

U.S. Deaf Games Coming to RIT

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Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), host university for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) in suburban Rochester, New York, has been selected as the site for the second quadrennial United States of America Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) 1999 U.S. Deaf Games, June 27-July 3.

Nearly 1,000 deaf and hard-of-hearing athletes, ages 12-40, will compete in 15 different events, most of which will be held on the RIT campus. Selected athletes participating in the games will represent the United States in the next Summer World Games for the Deaf, to be held in Rome, Italy, in 2001.

About 10 deaf or hard-of-hearing RIT athletes are expected to participate in the 1999 U.S. Deaf.

"RIT is indeed the perfect place for the U.S. Deaf Games because of NTID's strong national presence, the pride and accomplishments of RIT's deaf athletes past and present, as well as Rochester's large deaf and hard-of-hearing community," said Dr. Robert Davila, vice president for NTID.

The U.S. Deaf Games, held every four years, will be the first national event of this scope held on RIT's newly refurbished soccer field and brand-new, all-weather track and field facility. Most of the athletes will be housed in RIT residence halls and use RIT dining facilities. The U.S. Deaf Games showcase the federation's National Sports Organizations (NSO) which provide sports programming to deaf athletes at all skill levels. The NSO also develops and maintains national teams that compete in Summer and Winter World Games for the Deaf and other international events.

For more information, contact Dave Staehle, U.S. Deaf Games chair and NTID Alumni Relations administrator at 475-6408 (tty) or 475-6906 (voice).