1. **Registration**

1.1. All applicants must register and pay ALL FEES ON-LINE at the NTC website: [www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org](http://www.nationaltrumpetcomp.org) (online registration will open November 1, 2019). Applicants must register online using a valid credit card and ONE (only) valid e-mail address. An applicant’s recording will not be reviewed unless payment is received by the December 15, 2019 deadline.

1.2. Students enrolled full time or home schooled at the time of the Competition who are either US citizens or foreign students studying in the USA may apply.

1.3. All applicants (soloists and ensembles) must submit a video recording of their competition piece. All applicants are responsible for mastering this process and for making a successful upload. Applicants are strongly urged to verify, on their own, that their link functions properly, to ensure that the judges are able to avail themselves of their video. **Every aspect of this part of the process is the responsibility of the applicant.** Soloists submit their solo piece only. Ensembles submit their selected piece only. Jazz contestants submit their required piece and selected piece only (2 pieces total). There must be no other works in the video(s).

   1.3.1. Solo recordings must be with live piano accompaniment.

   1.3.2. No stopping/starting, editing, or splicing of any kind is allowed. To attempt to circumvent NTC’s efforts to keep the competition fair for all goes against the ethics of integrity to which NTC aspires. Please submit an honest, un-edited video.

   1.3.3. The video must contain **exactly and only** what is to be performed in the live rounds, including the single cut allowed (solo division). Performances for solo and ensemble categories are limited to 8 minutes, including stage entrance, tuning, and performing. Jazz contestants are limited to 12 minutes. If an uploaded video contains more than one piece (2 for Jazz), the preliminary judges will only listen to the first 8 minutes of the video (or 12, for Jazz).

   1.3.4. Recordings must be successfully submitted by midnight Eastern Standard Time, December 15, 2019; there will be no exceptions. Videos must be uploaded UNLISTED (not Private) to YouTube and the link to the video provided in the online NTC application. Videos not viewable by the judging panel will be disqualified.

2. **Age Requirements** (applicants must meet both parameters of age and school enrollment)

2.1. **Graduate Solo Division:** Open to anyone born after March 21, 1991, and enrolled full time in graduate school.

2.2. **Undergraduate Solo Division:** Open to anyone born after March 21, 1994, and enrolled full time in an undergraduate program.
2.3. **High School Solo Division:** Open to anyone grades 9 – 12, born after March 21, 2000, and enrolled full time in a high school or home schooled.

2.4. **Junior Solo Division:** Open to anyone through grade 8, born after March 21, 2005, and enrolled full time in school or home schooled.

2.5. **Jazz Solo Division:** Open to anyone born after March 21, 1991, and enrolled full time in school or home schooled.

2.6. **College Ensemble Divisions:** Open to anyone born after March 21, 1991, and enrolled full time in an undergraduate or graduate program.

2.7. **High School Ensemble Division:** Open to anyone born after March 21, 2000, and enrolled full time in a high school or home schooled.

3. **Solo Divisions**

3.1. All solo works must be performed with live piano accompaniment.

3.1.1. Entrants submitting works that are self-published or deemed by NTC to be lesser-known will be notified of such by the Collaborative Pianists' Chair on December 22, 2019, and will be required to provide a pianist at their expense for the live rounds. If a competitor is unwilling to secure an outside pianist, they may withdraw by midnight Eastern Standard Time, December 31, 2019 and receive a refund of their application fee; no refunds will be given for withdrawals after this date.

3.1.2. All other applicants who requested an NTC pianist in any of the solo divisions must:

   A. Send a PDF of their piano score to their assigned pianist upon notification of acceptance to the live rounds.

   B. Include the applicant’s name, division, phone, and e-mail legibly shown on the front page of the PDF.

   C. Clearly mark any cuts directly on the music.

   D. Send the file containing the music directly to the assigned NTC pianist no later than midnight Eastern Standard Time, February 1, 2020.

**Applicants who do NOT request an NTC pianist at the time of their original application will not be allowed to request one at any time thereafter.**

- **JANUARY 20, 2020** – Notification of acceptance to the live rounds will be posted on the NTC website. Pianist assignments and contact information will also be posted that day, along with a rehearsal and competition schedule. **This schedule is to be considered final at the time of publication;** due to the complexity of scheduling soloists, ensembles and staff pianists, no adjustments may be made for any reason.

- **FEBRUARY 1, 2020** – Deadline to pay NTC pianist fee online AND send music to the NTC pianist. Competitors who requested an NTC pianist in their application MUST pay the pianist fee, even if they subsequently decide to hire an outside pianist. Any competitor who has failed in either
aspect of these submissions will be notified of their delinquency on February 2, and will have 48 hours to rectify the omission, with a penalty of $95. Any failure beyond that deadline will result in disqualification, at which time alternate contestants may be invited. There are NO refunds given; if an applicant pays the fee online and fails to send their music, NTC will not refund their money.

3.2. Prior winners may enter the same Division as many times as age and school enrollment parameters allow.

3.3. Applicants may enter only that category which age and school enrollment parameters dictate.

3.4. All soloists are limited to 8 minutes on stage, which includes entrance, set-up, tuning, and performing. This will be strictly enforced.

3.5. In the case of a large single-movement work (such as the Arutiunian Concerto) or a movement from a multi-movement piece that by itself is longer than 8 minutes, one and only one internal cut shall be allowed, and a contestant may omit the beginning and/or the ending as well. These alterations must be the same as in the applicant’s video, and in each round for which they qualify.

3.6. Any combination of movements within one piece is allowed, in any order, as long as the 8 minute time limit is adhered to. No cuts are allowed in multi-movement works, except as mentioned in Rule 3.5.

3.7. All competitors admitted to the live rounds must be available to perform at any time for the duration of their portion of the competition.

3.7.1. Any competitor unable to perform at their assigned time will be disqualified.

3.7.2. Graduate and Undergraduate soloists using NTC pianists must be available to rehearse beginning at 12pm Wednesday, March 18. Junior & High School soloists using NTC pianists must be available to rehearse beginning at 9am Thursday, March 19. A soloist unable to rehearse at their assigned time will be allowed to perform without rehearsal, if their pianist consents.

4. College Ensemble Divisions

4.1. There are two divisions, based upon ensemble size: Small Ensemble (4-6 members) and Large Ensemble (7-10 members). Each division will be adjudicated independently of the other. Performer personnel in the video must be the same personnel at the live NTC event in March. No individual may participate in more than one ensemble (even in different divisions).

4.2. All works are to be performed one on a part (no doubling of parts).

4.3. Cuts are allowed and are at the discretion of the performers, so long as the video version and the live version are identical.

4.4. Each ensemble will be allowed 8 minutes of stage time which will include set-up, tuning, and performance. This will be strictly enforced.

4.5. Conductors are permitted but not required; conductors will not count in ensemble size.
4.6. Instruments other than trumpets, cornets, piccolo trumpets, bass trumpets, and flugelhorns are not allowed.

4.7. Students must be enrolled full time at the time of the Competition in the school that they represent.

4.8. All members of an ensemble must be enrolled at the same school.

4.9. All ensembles admitted to the live rounds must be available to perform at any time for the duration of their portion of the competition. Any ensemble unable to perform at their assigned time will be disqualified. Quarterfinals and Semifinals will take place on Thursday, March 19; Finals will begin at 5pm on Saturday, March 21.

5. **High School Ensemble Division**

5.1. Ensembles must include no fewer than 4 performers, and no more than 10. Performer personnel in the video must be the same personnel at the live NTC event in March. No individual may participate in more than one ensemble.

5.2. All works are to be performed one on a part (no doubling of parts).

5.3. Cuts are allowed and are at the discretion of the performers, so long as the video version and the live version are identical.

5.4. Each ensemble will be allowed 8 minutes of stage time which will include set-up, tuning, and performance. This will be strictly enforced.

5.5. Conductors are permitted but not required; conductors will not count in ensemble size.

5.6. Instruments other than trumpets, cornets, piccolo trumpets, bass trumpets, and flugelhorns are not allowed.

5.7. Students must be enrolled full time or home schooled at the time of the Competition. They are not required to be enrolled at the same school.

5.8. All ensembles admitted to the live rounds must be available to perform at any time for the duration of their portion of the competition. Any ensemble unable to perform at their assigned time will be disqualified. Semifinals and Finals will be held on Saturday, March 21.

6. **Jazz Solo Division**

6.1. Selected semifinalists will play in a live preliminary round, from which finalists will be chosen. In their application recording, applicants must include the required work *Up Jumped Spring* by Freddie Hubbard, as well as a contrasting piece of their choice.

6.2. Semifinalists will perform both selections under a 12 minute time limitation, which will include set-up, tuning, and performance.
6.3. Finalists will play a program of their choosing (no repertoire restrictions whatsoever), and will have 20 minutes of on-stage time, which will also include set-up, tuning, and performance.

6.4. Jazz Solo Division competitors must perform semi and final rounds with the professional jazz rhythm section (piano/bass/drums) provided by NTC. Upon acceptance to the semi-final round, applicants must:

A. Send a PDF of your piano/rhythm charts to NTC.

B. Include the applicant’s name, division, phone, and e-mail legibly shown on the front page of the PDF.

C. Send the file containing the music no later than midnight Eastern Standard Time, February 1, 2020.

- JANUARY 20, 2020 – Notification of acceptance to the semi-final round will be posted on the NTC website. The rehearsal and competition schedule will also be posted that day. **This schedule is to be considered final at the time of publication;** due to the complexity of scheduling among all divisions, no adjustments may be made for any reason.

- FEBRUARY 1, 2020 – Deadline for online payment of the NTC rhythm section fee AND to send PDFs of rhythm section music to info@nationaltrumpetcomp.org. Any competitor who has failed in either aspect of these submissions will be notified of their delinquency on February 2, and will have 48 hours to rectify the omission, with a penalty of $95. Any failure beyond that deadline will result in disqualification, at which time alternate contestants may be invited. There are NO refunds given; if an applicant pays the fee online and fails to send their music, NTC will not refund their money.

6.5. All competitors admitted to the live rounds must be available to rehearse and perform at any time for the duration of their portion of the competition. Any competitor unable to rehearse or perform at their assigned time will be disqualified. The Jazz Solo Division will be held on Friday, March 20.

7. Copyright

Any unpublished arrangements must adhere to copyright law: All works published in the United States before 1923 are in the public domain. Works published after 1922, but before 1978 are protected for **95 years** from the date of publication. If the work was created, but not published, before 1978, the copyright lasts for the life of the author plus **70 years**.

8. Fees

8.1. Application fee for all solo divisions is $85 per applicant.

8.2. Application fee for ensembles is $40 for each player in the ensemble.

8.3. NTC Collaborative Pianist fee is $95 per applicant.

8.4. NTC Rhythm Section fee is $95 per applicant.
9. Rules Disclaimer (Please Read!)

Final interpretation of all rules remains with the National Trumpet Competition. All applicants accept total responsibility for the understanding of and compliance with NTC rules and regulations. Failure to adhere to NTC rules and regulations will result in disqualification and forfeiture of all fees.

All questions concerning NTC rules should be submitted in writing to:
rules@nationaltrumpetcomp.org

All other questions concerning NTC applications should be submitted in writing to:
info@nationaltrumpetcomp.org