Dance Elite Competition Team
Guidelines for Members and Parents

WHAT IS ELITE PERFORMING COMPANY?
Elite Performing Company (EPC) is a group of young dancers with a passion for dance, performing and sharing their talent in the local community. Dancers will receive opportunities to enhance their technique and performance capabilities, as well as receive opportunities to perform on a consistent basis at local community events. EPC is a performance group that focuses on a love of dance, its fellow dancers, and the sense of family and community it fosters. Dance Elite believes that dance is not just about the moves you learn, the performances you give, or the competitions you win…..we believe dance is about the community you build and experiences you gain along the way.

WHAT DOES MY DANCER GAIN FROM BEING ON EPC?
As a member of EPC, dancers will learn about dedication, teamwork, leadership, respect, philanthropy and sisterhood through various activities. These activities include working with local philanthropies, team bonding, fundraising events, as well as helping host Studio-Wide activities. We strive to grow and educate our dancers not just in dance, but as young individuals.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN EPC?
Our performance company is available to all dancers, ages 5 and up, who would like to participate, and have demonstrated through their actions that they are a good fit for our team! If you have a passion for performing, are dedicated and hardworking, we want you here! Please join us for our EPC Placement Workshop on June 1st!

In this packet, we outline the requirements (both time and financial) for dancers and families, as well as the policies for all members. Please read the below information and let us know if you have any questions!

Thank you!
Amy

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Dancers Must Meet the Following to be Eligible for EPC Workshop:

- Be at least 5 years old, as of the date of our EPC Placement workshop (no exceptions)
- Have a good attendance record for their regularly scheduled weekly classes (e.g. no more than 5 excused absences per class day (e.g. 5 absences in your Wednesday classes) within the last six months.
- If you are a continuing team member with more than 5 absences within the last 6 months, or any behavioral issues (e.g. tardiness, unprepared for class, behind on choreography, attitude issues) parent and dancer must meet with director prior to June 1st audition.
- Have a positive attitude, is energetic, driven, and committed with a passion for performing.
- Parent must attend an informational meeting.

EPC REQUIREMENTS

At Dance Elite, we hold our Performing Company dancers to a higher set of standards, especially in regards to attendance, attire and classroom behavior. Below we have included the requirements to become a member of our Competition Team, as well as the policies to continue as a member in good standing. If your family is unable to commit to these events or the required classes and intensives needed for Competition Team participation you're encouraged to train in our recreational program.

A. ROUTINE PLACEMENT & CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Placement on Company will be by routine, and determined based on the dancer's age and ability levels. These placements will be made by the directors and are a combination of not only their audition at the EPC workshop, but also their classroom behavior (effort, attitude, attendance).

AGE	MINIMUM ROUTINE REQUIREMENT	MIN CLASS REQUIREMENT
5 yrs	1 Jazz Routine	* Accelerated Combo * Stretch & Strength (30 min) (Min Hr Requirement = 1.5 hr)
6-8 yrs	1 Jazz Routine 1 Lyrical Routine	*Ballet (1 Hr) * Jazz (1 Hr) * Lyrical (1 Hr) * Stretch & Strength (30 Min) (Min Hr Requirement = 3.5 hrs)
9-11 yrs	1 Jazz Routine 1 Lyrical Routine	*Ballet (1.5 Hr) * Jazz (1 Hr) * Lyrical (1 Hr) * Stretch & Strength (45 min) * Turns & Tech (45 Min) (Min Hr Requirement = 5 hrs)
12+ yrs	1 Jazz Routine 1 Routine (style choice by dancer)	*Ballet (1.5 Hr) * Jazz (1 Hr) * Stretch & Strength (45 min) * Turns & Tech (45 min) (Min Hr Requirement = 4 hrs)
* Additional Weekly Classes for specific styles will be required if a dancer is competing in that style		
(Eg. 12+ yrs old dancer competes in Hip Hop, required weekly hip hop class would be added for a total of 5 hrs Min weekly)		
** Minimum Hr requirement does not include weekly competition routine rehearsal time.		

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Requirements are set to help provide dancers a well rounded education, and provide the necessary skills/technique required. Age is a beginning guideline for directors to assess needs/abilities, but adjustments may be made to requirements at the directors discretion based upon the dancer's ability level.

As dancers advance in age through the program and have completed required training over the years, they will be able to prioritize styles for themselves, as well as their own time management.

All team members will compete at local event(s) during the season, as well as participate in locally based performances. However, the total time and financial commitment will vary based on your level. Those placed on team are held to the highest level of expectations (e.g. attendance, behavior, etc). They are role models to those in the studio, and should showcase what it means to be a competition team member. Teams will participate in a specified series of performances, competitions and events (**See Appendix A** to this contract). All teams require additional time and financial commitment to the studio. We have designed our programs to enable dancers/families the ability to get involved outside of normal recreational level classes, at a desired level of interest. We understand that circumstances change, and that our young dancers may have other interests outside of dance. Each team allows us to have dancers that are similarly committed in their craft working together for the best possible outcomes.

B. PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS
All eligible dancers interested in joining the Performing Company **must have a parent attend one of our informational meetings on May 9th or 23rd.** At the meetings we will review the contract requirements and expectations of each dancer. It is vital to participate in these meetings to ensure families understand the commitment prior to auditions. Students are able, and highly encouraged, to attend with parents.

C. AUDITIONS
All eligible dancers interested in joining Performing Company **must attend the annual EPC Auditions on June 1st** to determine their placement based on **both age, technique and commitment level**. All dancers who meet the minimum eligibility requirements, listed above, are eligible to attend auditions. Dancers that are brand new to the team must attend auditions. No exceptions. All returning members must also audition for the upcoming season. If an active company member cannot attend the workshop due to extenuating circumstances, the dancer must be in good standing (e.g. absences, tuition payments, behavior), and the student will need to schedule a **private lesson** at their cost to determine placement prior to the EPC Audition date.

Our audition workshop is broken up by age. Dancers will work with choreographers in 60 min intervals, where the choreographers teach them short routines in multiple styles (e.g. hip hop, jazz, lyrical). Dancers will participate in the sections required for their desired level placement (E.g. Ages 6-9 yrs must audition both jazz and lyrical). Dancers may participate in auditions for specialty pieces (e.g. Hip Hop) after the completion of **ONE YEAR** on the team (or if they are over the age of 12+ yrs). Dancers should only participate in those specialty auditions for which they would like to be placed for groups or solos/duo/trio pieces (e.g. Hip hop audition for Hip Hop group placement). This allows for the directors to assess skill level of each dancer for placement into each company level, as well as for individual choreographers to select dancers for all EPC Pieces.

After auditions, the directors will place each dancer in the routines determined to be best fit based upon technique, attitude, emotional readiness, and past performance (if returning member). Routines themselves will be determined to be Mini/Junior/Teen/Senior based upon the average age of dancers for the competition season. Placement is determined not only by technique but also based upon a

student's commitment, class behavior, attendance, etc. More advanced routines require dancers that are 100% committed to their team and craft. Dancer's must display dedication throughout the entire school year, including their regular weekly recreational classes.

All decisions on team placement are final. No exceptions. Our directors will make placements based on what our expertise determines and interactions with dancers is the best fit. This is why all dancers are required to have at least one year at the studio prior to auditions. To ensure we have a background knowledge of your dancer's effort level, class participation, and attitude! We expect that by deciding to audition with us, you respect our expertise and choices.

If you have concerns with potential placement, please email these concerns **prior to auditions**.

To participate in the 2024- 2025 season, Dancer must be at Competition Team group auditions. There will be no separate auditions for solos/duos/trios (extra work). To be considered for extra work, Dancer(s) must accept a group in their auditioned level before extra work will be considered. Participation in the previous season does not guarantee an invitation to the Competition Team the following year or to participate in a solo, duo or trio. All invitations are made solely by the Director.

D. REQUIRED SUMMER CLASSES (JULY 15th – AUGUST 17th) - This requirement is mandatory.

This requirement is mandatory.
Company members are required to take **a minimum number of hours over the summer session** Our summer session is 5 weeks in length, which equates to the following month/weekly requirement

- **Ages 5 yrs – 7.5 hrs total - min 1.5 hours/week (Accelerated/stretch)**
- **Ages 6 - 9 yrs – 15 hours total – min 3.5 hours/week (ballet/jazz/lyrical/stretch)**
- **Ages 9 - 12 yrs – 22.5 hours total – min 4.5 hours/week – ballet/jazz/lyrical/stretch/tech)**
- **Ages 12+ Yrs – 17.5 hours total - min 3.5 hours/week – ballet/jazz/stretch/tech)**

Dancers will be automatically enrolled in all required classes. These classes are for EPC members only and will allow dancers to train together over the summer for the upcoming season. Additional classes for specialty pieces are required over summer if doing a specialty piece in the fall. Any additions/changes to the enrollment must be made by June 10th and payment is due for summer by June 15th. **Additional opportunities will be released during summer like pop-up workshops and/or summer camps.**

If your dancer will be unavailable to meet the full hours required, you must meet with the director to discuss summer class options. Your dancer may be required to participate in a summer program at a recognized studio/program and communication/confirmation of their participation will be required to be provided to the director from the teacher/director of that program.

E. EPC CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOP
All EPC members must attend our mandatory EPC Choreography Workshop Week, **August 19th through 24th**. **Terrill will be joining us outside of EPC week on Aug 26-28th.** If you are unable to participate in these days please let us know so we can cast accordingly.

Majority of EPC Group routines will be taught during this time, unless an outside choreographer is unavailable during these days. All solos, duos and trios will be taught throughout the months of July/August/September based on a schedule set with the choreographer. Final schedules for EPC workshop week will be provided by August 5th.

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Attendance is mandatory. The only exceptions for this week would be for family events outside of their control (e.g. wedding, death, hospitalization) Vacations and other activities will not be excused. This week is NOT just about choreography. It is about teamwork, team bonding, as well as learning transitions and spacing within their dances. When one dancer is missing it makes a HUGE difference! This choreography week will be mostly consistent from year to year. Please mark your calendars in advance.

Extra work Dancers are required to audition for a group(s) as noted by age/level. They must accept a given group in order to receive a solo/duo/trio or additional group work. If a S/D/T is not in the genre that you auditioned for (i.e auditioned for Lyrical but is interested in a Tap solo) the corresponding genre recreational class (i.e Tap) would be required to take. Extra work is not guaranteed and is earned based on a variety of factors outlined in the competition team contract.

Dancers are eligible for a certain amount of extra work (Solo/Duo/Trio or Small Group) based upon their level (e.g. first year competitors are not eligible for extra work) See details below by age for eligibility. Solos/Duos/Trios and additional group work will be available via request/approval. Solos, duos, trios will be scheduled for the months of July - Sept, coordinated individually through Ms. Shuree and the respective choreographers based on availability. All solo/duo/trios are required to attend a mandatory number of private lessons throughout the season. See separate contract for details.

F. REQUIRED WEEKLY CLASS AND REHEARSAL ENROLLMENT
All Elite Performing Company dancers **must be enrolled** in a weekly ballet class, as well as their required appropriate EPC class. Each age group within the Company has its own time requirements, which are based upon the age/technique level of the dancer. Once dancers have been placed into a specific routine, they will be enrolled in the related EPC Rehearsal Class(es).

Dancers must be registered for the required technique classes as previously stated. All other technique/genre classes are optional but highly encouraged. Dancers become better when they strive to be well-rounded. If required classes are dropped, the Competition Director will pull dancers from the Competition Team and parent/guardian will be responsible for any fees including withdrawal fee of $500. See **Appendix A** for requirements by designated level.

Weekly technique classes are scheduled Monday through Thursday for EPC members. Fridays and Saturdays will NOT be required on a regular weekly basis but **WILL** be utilized over the course of the season for additional needed rehearsals, group bonding activities, all team activities, as well as competitions. Our goal is to provide a commitment that is not overwhelming for families and enables them to rest and recover over the weekends, as much as possible. All Friday or Saturday requirements will be marked on the EPC Calendar. Tentative means that this time should be blocked for an EPC requirement. We will update these events within 2 weeks of the tentative event. Friday and Saturday requirements will be mandatory like all rehearsal classes. If you are going to miss a date we require a **minimum of 48 hours notice** for this to be excused. We want to stress that these rehearsals are not like weekly rehearsals and when 1 member is gone each time it is difficult to accomplish what is needed.

i. Competition Rehearsals
This is required for the genre of dance you are competing in. These practices meet once per week, usually before or after your assigned regular class, and will adjust your class tuition pricing as described above. These classes are closed for registration from the general public. Each team has a block of time (30-60 min) back to back where we can focus on specific

dances, and alternate week to week as needed. If additional days/times are needed, these will be given with **2 week's notice** and may be subject to additional costs.

ii. ALL COMPANY
All Company rehearsals will be on the second or third Friday/Saturday on the designated days below. Friday rehearsals will be from 5:30 – 7:30, Saturdays will be held from 2:30 – 4:30. This class will be utilized to provide additional opportunities for dancers (acro, partnering, vogue, afro, etc) as well ais to help in the preparation for our **all-company production routine**, as well as parades, and other local performances. The All-Company production will also be part of our year-end recital, and will include all members of EPC. If additional days/times are needed, these will be given with **2 weeks notice.**

Please mark your calendars accordingly. These dates are subject to change.
Sept 13/14th, Oct 11th/12th, Nov 8th/9th , December 13th/14th, January 10th/11th, Jan 17th/18th, May 9/10th , Jun 13/14th

**Please note all of these dates will not be utilized. However, we are asking they be marked on your calendar so they can be used as needed without absences from Company members.

iii. Performing Company Fees
All company members will pay a monthly company fee that is due with your monthly tuition. This fee is $75 per dancer. This fee includes but is not limited to all company monthly class, EPC Showcase, and administrative fees for staff attendance at conventions, competitions, and other EPC events throughout the season. This fee is in addition to your monthly tuition and does not count as class hours, meaning if on unlimited hours you still have this fee in addition to tuition. This fee does not cover any events, competitions, or conventions. Additional fees may occur through the year and we will notify you as soon as we have this information.

iv. Additional EPC Routines
Dancers are required to be in a certain number of group routines based on their designated company level. Dancers may choose to be in additional pieces that exceed this requirement but must designate this on their EPC Audition form prior to workshop, as they require additional rehearsal times and an additional fee (rehearsal and costume fee). The maximum number of routines per dancer is determined based on age/level/past performance as determined by the Directors. We do this to help ensure our dancers do not over schedule themselves! We know that everyone wants to get as involved as possible, but we also want to ensure dancers (and parents) don't burn out year to year both timewise and financially.

For the upcoming school year, we are asking that dancers audition for only the number of pieces they are willing to participate in. If you audition and you are cast in the number, you are expected to have committed to being able to participate in that piece. Please be aware that there is a $100-$175 choreography charge **per dancer per dance, as well as** a $100 costume charge **per dancer per dance** for any additional dances outside of their required group routines. Dancers are **not required to participate in any additional routines.**

Financial EPC Contracts will be available to go over by June 8th and will be due no later than June 17th. You will need to set up a meeting with Mrs. Shuree in the week of June 10th to go over all contract details and cover dance class schedule, cost breakdown, and payment schedule. Each contract will be set with the minimum required classes and Company costs. If

additional classes are requested, please let Mrs. Shuree know prior to your meeting so charges can be added. Tuition and EPC company fee will be charged on or around the 1st of each month starting in September, and Company/competition fees will be charged on or around the 15th of each month. Company/competition fees will charge August 15th and run through March 15th. If at any point during the year your dancer terminates (voluntarily or involuntarily) their involvement with Company, all choreography, costume fees, and nonrefundable competition or convention fees must still be paid in full. No exceptions will be made for any reason.

v. Solos/Duos/Trio - Must have **at least 2 years** of dance experience in a particular style discipline and must have **1 year prior experience** on Performing Company or be over the age of 12 yrs. Dancers that are eligible may indicate their interest for a solo/duo/trio or additional group work. Dancers interested will be considered and then selected by the Director based on technique, ability level, dedication, attendance, etc. Solos/duos/trios are a privilege, not a right. We believe that dancers should earn the ability to perform a solo/duo/trio, based upon their actions (respect, dedication, attendance, etc).

vi. EPC Costume Fees
Costumes for EPC dancers will range in cost from $100-$125 (and not to exceed that). For dancers interested in performing a solo or duo, the dancers have the option to borrow a costume from our costume closet (at no additional cost). Costumes borrowed from Dance Elite MUST be returned! Dancers who do not return a costume will be charged a $100 costume fee. Base costume fee of $100 has been added to your contract. Any additional costs will be reconciled during the scheduled true up months outlined in your contract. Costumes will be picked out during the summer season and ordered in early fall.

vii. Practice & Extra Rehearsals
Parents are aware that each EPC dancer is a valuable member of a team and the rest of the dancers depend on them working hard and practicing. EPC Choreographers will sometimes call for extra rehearsals as deemed necessary. We will do our best to ensure these rehearsals are scheduled 2 weeks in advance, but please be aware that there may be instances that rehearsals will be called on shorter notice. **All EPC dancers must attend these rehearsals**.

G. PERFORMANCES & RECITALS/SHOWS
All EPC dancers will be required to participate in our recital/shows throughout the year. As a performance group, each and every performance opportunity is a chance for our dancers to improve their dancing, as well as share what they work on so tirelessly in class each week.

1. EPC Showcase
For the upcoming school year, all EPC routines, including small group, large group, solos, duos, trios, both competition and non-competition will be performed at our EPC Showcase. This showcase is tentatively scheduled for the end of January or early February (subject to change based on theater space) and will be used as a preparation tool for our upcoming Competition season, as well as an extra performance option. This will be a great opportunity for our EPC dancers to showcase their routines, get their nerves out for their first competition in February, as well as to get all of our non-EPC families at the studio excited for recital! All EPC numbers would be performed in this showcase, not during year-end recital. This would help to minimize the number of routines/shows for each EPC dancer and hopefully create a less hectic environment for our dancers and parents.

2. Recital 2025
The tentative date for recital is the weekend of **June 21st 2025.** EPC Dancers will perform our ALL company production piece in every recital show over the course of the weekend. Parents and members agree to be present at all Recital events (picture week, dress rehearsal, and show dates. **No exceptions.**
Picture Week – June 2nd – 6th
Dress Rehearsals – June 17th and 18th

3. Other Local Performances
We will strive to have one performance a month and more than one during summer months (see exhibit B for tentative events). A calendar of confirmed and upcoming tentative dates will be provided in August during EPC Workshop week, but additional performances may be added throughout the year. Notices will be sent home with the range of dates set for each performance, and any additional performances we will work to give at least 2 weeks notice.

Performances often happen on the weekends, but some will fall on weekdays. These performances can vary in type. In the past this has included: parades, Washington State Fair, Evergreen Fair, Harlem Globetrotters, Seattle Storm, Mariners, AquaSox, Mill Creek Festival, local high school showcases, etc. If you have an idea for a performance in the local area, please contact Miss Amy.

a. Transportation
Parents are aware that performances are sometimes located outside the local area and that it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure their child makes it to each performance. The studio cannot transport dancers to performances. Any carpooling arrangements must be arranged among parents and not by the studio.

b. Spectator Fees
Some performances charge all spectators an entrance fee to watch the performance. These spectator fees are the responsibility of the dancer's families. These charges are due upon confirmation of amount owed if outside the EPC signed contract.

4. Traveling Performances
These types of performances typically require additional rehearsals so please make sure you take this into consideration prior to committing.

H. CONVENTIONS/COMPETITIONS
During the 2024-2025 season, all EPC members are **required** to participate in the following:

1. ONE Convention and Competition.
   - **Dupree Dance** – February 28th – March 2nd
2. THREE Competition Only Events
   - Celebrity – March
   - Spotlight – January
   - Just Dance Invitational- March

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OPTIONAL EVENTS

- **Conventions**
  - **Celebrity - Nov 22-24**
  - **Heat - Jan 10-12**
  - **NYCDA – Jan 17-19**
  - **Hollywood Connection - Jan 31 - Feb 2**
  - **Tremaine – Feb 15-16 (Potential 2nd Required)**
- **Competitions**
  - **StarPower**
  - **StarQuest**
  - **ShowStoppers**
  - **In10sity**

All members **are required to attend** and will **compete** in the competition pieces agreed to during our EPC Workshop audition. The cost of the convention is approx. $270/dancer and group competition fees approx. $55. These costs will be a part of your EPC financial contract. Convention and competition fees are calculated based on information given by the event or estimated from prior year. If a price is higher there will be a charge added to your account and is due when added. Competitions typically do not provide finalized pricing until the fall, If a price is changed between the time contracts are issued and final pricing is provided, your account will be adjusted accordingly. Dance Elite will run all true-ups for contracts on 3 specific dates (October 15th, January 15th, April 15th)

All company fee charges, and tuition must be current when competitions begin, dancers will forfeit the right to participate in that event and will be placed on probation. As these events are mandatory for all EPC members, missing one event would also mean losing the ability to participate in Company for the remainder of the year. Please note that these rates are tentative based on current year convention rates but may change. If the convention prices are raised, we will provide notice and charge additional fees on the next billing cycle.

BEHAVIOR AT CONVENTION:

While at convention, company members are required to actively participate in **ALL classes at convention**. No exceptions. Dancers that fail to do so will not be asked to return to Company the following season. Dancers are there to learn and be exposed to new teachers, styles and choreography. These conventions are meant to be challenging for our dancers, and it is my expectation that each dancer fully participates. Dancers should not sit out of a class, unless approved by Miss Amy.

I. MASTER CLASSES & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES (Tentative based on availability)

WORKSHOPS

We will be working on a series of workshops throughout the upcoming year. These events will have a cost of $35-$50 per workshop. EPC members will be required to attend at least 2 of these upcoming workshops. Some examples of past workshops work with Hip Hop, Tap, and Lyrical. These workshops bring in industry elite teachers that bring a wealth of knowledge. We will be looking into bringing in new workshops this coming year working with videography, goal setting, and hair and makeup tutorials.

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J. PERFORMING COMPANY TEAM APPAREL
All company members will be required to purchase standard Elite Performing Company attire ($200). Parents MUST provide payment by no later than June 15th (cash/check). This includes:
- EPC Jacket
- EPC T-shirt
- EPC Bag

Please remember that dancers grow, and items may need to be replaced if they become damaged. Dancers may trade sizes within the EPC members. These trades are the responsibility of the individuals participating in the trade, and not the EPC Director. EPC team apparel will be kept current for all upcoming performances. If replacements are needed due to damage or if a dancer has outgrown their apparel, replacements are at the cost of the family. Additional pieces may be added to the list of noted apparel items above. These will be presented to the team prior to purchase.

POLICIES
Dancer and Dancer's Guardian(s) must abide by the following rules:

Class Attendance Requirements
Class attendance is a very crucial part of this competitive program and helps to create accountability and teamwork. Dancers are required to attend all Team classes, though injuries and illnesses certainly will happen. Please email and call or text ahead and let an administrative assistant know if your dancer will be missing a class. Missing multiple Team classes within a season alerts the Director that a meeting may need to take place with Dancer's Guardian(s) to address the absenteeism. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Please know that the classes where competition choreography is being cleaned (September through January) are extremely important, and recreation and competition rehearsal classes prior to a competition weekend are REQUIRED to attend. Not only does absenteeism affect technique, but also the way Competition Team dancers are viewed by peers. It is also very difficult for the choreographer to see formations. Please contact the front desk when an absence is unavoidable, this message will be given to the
instructor.

For the ENTIRE season (September - June) each Company member is allowed the following

Weekly Technique Classes
• 5 excused absences, and 2 unexcused absences for the entire season for their regular weekly recreational classes. Makeup classes are encouraged for all absences however, a **makeup classes will only clear excused absences for serious injury or illness. Unexcused absences cannot be made up or removed.**

Competition Rehearsals
• 3 excused absences, and 1 unexcused absence. competition rehearsals
*Please note you cannot make up an absence in a "Company Class". If you miss 4 days of classes, you will be put on probation and notified via email. On probation, the dancer will not be allowed to miss any additional classes/rehearsals. If more absences occur, they will not be allowed to perform at the most recent performance/competition. Email notification will be sent out if this probation is in effect and there will be time allotted for the duration of the probation.

Basic Rule: You can miss 7 technique classes, and 4 competition rehearsals. You can make-up missed technique classes due to illness or injury that does not allow you into the studio. YOU

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CANNOT make-up missed rehearsals. To make-up for a missed class, you must attend the level below you to earn back those missed classes.

Injury and sickness: The week of a competition it is required to attend all classes and rehearsals. If you are too injured to dance full-out during the week, then it would be a risk to put that dancer on stage on the weekend. If you are too sick to watch class, then your body will not have time to properly heal and give 100% on stage.

Attendance Standards

- 0-3 absences = Good Standing
- 4-6 absences = Probation, make-up classes or private lessons required to put dancer down to 1 absence (e.g. 4 absences require 3 make-ups/privates)
- 7 or more = Suspension from all EPC activities, required private lessons at family cost, plus a meeting with Parent/Dancer & Director to discuss reinstatement. *absence from one or more classes on any given day counts as 1 absence.
- Parents and EPC dancers agree to a **minimum attendance** standard. We ask that all planned absences (e.g. absences for family vacations, school concerts/activities, etc.) be communicated to the office via email at office@danceeliteonline.com with at least **72 hours' notice**. Unplanned absences due to illness, injury, or family emergency should be communicated as quickly as possible to the above email.
- All Dancers are required to be in full attendance the week prior to any convention or competition. Dancers who are injured need to speak with Ms. Amy, or Ms. Leah, to find the best option for them in class. This rule is in effect to ensure that the Dancers do not injure themselves moving into the upcoming competition. In addition to this any dancer who is battling an injury but asked to work on their solo, duo or extra work will be declined as we will not want to activate a current injury or exhaust the dancer. If you are sick and need to stay home due to illness this may result in your inability to participate in the upcoming competition.
- Illness, injury, mandatory school events and family emergencies will be the only acceptable reason for missing class. If a dancer is injured, they are **still required to observe class** to ensure they stay current on routines and important technique. If a student sits out for two weeks in a row due to injury, we will require a doctor's note.
- Before dancers can participate in class. This is for the safety of the student. If sitting out in a class you are required to fill out a class observation form and turn in at the end of class. This focuses the dancer on the class and ensures they are paying attention.
- Any absence should be made up within a 30-day period to ensure the dancer remains in good standing. Dancers can schedule a make-up class in a similar level class or lower. Having trouble identifying a class? Ask the front desk!
- Dancers who are suspended from EPC activities, must complete the required reinstatement procedures discussed with the Director within a 30-day period to regain good standing. If a dancer continues to have issues with attendance, they will be removed from EPC.

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- Dancers who have consistent attendance issues will be required to meet with the Director to discuss scheduling. It may be that a dancer has committed themselves too far and requires a change in schedule.

We hold our Company members to a higher standard for attendance. We want all of our members to take their responsibility seriously and be considerate of ALL members. As our team grows, we must ensure that all members are committed equally. Inability to procure transportation **is not an acceptable reason for absence**. We have multiple members of the Performing Company who live in nearby areas, who are generally able to help with transportation. Please make sure you plan ahead and coordinate any necessary
transportation arrangements.

Harassment/Bullying – Dance Elite has a zero-tolerance policy for harassment and bullying, which includes social media, locker room/restroom talk, phone use (e.g. texting). This policy is applicable for all EPC events (classes, conventions, competitions, sleepovers, etc.) Any member found to be bullying/harassing another member of EPC, or dancer at the studio, they will be placed on immediate suspension from EPC. They will be required to meet with the Director to identify next steps.

- Consequences can range from probation, suspension, to removal from the team depending on the severity of the transgression.
- If a member has been issued previous warnings regarding their behavior, any further issues will result in immediate removal from the team, and potentially from the studio.

Behavior in Studio and DE events
Dancer and his/her Guardian(s) must exhibit exemplary behavior toward others when representing Dance Elite or the Competition Team at outside performances. This includes showing respect toward parents/guardians, dancers, guests, fellow members of the Competition Team, Dance Elite staff, and the dancers and parents of other studios. Behavior deemed to be inappropriate should be brought to the attention of the Director for immediate action. The Director reserves the right to suspend or terminate Dancer's current and/or future Competition Team involvement, or recreational program involvement. Any negative talk of Dance Elite as a studio, Staff, Instructors, policies in or around the studio, at competition
events, studio events, or anywhere that you are representing us will not be tolerated. This could result in immediate termination from the Competition and Recreational Program at Dance Elite, this is at the sole discretion of the Director & Studio Owner and parent/guardian will be responsible for any fees associated with termination.

Dancers should be respectful of ALL studio members.

- Walk quietly in hallways.
- Locker room discussions should be 100% appropriate for ALL ages (2 years and above)
- Keep your lockers and the locker room CLEAN! Do not leave bags/shoes/clothes on the floor. Please pick up after each other!
- Cell phones should stay in your dance bags while you are here for weekly classes. They should not be brought into the dance room and should not be used during your scheduled classes/rehearsals.
- All food consumption during the time in the studio needs to be cleaned up after and disposed in the proper containers and if food or drink is spilled then please be sure to bring this to Ms. Shuree immediately.

Dance Elite Competition Team
Guidelines for Members and Parents

Sportsmanship
Being a member of the Performing Company is about being a team, which is 100% supportive of each other. Team members are not in competition with each other and should remember that in their behavior. The best team members are those that are humble in their own accomplishments while supporting the success of their fellow teammates. We succeed and fail TOGETHER. Any negative talk about another team member may result in probation, suspension or removal from the team. Any involvement in illegal activity by Dancer will result in immediate removal from the Competition Team and recreational program at the discretion of the Director. Dancer(s)must maintain a positive attitude and perform at the top level of his/her ability in all recreational classes, Competition Team classes, performances, competitions and Studio related events. This is one of the expectations & reasons Dancers are invited to be a Competition Team member, so maintaining this standard maintains the artistic integrity of the Competition Team. Guardian(s) must also maintain a positive attitude in Dance Elite lobbies and at Dance Elite related events.

Tardiness
Tardiness will not be permitted. Any dancer who is more than 10 minutes late will be unable to participate in that specific class/event. Dancers who are late will miss the requisite warmup, stretching, conditioning portion of class and are prone to injury. They may not stretch on their own after arrival, as they will continue to miss out on other key/important portions of class. As with any other sport, team activity, being respectful to their teacher and classmates is vital. Dancers will still be expected to sit and watch throughout the course of the class/event to ensure they do not miss any important material. EPC dancers who are consistently late will be marked absent for those classes.

Attire
As with attendance, we hold our dancers on EPC to a higher standard. Please make sure you are in the correct dance attire for ALL classes. Dancers must abide by and strictly uphold the Dance Elite dress code to be a positive example to other Competition Team members and recreational students. This includes proper ballet attire and hair, boy shorts that fit properly, and no exposed midriffs. Please wear tights if loose fitting shorts are worn. Dancers who do not show up with proper dance wear or footwear may be asked to sit out of that class at the discretion of their Instructor. If a dancer is out of dress code two weeks in a row, a meeting will be scheduled with the dancer's parent/guardian.

Leaving Company Mid-Season:

Signing up for an audition means you are committed to the team for the upcoming year. This means you are committed to all mandatory events, and the above requirements. If you leave the team at any time, for any reason, including disciplinary actions you will be charged a $500.00 fee. This fee is to cover additional time for reworking choreography, competition change fees, etc. In addition, no refunds will be issued for any costumes, choreography, competitions already paid for or equipment purchased.

2024-2025 SEASON EVENTS

Dance Elite Competition Team
Guidelines for Members and Parents

SPRING 2024

- ***EPC Placement Class*** – June 1st
- ***Picture Week 2024*** – June 3rd – 6th
- ***Contracts Due*** – June 15th
- ***Recital 2024*** – June 22nd
    - ***Includes EPC concessions fundraiser***

SUMMER 2024

- ***Weekly Classes*** - July 15th – Aug 17th
- ***OPTIONAL Parade*** – Tour De Terrace – July 21st (if available)
- ***EPC Fundraiser/Garage Sale*** – TBD
- ***EPC Fundraiser/Car Wash*** – TBD
- ***EPC Kick Off Party*** – Aug 18th (time to be set)
- ***EPC Workshop*** – August 19th - 23
- ***OPTIONAL Parade*** – Monroe Fair Days - August 27th (if available)

FALL 2024

- ***Weekly Classes*** – *Start Monday,* September 9th
- ***TEAM SLEEPOVER - Sept 7th***
- ***1 ALL Group Parade***
    - Mukilteo Lighthouse Parade – 9/14/2024
- ***Halloween SPOOK-tacular*** - October 26th, 4-8pm (not including setup or breakdown)

WINTER 2025

- ***EPC Holiday Party*** – January 11th (may include sleepover)
- ***EPC Showcase*** – tentatively January 25th – Lake Washington High School
    - ***Includes EPC fundraiser (silent auction)***
- ***Required Competition - –*** Marach (TBA) - $65/dancer/group.
- ***Required Convention/Competition*** – Dupree Dance – February 28th – Mar 2nd
    - Convention Cost $190 – 275 (Hyatt Bellevue) – does not include hotel costs
    - Competition - ~$50/dancer/group dance)
- ***Required Competition –*** Just Dance Invitational (JDI***) –*** March $65/dancer/group
- ***Required Competition –*** Celebrity **–** March(TBA)* - $65/dancer/group

Our goal for competition season is to compete in February and March. No competitions in April. Potentially one in early May if needed.

SPRING 2025

- ***EPC Placement Class*** – end of May/early June
- ***Picture Week 2025*** – June 2nd – 6th
- ***Contracts Due*** – June 15th
- ***2025 Annual Recital*** - June 21st – Costume Fee Per recital class is $100.00.

Dance Elite Competition Team
Guidelines for Members and Parents

Required Fee's Breakdown
Minimum Monthly Class Tuition ~$250 - $400 (varies based on required hours)
Monthly Company Fee $75*/dancer for EPC class, admin, etc.
EPC Choreography Week – $100 - $150 per dancer per dance
Dupree Convention - approx. $270/dancer (does not include hotel)
Annual Recital - $100 per recital dance class
Competitions - $55-$65 per dancer per group routine
Spectator Fee's - $10-$20 depending on the event that we are doing.
(AquaSox = $10, Storm Game = $20)

**solos/duos/trios and extra group pieces are not required.

Optional Fee's Breakdown
All Hotel stays and event transportation are in addition to the above pricing schedule.
(All of these event prices may need to change depending on the new season)

Release, Consent, and Transfer of Rights
Dancer and Dancer's Guardian(s) understand that Competition Team dancers may be photographed or videotaped from time to time in rehearsals, performances, competitions or studio related events. As further consideration to the Competition Team and Dance Elite for providing training and the opportunity to compete, Dancer and his/her guardians hereby expressly consent, release and transfer to Dance Elite, in advance, any and all rights to said photographs and/or videotaping of Dancer in such rehearsals, performances, and/or competitions and/or studio related events. Consistent with the above consent, Dancer and his/her Guardian(s) understand that the Competition Team and Dance Elite may use such photographs or videos for promotional purposes of the Competition Team or Dance Elite. This may include Social Media Posts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, danceeliteonline.com or other social media platforms), Advertisements for businesses or around the studio. Dancer and Dancer's Guardian(s) understand that such assignment shall survive the termination of the agreement. Please keep this on hand to refer to as needed throughout the year.

I have read, understand and agree to have my child follow the policies outlined above and also to the Guidelines for Members and Parents. I authorize the school to charge my account for the costume fees and choreography fees according to the policies outlined above.

_____ _ _____ _____
Dancer Name Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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