



Ballet Company Handbook

2026–2027 Season

Ages 10–18

inspire • lead • achieve



About the Ballet Company

Dedication Dance Co. is excited to offer a Competitive Ballet Program for serious students committed to and passionate about ballet and contemporary/modern dancing. Dancers will participate in either the Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) or the Universal Ballet Competition (UBC). Admission to the program is by audition only, and classes will meet multiple times a week in preparation for the opportunity to compete in a regional ballet competition.

Solos

UBC and YAGP are ballet and contemporary-based. Specific types of routines are required; our skilled instructors and choreographers know the materials needed for the competition. We recommend performing a classical variation and a contemporary-style routine, which show versatility and adaptability to the judging panel. We do, however, not require participation in both styles. Soloists will compete at YAGP or UBC, the DDC Winter Showcase, and at least one regional competition.

Ensemble

Depending on the Ballet Company roster, we may decide to cast a ballet/pointe or contemporary ensemble specifically for YAGP or UBC. In some seasons, we have an ensemble piece(s) and soloists; in other years, we only have soloists. After the auditions, the Director will communicate all casting opportunities with the dancers and parents.

If we cast an ensemble piece, this routine will be practiced weekly and be performed at our Winter Showcase, Spring Showcase, and two of our four regional competitions. These performances are in addition to UBC or YAGP. Dancers DO NOT have to participate in the ensemble piece to be part of the Ballet Company.

Competitions & Performances

The competition and performance dates will be announced no later than September 1, 2026, giving our families ample time to plan for the upcoming year! Dancers may participate in additional ballet competitions upon discussion with the Director.



Soloists

- Either the Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) or the Universal Ballet Competition (UBC)
 - Note: These competitions do not come to Omaha, so travel is required. DDC attends competitions within driving distance (Kansas City, Denver, Iowa City, etc.).
- DDC Winter Showcase
- At least one regional Company competition of choice — preferably before YAGP or UBC

The Ensemble (if applicable)

- YAGP or UBC
- DDC Winter Showcase
- DDC Spring Showcase
- Two regional Company competitions

We encourage Ballet Company soloists to compete in additional DDC Company competitions beyond the one required regional event. This is not required; however, additional stage time is valuable to our dancers' growth and development. Registration for extra competitions will be available in the early fall. Additional competitions require extra registration fees — see Tuition and Fees for estimated pricing.

Required Classes (September- May)

If accepted into the Ballet Company, dancers will receive a personalized list of class recommendations for the school year. Each dancer will be assigned classes based on an assessment from DDC staff. ALL classes are required unless otherwise noted. If you have scheduling conflicts, please consult the Director — we will work with you to find the best solution!

Estimated Hours Per Week: 8–10 (depending on the number of solos and classes)

- 3–4 ballet classes per week (pointe and pre-pointe may count toward this requirement depending on the dancer's age and level — consult the Director)
- Modern/Contemporary or Lyrical class (only required if competing in a contemporary solo)
- Private lesson for each solo — minimum 30 minutes per routine; 45–60 minutes is recommended
- Pilates-Strength
- Ensemble routine rehearsals (if applicable)



Multiple Program Participation

Dancers participating in both the Competition and Ballet Company can use classes taken for one program to meet the requirements for the other. For example, the Traditional Competition Company requires two ballet classes. Dancers in the Ballet Company are required to take three ballet classes. Therefore, dancers only need to take one additional ballet class to meet the Ballet Company requirement. Please see the Company (Competition) Handbook for a full list of requirements.

Tuition & Fees

Ballet Company costs are organized into the following categories:

- Monthly tuition for required classes
- Competition / Convention entry fees
- Summer programs
- Weekly private lessons (soloists)
- Choreography fees
- Ballet Program Participation Fee
- Ensemble fee (if applicable)

1. Monthly Tuition — Required Classes

Company members receive discounted monthly tuition for required classes. The following is a breakdown of the monthly tuition. Similar to the Monthly Competition Fees, monthly tuition is charged per class from September to May.

Class Length	Cost per Month (Company Rate Only)
30 minutes	\$32
45 minutes	\$40
60 minutes	\$48
75 minutes	\$57
90 minutes	\$65



2. Competition / Convention Entry Fees

The Ballet Company will attend one out-of-town regional event. Entry fees will be billed separately via the Member Portal upon registration. Estimates below are subject to change based on competition pricing.

Category	Estimated Cost per Dancer
Solo (per entry)	\$198
Small Group	\$89-95
Registration Fee (includes masterclasses)	\$200–\$250

When Are Competition Fees Due?

Parents may choose one of the following options, selected via the parent contract:

- Option A: Pay competition fees 30–45 days before each competition start date
- Option B: Pay total estimated competition fees over 9 months (September–May).
Note: the pro-rated option includes only the 4 required competitions; no extra competitions are included.

3. Summer Requirements

The summer months allow opportunities to strengthen techniques and learn new skills. DDC strongly emphasizes summer training — results show it sets our dancers up for a successful season!

Summer Tuition: The costs of both required intensives are prorated over three months (June–August). Tuition is due on the 1st of each month. This is mandatory for all Ballet Company Members. If dancers cannot attend certain required intensives, those credits may be applied to other summer training — please contact the Director.

Summer Series Drop-In Rates

Class Length	Cost (Drop-In)
45 minutes	\$22
60 minutes	\$28
90 minutes	\$32



Summer Class Requirements by Program

Program	Summer Requirements
Rising Stars	2 classes of choice
Company	2 ballet, 2 stretch/conditioning, 8 electives
Ballet Company	3 ballet, 2 stretch/conditioning, 6 electives
Performance Company	2 classes of choice (or one intensive)

Intensive Dates and Times

DDC Summer Intensive: June 8–12, 2026 (Ages 3–18) — Full intensive required

- Ages 9 & under: 10 AM–3 PM
- Ages 10 & up: 10 AM–4 PM

DDC Ballet & Technique Intensive: July 27–31, 2026 (Ages 8–18) — Full intensive required

- Ages 10 & under: 10 AM–3 PM
- Ages 11 & up: 10 AM–4 PM

DDC Summer Series (Evening Classes): June 22–24 • July 6–8 • July 13–15

These classes can be completed at the dancer’s discretion throughout the Summer Series. More classes are always encouraged!

4. Weekly Private Lessons (Soloists)

A minimum of 30 minutes each week per solo is required. All private lesson fees are posted to your Member Portal account and are due before the lesson. Auto-pay customers will be charged on the mid-month autopay cycle (15th of each month). Failure to pay private lesson fees will suspend lessons until the balance is paid.

Class Length	Cost (Posted to Member Portal)
30 minutes	\$45
45 minutes	\$60
1 hour	\$75
75 minutes	\$90
90 minutes	\$110



5. Choreography Fees

Solos: \$500 one-time fee covers choreography and studio fees, including 2 hours of private lessons. All private lessons after those 2 hours are charged at the private lesson rates above. All other costs (entry fees, costuming, private lessons) are charged separately. Each solo must include a 30-minute weekly private lesson with a DDC instructor.

Ensemble: \$200–\$350 per dancer (one-time) — covers cost of outside choreographers.

Classical Variations: No choreography fee. Time spent learning the variation is charged at private lesson rates.

6. Ballet Program Participation Fee

From September to May, dancers are charged a monthly Ballet Program Participation Fee of \$75. This fee covers coaches' travel expenses to attend out-of-town competitions, spread across the school year.

7. Monthly Competition Fees (Ensemble Only)

Monthly competition fees are charged from September to May for ensemble participants. These fees cover costume costs, weekly rehearsal fees, extra rehearsals leading up to competition, instructor attendance at Omaha competitions, and the Winter Showcase fee.

Number of Dances (Ensemble)	Cost per Month / Dancer
1	\$117
2	\$200



Auditions

Company Auditions

DDC Company auditions will be held on May 20, 2026. If your dancer is unavailable that day, please contact us to set up an alternative audition time.

- Registration is open on our website for all teams (Competition, Performance, and Ballet)
- Dancers interested in multiple teams can indicate that on their Student Information Form.
- All dancers will be notified of their admission status within one week of the audition.
- Later in the summer, dancers will learn their specific castings. All groupings are created with care at the discretion of our professional staff.

Note: Ballet Company members interested in a contemporary solo are required to complete the Solo Audition Process below. Dancers auditioning for only a classical piece do not need to complete the Solo Audition.

Age Group	Audition Time
Ages 9 & Under	4:30 – 5:45 PM
Ages 10–12	5:45 – 7:00 PM
Ages 13 & Up	7:00 – 8:15 PM

Solo Auditions

If your dancer wishes to audition for a contemporary solo, they must complete the solo audition process. Dancers auditioning for only a classical solo (variation) do not need to complete the solo audition.

- Dancers must choreograph their own solo to music of their choice, in a genre they want to perform. DDC is looking for effort and commitment — not perfection.
- Music does not require editing or cutting. Dancers must arrive with the song name and artist.
- Dancers will be notified of their results within one week of the solo audition date.
- Classical solos are awarded upon acceptance into the Ballet Company — no separate audition required.



Solo Length Requirements

Age Group (as of Jan 1, 2027)	Minimum Solo Length
Ages 8 & under	30 seconds
Ages 9–10	45 seconds
Ages 11–13	60 seconds
Ages 14 & up	90 seconds

2026–2027 Solo Audition Date: June 17, 2026 — 1:00–2:30 PM — All Ages

Dress Code

- Ballet Classes: solid-color leotard and tights; hair must be in a bun
- Full-length tights that cover the feet (footless tights are acceptable) — no cutoff tights
- All other classes: fitted dance attire — no T-shirts
- Boys: dance pants or shorts with a slim-fitting shirt or tank top for all classes



Parent & Student Behavior

At Dedication Dance Co., we prioritize a positive, respectful, and disciplined environment that supports each dancer's growth and enjoyment.

Student Expectations

- Come prepared, dressed appropriately, and arrive on time
- Put in strong effort and maintain focus during classes
- Complete practice videos on time for missed rehearsals
- Ensure consistent attendance
- Hair must be secured; ballet students must wear buns
- No cell phones, gum, food, or drinks (except water) in the studio
- Show respect to instructors, peers, and staff at all times
- Maintain cleanliness and avoid inappropriate language, gossip, or rough play
- Follow all safety and wellness guidelines — communicate injuries and illness promptly
- Remain inside the studio when waiting for rides

Parent Expectations

- Treat all DDC members and families with respect
- Stay informed through official communication channels
- Report absences via email and keep children home when sick
- Promote good sportsmanship and appropriate behavior at all events
- Keep waiting areas clean and equipment safe
- Refrain from entering studios unless invited
- Support your child's commitment and encourage a positive attitude
- Ensure timely drop-offs, pick-ups, and fee payments
- Address concerns professionally by scheduling an appointment
- Immediately communicate all health and injury-related matters with DDC

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in disciplinary action or removal from the DDC Company.



Health & Safety

Dedication Dance Co. is committed to the health and safety of our staff, students, and dance families. Please familiarize yourself with our policies as you prepare to enter the studio.

- If you are not feeling well, please stay home. This helps keep all DDC staff and dancers healthy.
- Wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your face.
- If your dancer is injured, please communicate immediately with your instructor and email info@dedicationdanceco.com. We adhere to doctor's recommendations. If necessary, please provide a doctor's note.

Communication Policies

At Dedication Dance Co., clear and timely communication is essential to supporting our dancers and maintaining a smooth studio experience.

General Communication

For all non-urgent matters — illness notifications, absences, schedule questions, and general inquiries — please email us at info@dedicationdanceco.com.

Urgent Matters

For time-sensitive concerns, contact us via phone or text at 402-612-6277. Please reserve this number for urgent issues only.

Event Day Communication

All event-day communication — including schedule updates, check-in instructions, real-time announcements, and practice video submissions — is handled through the BAND app. All company members and parent representatives are required to use BAND to ensure they receive timely updates.



Thank You!

As always, please let us know if you have any questions. We can't wait for an amazing season of growth!

Email	info@dedicationdanceco.com
Phone / Text (urgent)	402-612-6277
Billing/Program Questions	tiffany@dedicationdanceco.com
Communication App	BAND (required for all Ballet Company members)