

Chickadee Dance Company Policies and Rules 2026-2027

Read through this section carefully and thoroughly, as some sections have changed!

Please refer to this throughout the year.

Payments – We accept online payments through our portal, cash, check, or Venmo. If you pay with cash or check we will provide you with a paper receipt so we can keep a record of all payments. Checks must be made out to Lori Wyatt. If you pay through our portal online with a credit card there will be a 3% surcharge. This year you can also sign up for autopay through our portal! Periodically, you will receive an email of everything you have paid. If, for some reason, you feel that we forgot to log a payment you will be required to present a copy of the receipt or check. If you are unable to present a copy of the receipt or check, the contested payment will not be recorded. Please keep your receipts!

Registration Fee/Tuition - There is a non-refundable \$20 registration fee per family due upon registering for a class(es). The registration fee must be paid before a student is considered registered. This document must also be signed and brought to the first day of class. Tuition is \$34 a month per student. Tuition should be paid by the end of every month or earlier. For families registering multiple students, there is a \$5 discount for every student registered after the first. For example: two students - \$63, three students - \$92, four students - \$121 and so on. Tuition is non-refundable. If a student(s) does not show up for a class or classes during the month, tuition must still be paid in full for the month. We do this because each tuition payment is treated as a monthly payment that goes to an end-of-year balance that must be paid in full. Tuition goes to help pay for the time and effort it takes to prepare and teach classes and cover fees we have to pay as a studio throughout the year.

Costumes will be \$70 per child. This is for two costumes. We will be using one of our costumes for our first recital in November. Because of this the first payment of \$35 for costumes will be due on October 31, 2026. The second costume payment of \$35 will be due on April 30, 2027. Payments can be made before these dates. If you decide to take your dancer out of class after September 30, 2026 you will be required to pay the first half of the costume fee. If you take your dancer out of class after December 31st 2027, you will be required to pay the full costume price before leaving. Costumes are often ordered early in the year and cannot be returned after a certain point.

Recital Fee - We will be charging a \$25 recital fee per family this year. This will help cover the costs of facilities we have to rent as well as other expenses related to the recital. This fee will be due on November 1st, 2026 and is non-refundable.

Late Fees – As stated above, tuition is due at the end of the month (example: tuition for the month of September is due on September 30th). If you have not paid by the end of the next month after, there will be a \$10 late fee for **every month missed**. An example would be if you forgot to pay for September, you would have until the end of October to pay normal tuition rates. But, if you passed October 31st, you would then have a \$10 late fee to pay on top of normal tuition rates. Late fees are non-refundable.

Failure to Pay Fees - If any of the above fees are left unpaid by the end of the year your account will be sent to a collections agency. A finance charge of 1 1/2 % per month (annual percentage rate 18%) of the unpaid balance will be added monthly. Should collection become necessary, the responsible party agrees to pay a collection fee of up to 40% and all legal fees of collection, with or without suit, including attorney fees and court costs.

During Class – Students should be prompt to class. **PLEASE TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE BATHROOM BEFORE CLASS BEGINS.** There is a bathroom located in the store above the studio. Dancers are expected to wear comfortable, appropriate clothing so that they can move freely. Please avoid having them wear jeans, as they can greatly restrict movement.

Please bring a water bottle to class so as to not use up instruction and performance practice time. Food and especially gum are not allowed while dancing. Dancers are expected to respect and befriend other dancers during class. Bullying will not be tolerated or permitted. Dancers are also expected to respect and follow instructions from teachers. If a dancer fails to act in accordance with these expectations or rules, parents will be contacted. **Due to lack of space, parents will NOT be allowed to sit in during classes unless otherwise invited.**

High School Dance Class - We are offering classes to high school students! We realize that high school is very busy, and many of our students are involved in lots of things. Because of this we will be using a punch pass system to charge for classes. Punch passes will have six classes on them and will be \$34 per punch pass. Punch passes will be kept at the studio, and we will manage them. Each time your dancer comes to a class we will make note of it on the pass. Punch passes must be paid for prior to coming to class. This class will mostly focus on helping students improve their strength and technique in dance. This class will not participate in the recitals, and are exempt from paying recital fees and costume fees, unless otherwise specified.

Solos/Private Lessons - We currently offer private instruction for solos and other technical elements to grades 6th -12th. Dancers must be able to exhibit confidence on stage and be able to learn, memorize, and execute choreography independently to qualify to perform a solo on stage. Students are also expected to practice at home if they want to succeed. We have limited slots for solos/private lesson space. Solos cost \$200. This covers the cost of the solo choreography, music (including music editing), and five private lessons. Any additional private lessons will be \$20 each.

Dancewear – While there is no dress code for classes, there are several items each student will need for performances. If your dancer is in preschool, kindergarten, or 1st grade they will need a pair of white or pink ballet shoes. If your dancer is in 2nd -5th grades or in middle school or high school, they will need one pair of lyrical turner shoes and a pair of black jazz shoes. These shoes should not be worn outside. Please help keep our dance floor clean. Every dancer will need a pair of black leggings and skin-colored tights. All of these items and others are available for purchase through Chickadee Dance Company. This information will be available later. Dancers are encouraged to wear dance shoes in class. Street shoes are not to be worn during class.

T-shirts - In years past we have ordered t-shirts to use for our fall performance. We've decided this year to use one of our spring recital costumes for that instead to help reduce cost. We will still do a t-shirt order during the year that will be optional. We will send out that information when it gets closer.

Calendar/Attendance/Recital – It is very important for students to attend class to learn routines for the end of the year recital. We expect dancers to attend as many classes as possible. If your dancer cannot attend class for some reason please send us a text or email. If a dancer misses **three unexcused classes in a row**, they will not be permitted to perform the dance we are learning. Please do not bring any sick children to class. We do not want to share germs!

A calendar will be posted (as well as other announcements) on our website www.chickadeedance.com and on the Band app. There will be a fall/winter recital sometime in November and an end of the year recital in May or June. The exact dates will be announced. Each dancer is required to be at the dress rehearsal and recital at the

end of the year. If a dancer does not attend the end of year dress rehearsal they will not be permitted to perform in the recital.

This past year we participated in a small recreational competition in Preston. There is a possibility we may participate in that again. If so, there may be a small competition fee to pay. In the past, it has been around \$15-\$20 per dancer. I will send more information on that as it becomes available to me.

Communication - We will be using an app to help keep everyone updated and informed. The app is called Band and can be downloaded onto your smartphone. I will send out an invite once dance starts. I like this app because I can post calendar events and updates on it, and if you would like, you can receive push notifications. I can also post documents, pictures, and videos. I figured this would be helpful when your dancer wants to practice their routines at home. I use this app and email to communicate mostly. Please check your email frequently so you can keep up to date. Parents/Guardians are responsible for staying up to date with information that is provided.

Liability Waiver and Treatment Authorization:

I hereby recognize and understand that dance can place unusual stress upon the body and may cause accidental injury. I understand and agree that Chickadee Dance Company and its instructors will not be liable in any way for injuries and medical expenses acquired by myself or my child during attendance at the studio or any related functions. I authorize the instructors of Chickadee Dance Company to act in my behalf according to their best judgment if an emergency should occur.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and will follow the Chickadee Dance Company Policies and Rules as well as the Liability Waiver and Treatment Authorization, and I agree to their terms.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself, including, (but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I or my child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with my child(ren)'s attendance at Chickadee Dance practice or participation in Chickadee Dance events (such as recitals, performances, and parades). On my behalf, and on behalf of my child(ren), I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless Chickadee Dance, its employees and representatives of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of Chickadee Dance, its employees, and representatives.

Signature

or Parent's Signature (if a minor) _____ Date _____

Name(s) of Participant(s):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Check box to consent to having your child's picture posted online (will only use group pictures and will not use names or personal information) ☐