

Genesis Dance Conservatory Student Handbook



Dear New Students and Parents,

Welcome to Genesis Dance Conservatory! Genesis, by definition, means a beginning or origin. At Genesis Dance Conservatory, our goal is to provide our students with a strong beginning for dance technique and proper body alignment. We also provide an environment where creativity, community, musicality, fun, and friendships originate, and where everyone can feel at home. We are so excited that you have chosen Genesis Dance Conservatory as your new dance home, and would like to take a moment to answer any questions you might have with the following information packet.

We look forward to dancing with you!

Bethany Henry

Artistic Director

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Studio Policies

Attendance Policy

1. Throughout the year, Genesis Dance Conservatory students participate in multiple performances and shows. From the time choreography begins through the last performance, students are not permitted to miss more than three classes. This is to ensure they are able to perform to the best of their abilities and not placed in an uncomfortable position on stage. If a student misses more than three classes for any reason, he or she will not be able to perform on stage.
2. If your dancer misses a class, please feel free to schedule a makeup lesson in another age-appropriate class within 30 days. Please note, this does not “erase” the missed class if the dancer is learning a performance routine.
3. Dancers should arrive 5-10 minutes early for class. If a student misses warmups (typically first 5-10 minutes of class), he or she may not be allowed to dance, which will result in an absence from that class. For classes in the acrobatics studio, please wait outside for the previous class to finish before entering the studio.
4. Parents must pick up their dancer(s) within 5 minutes of the end of class.
5. If your dancer is exhibiting any symptoms of any illness (even if they are not contagious) we ask that you contact the studio so we can set up a virtual Zoom class for your dancer.
6. Students who are absent from class due to an illness or exposure to someone with an illness are able to request a Zoom link to virtually participate in class. Participating in a live virtual class will not negatively affect the student’s attendance, as we encourage everyone to be safe and cautious. Please request a Zoom link at least 12 hours before class is scheduled to begin.

Behavior Policy

7. Students who exhibit dangerous behavior towards another student or an instructor will be automatically dismissed from all classes at the studio.
8. For any proper dance education, it is very important that dancers follow class dress code not only to prevent injuries, but also to make classes uniform. Dancers unprepared for class by wearing incorrect clothing or street shoes will be unable to participate in classes.
9. Students should be respectful and courteous at all times. If a student is asked more than twice to be respectful/courteous or to listen/participate during class, they will be dismissed from all classes for the remainder of the day. This is so that we can ensure that all of our students are receiving the best dance education by limiting distractions during class.
10. In the event that a student is dismissed from class and/or is creating a disrespectful classroom environment, the instructor may fill out a disciplinary form, kept on record with Genesis. Two disciplinary forms on file for any reason will lead to automatic dismissal from all classes at the studio.

Class Dress Codes

Classes for Ages 3-6

Acrobatics/Tumbling

Boys

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Any colored t-shirt or tank.
- Bottoms: Any colored basketball shorts.
- Shoes: Clean socks.

Girls

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Any colored leotard or unitard.
- Bottoms: Shorts are optional (no tights).
- Shoes: Clean socks.

Ballet/Jazz/Tap Combo

Boys

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Any colored t-shirt or tank.
- Bottoms: Any colored sweats or basketball shorts.
- Shoes: Black canvas or leather ballet shoes, black jazz shoes, and black tap shoes. No pink or tan colored shoes. No Danskin, Isotoner, or Satin House slippers. If dancers are enrolled in the Ballet/Tap option, they will not need jazz shoes.

Girls

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Solid black tank-style or short-sleeved leotard.
- Bottoms: Light pink colored footed tights. Any color ballet skirt (knee length or above) is optional.
- Shoes: Pink canvas or pink leather ballet shoes, black jazz shoes, and black tap shoes. No black or tan colored shoes. No Danskin, Isotoner, or Satin House slippers. If dancers are enrolled in the Ballet/Tap option, they will not need jazz shoes.

Hip Hop/Breakdance/Tumbling Combo

All Dancers

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Any colored tank or t-shirt.
- Bottoms: Any colored shorts, leggings, or sweats (no jeans, dresses, or skirts).
- Shoes: Socks and tennis shoes. Shoes must be specifically for dance and cannot be worn outside for other purposes.

Classes for Ages 7+

Acrobatics/Tumbling

Boys

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Any colored t-shirt or tank.
- Bottoms: Any colored basketball shorts.
- Shoes: Clean socks.

Girls

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Any colored leotard or unitard (no skirts).
- Bottoms: Shorts are optional (no tights).
- Shoes: Clean socks.

Ballet I and II

Boys

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Solid white t-shirt or tank.
- Bottoms: Solid black sweats or basketball shorts. Black tights optional.
- Shoes: Black canvas or leather ballet shoes. No pink or tan colored shoes. No Danskin, Isotoner, or Satin House slippers.

Girls

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Solid black tank-style or short-sleeved leotard.
- Bottoms: Light pink colored footed tights. Any color ballet skirt (knee length or above) is optional.
- Shoes: Pink canvas or pink leather ballet shoes. No black or tan colored shoes. No Danskin, Isotoner, or Satin House slippers.

Competition Team Intensive

Please follow the dress code for Jazz class.

Contemporary

Boys

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Solid white t-shirt (no writing or graphics).
- Bottoms: Solid black sweats or basketball shorts. Black tights optional. For older male dancers, a dance belt is often necessary.
- Shoes: Black leather slip-on jazz shoes, Footundeez, or barefoot.

Girls

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Solid black tank-style or short-sleeved leotard.
- Bottoms: Light pink colored footed tights. Short, solid black dancer shorts are optional.
- Shoes: Black leather slip-on jazz shoes, Footundeez, or barefoot.

Hip Hop

All Dancers

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Tank or t-shirt. No t-shirts and tank tops can have inappropriate text.
- Bottoms: Shorts, leggings, or sweats (no jeans, dresses, or skirts).
- Shoes: Socks, tennis shoes, and hair tied back in a ponytail. Students must have tennis shoes reserved just for the studio and dance tennis shoes must not be worn outside the studio. Socks must be worn on the air track and gym mats.

Jazz

Boys

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Solid white t-shirt (no writing or graphics).
- Bottoms: Solid blank black sweats or basketball shorts. Black tights are optional. For older male dancers, a dance belt is often necessary.
- Shoes: Black leather slip-on jazz shoes (no tan or lace up shoes).

Girls

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Tank style or short-sleeved solid black leotard.
- Bottoms: Light pink footed ballet tights. Any color ballet skirt (knee length or above) or short black dancer shorts are allowed and are optional accessories.
- Shoes: Black leather slip-on jazz shoes (no tan or lace up shoes).

Tap

All Dancers

- Hair: Must be tied back in a bun or ponytail if longer than shoulder-length.
- Tops: Tank or t-shirt. No t-shirts and tank tops can have inappropriate text.
- Bottoms: Shorts, leggings, or sweats (no jeans, dresses, or skirts).
- Shoes: Black laced tap shoes.

Solos

Acrobatics & Tumbling

Please follow the dress code for Acrobatics & Tumbling class.

Ballet or Jazz

Please follow the dress code for Ballet class.

Hip Hop

Please follow the dress code for Hip Hop class.

Jazz

Please follow the dress code for Jazz class.

Tuition and Fees

For new enrollment beginning October 1, 2020:

Registration Fee	One-Time Fee
Single Dancer	\$20
Family	\$35

Tuition – Hours / Week	Monthly Rate
0.75	\$60
1.0	\$65
1.25	\$72.50
1.5	\$80
1.75	\$87.50
2.0	\$95
2.25	\$105
2.5	\$115
2.75	\$122.50
3.0	\$130
3.5	\$150
4.0	\$165
4.5	\$185
5.0	\$200
5.5	\$220
6.0	\$235

Private Lessons	Hourly Rate
1 Hour	\$45

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I buy dancewear and shoes?

Shoes and dancewear can either be purchased at the studio's shop (Arabesque Emporium), through the Dancer's Outlet (1820 Dominion Way), or online. Should you choose to shop online, please note sizing is often very difficult.

Why is there a dress code for classes?

Having a dress code provides safety uniformity for our students, helps instructors make corrections more quickly, and allows the instructors to better see alignment issues. Many of the shoe choices are strictly for safety purposes.

Can I wear my dance shoes outside?

Dance shoes of any kind (including hip hop tennis shoes and tap shoes) should never be worn outside the studio. Doing so damages the shoe and can lead to scrapes, dings, and gouges in the dance floor and equipment.

I missed a class. How do make-up classes work?

If your child misses a class, please contact the studio via email. Makeup classes can be used in any age-appropriate style of dance other than the class enrolled in. Makeup classes must be used within 30 days of the missed class date. In order for us to keep our student records up to date, unused makeup classes will expire 30 days after the missed class date.

Are holidays, sick days, snow days, or missed classes pro-rated with tuition?

There are no reduced tuition rates or refunds for missed classes, holidays, or any other circumstances. However, please feel free to schedule a makeup lesson for missed classes within a month. Holiday breaks are already factored into monthly tuition as some months will have 5 classes instead of 4.

How is tuition calculated if I join a class mid-month?

Tuition will be prorated at the time of enrollment.

Do you accept credit/debit cards?

Yes we do! We also accept PayPal and cash.

Can I watch my child dance?

Absolutely! For the convenience of our dance parents, we have a television in the lobby that live streams the classroom. We feel that this allows parents to watch their child while still allowing our students to remain focused on class. There will also be certain times where you will be able to watch your child dance in the actual studio room. These days include parent observation weeks, and these dates will be specified in our newsletters. During recital season, the television does remain turned off due to the fact that we would like to keep our recital dances fresh for parents and families.

How are you ensuring safety with COVID?

Please be assured we are doing everything possible to keep you, your dancer, and your household safe. We have a very strict cleaning schedule for all common areas and equipment. If your dancer is exhibiting any symptoms of any illness (even if they are not contagious) we ask that you contact the studio so we can set up a virtual Zoom class for your dancer.