

2024-2025 DDA Dance Company



Costs and class requirements overview

[CLICK HERE FOR AUDITION FORM](#)

Auditions are open to dancers who will be at least 6 years old by January 1, 2025

At auditions, dancers are placed by a combination of age, technique, skills, and performance experience. There are other factors that go into placement including confidence, stage presence, adaptability, taking and retaining corrections, and ability to memorize choreography at a fast pace. You will see an overlap in ages for each team within Company – dancers are placed where they best fit. Below is the MINIMUM required to be in Company. Additional classes are strongly encouraged.

This is audition based and there are cuts. Not everyone makes the team.

Petite (ages 6-8)

Approx. hours per week based on min. class requirements: 5 hrs (including rehearsal classes)

MINIMUM WEEKLY CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Ballet class 45-60 mins
- 1 Jazz class 45-60 mins
- 1 Tap class 45 mins
- 1 Flex & Stretch class 30 mins

WEEKLY COMPANY REHEARSAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Jazz and Tap - 60 mins total (required for ALL members)
Additional routines by invitation only



Mini (ages 7-10)

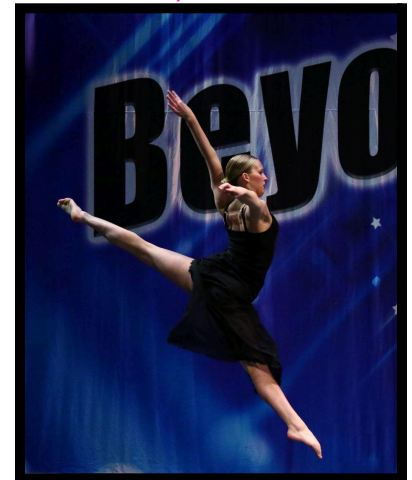
Approx. hours per week based on min. class requirements: 5 hrs (plus rehearsal class times)

MINIMUM CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Ballet class 60-75 mins
- 1 Jazz class 45-60 mins
- 1 Tap class 45 mins
- 1 Flex & Stretch class 30 mins
- 1 Hip Hop class (if in a hip hop routine)
- 1 Lyrical or Contemporary class (if in a lyrical routine)

WEEKLY COMPANY REHEARSAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS

30-45 minutes per routine - Jazz and Tap (required for ALL members)
Additional routines by invitation only: Lyrical 30 mins, Hip Hop 30 mins, Musical Theater 30 mins, Line 30-45 mins



Junior (ages 9-13)

Approx. hours per week based on min. class requirements: 6 hrs (plus rehearsal class times)

MINIMUM CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Ballet class (2 strongly encouraged) 60-75 mins
- 1 Company Technique class (Jazz and Leaps & Turns) 90 mins
- 1 Company Lyrical/Contemporary class 60 mins
- 1 Flex & Stretch class 30 mins
- 1 PBT class 30-45 mins

1 tap class (if in a tap routine), 1 hip hop class (if in a hip hop routine)

WEEKLY COMPANY REHEARSAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS (minimum 2 routines)

30-45 minutes per routine - Jazz, Lyrical, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Musical Theater, Line

Teen (ages 12 & up) and Senior (age 14 & up)

Approx. hours per week based on min. class requirements: 6 (plus rehearsal class times)

MINIMUM CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1 Ballet class (2 strongly encouraged) 60-75 mins. Pointe counts toward this requirement.

1 Company Technique class (Jazz and Leaps & Turns) 60-90 mins

1 Company Lyrical/Contemporary class 60-75 mins

1 Flex & Stretch class 30 mins

1 PBT class 30-45 mins

1 tap class (if in tap routine), 1 hip hop class (if in hip hop routine)

WEEKLY COMPANY REHEARSAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS (minimum 2 routines)

30-45 minutes per routine - Jazz, Lyrical, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Musical Theater, Line

Senior (IHSA high school dance team members)

Approx. hours per week based on min. class requirements: 3

MINIMUM CLASS REQUIREMENTS

These minimum class requirements are only allowed because of the dancer's significant amount of technical training. If you are on a high school dance team but have not trained extensively, this is something to consider before auditioning as this may not be a good fit for you if so.

1 Company Technique class (Jazz and Leaps & Turns) 90 mins.

1 Company Lyrical/Contemporary class STRONGLY ENCOURAGED! Or

Advanced Teen Lyrical/Contemporary

WEEKLY COMPANY REHEARSAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Please email company@dreamsdance.com for more information on options & requirements

Class costs

All the classes listed above are priced the same whether you are a non-company member or company member. Our tuition rates are the same for all, and are priced the same whether a technique class or rehearsal class. Tuition rates can be found on dreamsdance.com. Rehearsal time blocks can be found on the 2024-2025 class schedule when it is released in late June; it is not possible to tell you until after auditions what your child's rehearsal/class schedule will be.

Monthly Company Membership fee - \$15 per month

There is a ton of administrative work and time that go into keeping a team running smoothly and efficiently, as well as staff time during competitions. Due to the rising costs of competition fees and the fees we have had to incur due when we pay the competition bill, as well as many people not paying by check - we will need to add a 3% fee to all competition fee invoices this season.

Additional costs – due around October/November

- **Costume** - \$65-85 per company routine (average; if costume requires rhinestones to be added, there is an additional fee)
- **Company tank or tee** - \$20-25. All members
- **Jewelry (earrings)** - \$15. New members only
- **Jacket** – \$125. New members only
- **Convention** – We provide opportunities to attend conventions throughout the year; they are optional (one will be required for all) but strongly encouraged.



Additional “non-class” costs – due around December/January

- **Makeup kit** – \$40 (new member cost only as we are using the same we used last season)
- **Shoes** – Required shoes are purchased through the studio as everyone needs to have the same brand and style for competition. This information is not decided until Fall.

Competition fees – due 4-8 weeks before each competition

Ranges from \$50-65 per *dancer* per GROUP routine per competition – every competition’s fees vary. We typically do 4 competitions. Solos, duos, and trios are significantly more. *Many competitions now also have a mandatory media fee (you receive all photos and videos) and typically ranges from \$30-40. The examples below are based on ones with a media fee:*

- Dancer is in a jazz group and tap group - You will pay around \$150 in fees per competition
- Dancer is in a jazz group, tap group, solo - around \$275 in fees per competition

IHSA Compliant option for high school dance team members

We offer an option for High School Dance Team members that allow them to still be part of a studio dance company and comply with IHSA rules – as well as the limited time they have with academics and dance team.

We want our dancers who’ve grown with us to continue to be a part of their studio family once they start high school - not leave it behind! We have trained them to be the dancers and performers they are today, and we want them to continue that training (and FUN) at DDA through their senior year to receive that pink cap at recital finale their senior year (and dance for FREE all year!)

Dancers also have the option of having a solo, duo, or trio. Class requirements are included on the previous page.

Company Handbook and Competition/Performance Calendar

Company handbooks with a calendar for the year will be given to all members, once you’ve made the team and accepted. Competitions are between February – May. Non-competitive performances happen at various times throughout the year, and will be on the calendar once it’s finalized and distributed.

Solos, duos, trios

Dancers invited to have a solo, duet, or trio will be notified in their audition results. Costs are as follows:
1) Costume cost – depends on what you tell us you want to spend, or may use an old costume with approval, or have a costume custom made
2) Choreography fee - \$375 solo, \$175 each dancer for duo, and \$125 per dancer for trio. Includes approx. 2.5 hours of choreography. This covers the instructor’s time choreographing before and the 2.5 hours of choreography sessions.

The dancer(s) are responsible to rehearse at home, in addition to their 15 minute rehearsal every other week at the studio (additional fee required. If enrolled in Unlimited, there is no additional fee). Being chosen for a solo, duo, trio is a huge honor as well as a big commitment. They are given to dancers who not only display exceptional technique, strong work ethic, confidence, and stage presence...but demonstrate a positive, respectful attitude to their peers and instructors.

Choreography Week(s): August 2024

Every routine will have an approximately 2 hour choreography session to start their routine. It is not possible to set a schedule or tell you your dates for choreography until AFTER auditions. You will receive your choreography session dates in June after we have made our final decisions. Cost of each rehearsal will be \$20-\$40 per dancer, per routine. This covers the instructor’s time preparing the routine, as well as the studio time for the choreography session.



The Dream Dance Intensive

All accepted 2024-2025 members must attend **The Dream Dance Intensive** in July. This is one of our favorite weeks of the season! Dancers love it and gain so much from the experience. Visit dreamsdance.com/summer-dance-intensive for information. *Petite team members are NOT required to attend. Must be 7 years old to attend Intensive.* Company members receive \$25 off listed rate.

Audition form - [CLICK HERE](#)

The audition form must be filled out prior to auditions. Be sure to check ALL genres (jazz, tap, etc.) your dancer is auditioning for. Even if your dancer only wants to be in one group dance - say jazz OR lyrical - but can't decide which they'd rather do more.... check both, so we can place them in what we feel they're strongest in.

Auditions: Saturday May 18, 2023. 9:30am-12:30pm

All dancers, regardless of age, must attend the entire time. Company members from this past season who have company routines in the Recital, will rehearse those routines from 12:00-12:30pm. Dancers who aren't current members will stay and watch, and have time to ask questions to current members.

Please note tap auditions are Monday May 13 and Wednesday May 15. If you are auditioning for tap, you will receive your audition time the week prior.

IF A DANCER MAKES THE TEAM, THEY WILL BE PLACED WHERE THEY BEST FIT, REGARDLESS OF WHO THEY AUDITIONED WITH.

Please come to auditions in a black leotard and black fitted dance shorts. Wear jazz shoes or half soles. Jazz shoes or half soles are fine for those auditioning for hip hop. **There is no audition fee for returning members. New member audition fee is \$15. We will use your card on file.** These are closed auditions and parents are not permitted to stay. We will not be giving out results until after recital, around mid-June. Any dancer we feel isn't quite ready for company, we are happy to provide suggestions for you so that your dancer can improve upon the necessary skills.

AUDITION PLACEMENTS ARE FINAL. If your dancer makes the team, he or she is placed based on where they best fit. Questioning your child's placement won't change our decision. As dance educators, we know what is needed for particular routines - not only is it unfair to the dancer to be placed in an inappropriate group, it is not fair to other dancers or the choreographer. If a dancer had the skills necessary for a certain level class or routine – there is no reason they wouldn't be placed in it.

IF YOU DANCER DOES NOT MAKE THE CUT, REMEMBER THAT AUDITIONS ARE SUCH A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR DANCERS. THEY ARE GETTING SO MUCH FROM IT REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME!

PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) TO REGISTER BY FILLING OUT THE AUDITION FORM

