

**PDC COMPETITION TEAM AUDITION GUIDELINES SEASON 10
2023-2024**

The Prestige Dance Center competition team is a competitive dance team designed for the dancer who is highly motivated in the performing arts. We take pride that our team is proven to be suitable to those that wish to compete but also want to continue pursuing other extra curricular activities and to those more serious about dancing/performing that wish to dedicate more hours to their team and personal dance career, given our flexibility. Students gain the technique they need to compete at an advanced level through concentrated training in Ballet, Lyrical, Jazz, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Tap, Acro/Tumbling, Musical Theatre and Stretch/Technique classes. It is important to understand that the more training a student receives at Prestige Dance Center, the stronger dancer they will become!

Those selected for our team will possess or have potential to possess the following:

Self-motivated and passionate about dance

Desire to grow as a dancer and artist

Open-minded and trusting of his/her teachers

Positive energy in every class, rehearsal, and performance

Respectful of his/her self, team, teachers and PDC staff

Supportive of and dedicated to the studio, teachers and fellow dancers

Trustworthy, loyal and honest

Has a supportive family base that shows respect and loyalty for the teachers, students and studio at all times

TEAMS INFO & REQUIREMENTS

Competition Team : Ages 4-18 (about 2-5 routines/dancer)

It is strongly advised to be taking all genres of dance to obtain a well rounded, versatile group of strong dancers. Although we appreciate and expect our competitive team dancers to prioritize his/her dance team, we understand some young dancers are still experimenting with other sports and may not be able to attend every class offered, which is the reason we list the minimum your child must be taking to compete on the

team (shown below). Dancers at this level will be placed in at least 1-5 group dances and may be placed in additional groups based on age and ability. Routine level at competitions is at the discretion of Miss Emily and Miss Meghan. These decisions are always in the best interest of the dancer.

PLEASE ASK MISS EMILY/MISS MEGHAN FOR CLASS SUGGESTIONS IF YOU ARE LIMITING YOUR CHILD'S NUMBER OF CLASSES AND UNSURE WHICH WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL FOR YOUR DANCER!

MINIMUM CLASS REQUIREMENTS PER AGE GROUP:

- **PETITE Ages 4-5: 1 Jazz, 1 class of choice**
- **PETITE Ages 6-7: 1 Ballet, 1 technique, and 1 class of your choice**
- **MINI AND JUNIOR: 2 Ballet, 1 leaps & turns, 1 technique, 1 contemporary, 1 class of choice**
- **TEEN AND SENIOR: 3 Ballet, 1 leaps & turns, 1 technique, 1 contemporary, 1 classes of your choice**
- Must attend all scheduled team rehearsals. Rehearsal will be twice/week for 60-120min
- Must be available for 4-5 competition weekends between February and May 2024.
- Summer dance class requirements
- In-studio summer intensive
- Choreography Weeks Aug 21-Sep 7 (Specific days/times TBD)
- Perform in the annual Reveal show (Late Jan or early Feb 2024)
- Perform in the annual recital (Late May or early June 2024)
- Compete at Nationals unless Ms E/M has decided not to take your child's routine (June or July 2024)

*Solo, duo or trio is permitted if approved by Emily and Meghan. To compete a solo, dancer must be enrolled in the above requirements as well as abide by the private lesson rules for competing dancers.

GUIDELINES FOR REQUIRED CLASSES / ATTENDANCE

When it comes to school and family activities you will find Prestige Dance Center to be very accommodating and flexible. However, by accepting placement in this program, you have agreed that this is a **priority** in your schedule. Please consider conflicts with outside activities before committing to the team. It is important to understand your absences negatively affect an entire team, not just you. If we feel a dancer is not taking their attendance/team seriously, Emily and Meghan have the right to remove that dancer from certain group routines, certain competitions, solo privileges, and/or the team as a whole.

Dancers should do their best to attend all classes. Every attempt should be made to attend make up classes when absences cannot be avoided. The studio should be notified ahead of time if a dancer will be missing class.

It is mandatory to be in class the week of a competition. This includes nationals. Failure to attend a mandatory rehearsals and/or classes may result in ineligibility to perform in the upcoming performance/competition.

Any dancer missing 4 or more classes during the competition season (November-May) must make them up to be eligible to compete.

Dancers may only miss up to 3 team rehearsals to be eligible to compete.

Sick dancers must make an effort to learn what they missed in rehearsal. Please assign someone to video the routine(s) and corrections for you.

For any/all major conflicts with required rehearsals and/or classes please know special circumstances will be considered at the discretion of Emily and Meghan.(ie. SAT's ACT's, family weddings, confirmation/religious events) We should be notified of any major rehearsal/team conflicts at least one to two months in advance. This helps us reschedule rehearsals, etc. **Communication is key!**

Dancers must FULLY attend all scheduled competitions and conventions. Competitions are primarily Friday evenings, Saturday and/or Sunday. In the unlikely (but possible) event dancers compete on a Friday morning/afternoon, dancers must be willing to miss school to compete group routines. If a dancer is seriously injured and cannot dance, he/she is still expected to attend all rehearsals and competitions with his/her team to support.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

We understand competing can be a huge expense, especially for families with more than one competing dancer. We do our best to provide our families with all fees and due dates in advance so they can plan and budget accordingly. Please consider the many expenses before committing to team such as competition entry fees, team fees, prestige performer pack (For first time team members ONLY which includes dance bag, team jacket & team earrings), costumes/shoes, hotels/traveling fees, tuition/workshops, solo/duo/trio fees etc. By committing to the team, you are agreeing to make all required payments by their required due date. If you fail to meet the required competition payment due dates and you have not come to us to discuss, late fees will apply and the dancer will not be entered in any competitions. Because it is so crucial for us to place all of our costume orders and make competition payments on time, we cannot make any exceptions to this rule. We are more than happy to set up a payment arrangement to ensure you can meet these dates if necessary. Please note a monthly fee will incur for monthly payment arrangements.

PDC fundraising is a great way for our dancers and parents to raise money to cover competition team fees & more! All fundraising information will be available to all competing families.

If a dancer/parent is removed from team and/or the studio or leaves the team/studio for any reason at any time of the season, team fees will NOT be refunded. A quitting fee of \$50 per routine will be charged to your account to cover the additional rehearsals necessary to re choreograph and rehearse changed routines.

*PLEASE CONTACT US TO REQUEST MORE INFO REGARDING TEAM FEES

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

All dancers are required to be DRESSED AND READY at the competition venue at least 90 MINUTES prior to their performance time. PLEASE understand this does not mean you should be *arriving* ninety minutes before your performance time!!

Example: Dancers scheduled performance time:

5:00pm.

3:30pm: Dancer must be in designated meeting area with all makeup & costume pieces on with her hair ready and properly warmed up

This rule is crucial to a successful competition day. Competitions tend to run ahead and we must be ready in the event we are called to perform earlier than our scheduled performance time. This also allows time for Emily & Meghan to properly warm up dancers and rehearse each routine.

Dancers should ALWAYS begin a full warm up (including conditioning and stretching) on their own in order to perform their best. This is why we advise dancers to arrive 2-3 hours before performance time so they are not rushed to get ready and/or stretch.

Emily and Meghan have the right to not allow any dancer on stage the day of competition if we feel they are not taking their position as a teammate seriously (ie not stretching/warming up properly, not focused, unprepared etc.)

If a dancer arrives late/misses warm up, Emily and Meghan have the right to not allow him/her to perform.

All dancers are required to attend their designated award ceremony and receive their award(s) at each competition! All dancers must be in PDC team jacket and/or PDC attire for awards. We would also appreciate all dancers to look neat & professional at the time of awards. No chewing gum, messy hair, etc.

Should a dancer receive a scholarship award(s) to a competition/convention while competing with Prestige Dance Center and choose to leave our studio, said scholarships will not be released to that dancer for use at another studio.

PDC approaches competition with a few things in mind:

Educational Opportunity- competition against the finest teams allows our teachers and students the opportunity to “see what is out there” and grow from there.

Pre-Professional Opportunity- students who wish to pursue the professional world of dance have an opportunity to grow and develop their performance skills through competition.

Fun Family Activity- Prestige Dance Center wants to attend competitions that are fun for the whole family. Students learn team-building skills, performing arts skills, and develop self- confidence that will last a lifetime. Having fun is the number one priority for this program.

Parent Roles:

Prestige Dance Center is a drama free zone! Parents are expected to be supportive, respectful and courteous **to all team members and their families** at all times. This studio will not tolerate rudeness, jealousy, and disrespect to another team member, their family, a teacher, or the director. Your role is the following:

Lift/Support all of our children Teach your child that there is always going to be someone out there better than they are Win or Lose, **Teach your child to be happy for others especially their own teammates** Give a hand to those who may be behind or struggling Stand firmly behind the teaching staff especially in

front of your child.

The most successful children are those whose parents support their teachers and coaches 100%. These are the ones who do not bad mouth or question a teacher or coach in front of their children, and they are certainly the ones who are realistic about their children and their place on a team. We all want our children to succeed, but success is not measured by the trophy a child brought home, or by the row in which they stand on stage, or by how many pirouettes they can do. Instead, it is measured by the effort that they put forth. If they give all they've got to give, what more can anyone ever expect? If you ever have questions or concerns, please see Miss Emily or Miss Meghan. They will be addressed.

Teaching is our utmost passion and we can't imagine doing anything else. Thank you for trusting us and giving us the opportunity to work with your children. We take our job very seriously. Your child's success and passion for dance is our priority. Making decisions regarding placement on the Prestige Dance Center Competition Team and in the many routines that we produce is a long, difficult, and well thought out process. No child is ever "held back," but instead, encouraged to set goals and work hard to develop their skills. It is our goal to help each child reach their fullest potential!