

US Chess Accepting Award Vendor Bids For National Events

November 25, 2024

The US Chess Federation (US Chess) is soliciting Award Vendor (Vendor) bids for the following FY 2025-2026 through FY 2028-2029 National events. The US Chess fiscal year starts on July 1 and ends on June 30. This will be a one-year agreement, with three optional one-year agreements based on performance and mutual consideration. The successful bid will include the following National events*:

- **2025 U.S. Open**
- **2025 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2026 National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **2026 National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **2026 National Elementary (K-6) Championship**
- **2026 U.S. Open**
- **2026 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2027 National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **2027 National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **2027 National Elementary (K-6) Championship**
- **2027 U.S. Open**
- **2027 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2028 National High School (K-12) Championship**
- **2028 National Middle School (K-8) Championship**
- **2028 National Elementary (K-6) Championship**
- **2028 U.S. Open**
- **2028 National K-12 Grade Championship**
- **2029 SuperNationals IX**

See the National Events Calendar at <http://new.uschess.org/national-events-calendar> for dates and locations for these events. If the event is not listed, the date and location are TBA.

**Dates and locations are subject to change.*

The successful bid will include all proposed costs, fees, and terms for award deliverables. The bid will also account for award specifications as detailed in Section 14 of the [2024-2025 US Chess Scholastic Regulations](#).

Proposed unit costs should be stated for different categories and sizes of awards. An example list is below. This is not intended to be comprehensive, merely illustrative. The final specifications will be negotiated with the successful bidder.

- Team Trophies: 4-post, 3-post, 2-post
- Individual Plaques: 5"x7", 4"x6"
- Individual Medallions:
 - Place winners (Custom cast, 4" to 5" diameter, with Custom ribbon customized for the event)
 - Participation awards (2" to 3" diameter, with ½-inch ribbon)

The successful bid will acknowledge that:

1. It is the responsibility of the Awards vendor to make arrangements with the venue concerning the delivery or pick up of products.
2. The Awards vendor must pay any drayage fee associated with its operation.
3. The expected arrival and departure dates for awards must be provided 30 days prior to the start of the event.
4. The Awards vendor must provide US Chess its primary point of contact 30 days prior to the start of each event.

Competitive bids will be evaluated on the following criteria:

1. Visually and aesthetically pleasing awards that feature the US Chess logo.
2. Secure packaging of awards.
3. Prompt, on-time delivery of awards at our national events.
4. Vendor staff on site to assist US Chess with setup, management and recovery of awards.
5. Sufficiently robust production to handle 300-1,000 place awards and 1,000-2,500 participation awards for a single event.
6. Telephonic and electronic customer service options.
7. Post-event shipping of recovered awards to winners as needed.
8. Post-event replacement of damaged awards to winners as needed.
9. Special award offerings or styles that enhance the experience of the chess tournament.

Vendors are free to address the criteria in their bids as they see fit. This includes, but is not limited to, proposing alternative approaches to fulfilling the criteria.

The selected Vendor shall be bound by the relevant specifications of the US Chess Safe Play Policy. Failure to adhere the Safe Play Policy shall be grounds for termination of the awarded contract. The Safe Play Policy is available for review at the US Chess Safe Play Hub: <https://new.uschess.org/us-chess-safe-play-hub>.

Either party may elect to discontinue the agreement for future fiscal years, by notifying the other party not later than June 30, 2026 for the first extension, or June 30 for subsequent years' extensions.

The bid process is a sealed process. No bid will be reviewed until the deadline for submission has passed. Bids must be submitted to eventbids@uschess.org not later than December 31, 2024.

Please direct all questions to US Chess Director of Events, Boyd Reed, boyd.reed@uschess.org. DO NOT SUBMIT FINAL BIDS TO THIS EMAIL.