun, Oct 25, 2026

REGULAR

\$80

Sun, Nov 1, 2026

LATE

\$90

Thu, Nov 5, 2026

1

submit an application through Bhaskar

- <https://bhaskar.raasallstars.com/>
- Submit an audition video.
 - Requirements for the video and submission are on the following pages.



02

submit the NON-refundable application fee

- Venmo: @eastcoastshowdownUVA
- Zelle: eastcoastshowdown.uva@gmail.com
- Include, in this order: Team Name, “Raas,” and Early, Regular, or Late Application
- Please submit the correct amount based on the date you are submitting all your application materials by.
 - The date we receive the payment will be used to determine whether your application will be considered regular or late.

All registration items must be submitted via the Bhaskar Application Portal by 11:59 PM EST on the given dates. Once ALL of these materials have been received, you will receive a confirmation email from the registration chairs within 24 hours of submission.



AUDITION VIDEO

Requirements

- The video **MUST** be continuous dancing for 2:00-2:30 minutes, with a 30-60 second Garba segment requirement.
- The routine performed **MUST** reflect the current routine that is intended to be performed at each competition. Previous routines or performances will not be considered.
- 100% of the audition video dancers must be present in the video at all times, and their full bodies **MUST** be visible.
- At least 80% of the roster members who were listed on the submitted dancing roster **MUST** be performing in the video.
- Male and female dancers **MUST** wear different colored shirts to allow for visualization (no more than two standardized colors).
- Camera **MUST** be fixed. There can only be one camera angle (front and center), and it cannot be zoomed or panned.
- All formations **MUST** be visible.

Restrictions

- No costumes or props are allowed in the video, except dandiya.
- No stunts, themes, dialogue, or voiceovers are permitted.
- No intro/outro videos are allowed.
- The video cannot be edited (**MUST** be continuous).
- The video cannot have any special lighting or visual effects.
- The audio and video must be good.
- College/university or team-affiliated items **MUST NOT** be worn or seen in the video. This includes, but is not limited to: logo, mascot, symbol, slogan, colors, etc.

Video Submissions

- Teams may overlay the audio.
- The audio and video **MUST** be of high quality (720p or above) in MP4 or .MOV format.
- Each team **MUST** submit their video through Bhaskar



TEAM ACCEPTANCES

Accepted Teams

Accepted teams will be notified by Sunday, November 15, 2026, 11:59 CST.

Once accepted, your team will have until Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 11:59 CST to accept or deny your spot in the East Coast Showdown lineup.

To confirm your acceptance:

- You must pay a security deposit of \$200 within 48 hours of receiving the acceptance email.
- All fees can be paid via Venmo to [@eastcoastshowdownUVA](https://www.venmo.com/@eastcoastshowdownUVA) or Zelle to eastcoastshowdown.uva@gmail.com
- Please make the payment private and include the Team Name and “Raas Acceptance Fee- Security Deposit”.

Waitlisted Teams

All teams will automatically be placed on the waitlist and notified after the initial round of acceptances.

Once notified, your team will have 48 hours to accept or deny your spot on the waitlist for ECS.

If an opening occurs, waitlisted teams will be immediately notified and offered a spot on the lineup. Once notified, your team will have 48 hours from the time the email was sent to accept or deny your spot in the lineup.

To accept your position, you **MUST** pay a security deposit of \$200 within 48 hours of receiving the acceptance email (venmo or zelle only).

Security Deposit

The security deposit will be returned to you after the competition weekend is over. Money from the security deposit may be deducted if there is any damage to the hotel rooms, mixer venue, after-party venue, or performance venue. Late fees incurred due to submission of post-registration materials after deadlines and notification of passed deadlines will also result in a deduction from the security deposit.

Per Dancer Fees Post-Acceptance

- \$65 per roster member, for the first 20 dancers (dancers 1-20).
- \$75 per roster member for the next five dancers (dancers 21-25).
- \$80 per roster member for the next five dancers (dancers 26-30).

If your team has more than 30 members on the roster, each additional member **MUST** pay \$85 each. The per dancer fees will need to be paid by the deadline outlined in the post-registration packets. Please contact registration chairs if you have more than 30 dancers.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

01

The East Coast Showdown executive board may practice discretion with their selection process. Teams understand that the committee is not required to divulge any information regarding team selection, unless they see fit.

02

Garba-Raas teams do not need to be affiliated with a particular college/university.

03

Should a registered team choose to withdraw from the competition after accepting their invitation to East Coast Showdown, they will forfeit their security deposit and paid registration fees. This means that all fees that have been paid are NON-refundable. **In addition, withdrawing AFTER the official lineup is released will result in a \$350 penalty.**

04

Violence or rude behavior toward either the judges, other participants, staff at the venues and hotel, or members of the ECS board will result in point deductions or immediate disqualification, all **determined at the discretion of the ECS board.**

05

Payment of the security deposit acknowledges agreement to the outlined rules and regulations.

06

Any rules, outlined presently and in the future, that are violated will lead to an individual's or a team's disqualification, depending on the severity of the violation. The final decision will be **determined at the discretion of the ECS board.**

07

The East Coast Showdown event coordinators reserve the right to add new rules and subtract or revise existing rules as seen fit. All teams will be notified of any changes made.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Once again, on behalf of the East Coast Showdown Executive Board, we would like to thank you for your interest in our competition. We are looking forward to your application! For any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the registration chairs or directors.



Meera Shah
Registration Chair



Sanjum Sandhu
Registration Chair



ecs.reg@gmail.com



[@eastcoastshowdown](https://www.instagram.com/eastcoastshowdown)



[East Coast Showdown](https://www.facebook.com/eastcoastshowdown)



[eastcoastshowdown.org](https://www.eastcoastshowdown.org)

