



# **Competition Team**

# **Parent Handbook**

# **2021-2022**

Elevation Dance Company  
Kahli Zeigler, Studio Owner/Artistic Director  
Chris Zeigler, Studio Owner  
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## Expectations

As a member of The Elevation Dance Company Competition Team, we expect more than we would from a recreational student. These are the highest-level students that represent the studio. We don't plan on having any issues with this, but we want to be clear in what we expect from students.

We expect that students will only miss class due to illness or family emergencies. We know other things come up, but we need to be careful not to miss too much dance. Not being in class not only hurts you, but it also hurts the rest of the team, as they can't move on in certain parts without you. Not taking responsibility for your homework and completing before, after, on the way to dance, etc. is not an excuse. Be a smart time manager with this. Going to play with a friend is not an acceptable reason to miss dance. Being an elite level dancer means having to make some sacrifices. Being "too tired" or "not feeling it" is not a reason to miss dance. Some days we don't feel like it, but we need to dance it out! If you will be out for any reason, please inform us so that we can plan appropriately. All of these apply to tardiness as well. If you miss more than three classes, you will be asked to schedule and pay for a private lesson in order to make up for your missed class time. This will need to be made up in a timely manner.

If you are sick or injured, please let us know ASAP. You can always text the studio cell (864-506-1852) to let us know. If you are absent for more than one week due to illness or injury, we may ask for a doctor's note for their return. We never want to put a student at danger, so we will take this very seriously. Depending on the illness/injury, attendance is still expected even if the dancer is unable to fully participate. Observing is a large part of dancing and still very beneficial for the student.

**Rehearsals the week prior to a performance are mandatory** - no questions asked. The directors reserve the right to remove a dancer from a competition/routine/event entirely due to missed rehearsals.

We expect dancers to have great behavior, inside and outside the studio. Even if you are not in the studio dancing, we expect students to not run around like crazy and cause chaos. Even when you aren't in the studio, somebody else might be and we need to be respectful of everybody. When we are performing or doing anything as a group outside of the studio, we expect to see the absolute best behavior. Go out of your way to make a great impression on the community and show them what wonderful children you are!

## All-Inclusive Tuition

For your convenience we have once again decided to offer all-inclusive tuition pricing. We feel that it helps to create better budget opportunities for everyone, especially for competition team members that are paying more money.

We have included these fees to your tuition as a competition dancer:

- Monthly tuition
- Recital fees
- Recital Video
- Recital Group Pictures
- Parade t-shirts/accessories
- Recital Costume Fees

These are the fees that are NOT included in your tuition:

- Registration fee
- Shoes
- Competition Jacket
- Parent/Family parade shirts
- Costume Fees
- Competition Fees
- Convention Fees
- Prop Fee

If your dancer has a solo, duo, or trio, this will be an additional fee. Please see the info sheet for more details.

If you do not have a solo, but you are interested in private lessons, they are offered at \$60/hour. The link to schedule private lessons is <https://elevationdancecompany.as.me/>

## Auto-Pay

Once again, we prefer for all students to use auto-pay with bank draft. This will help to save us time on processing payments, so that we can help to provide you with the best experience possible while at our studio! If you do not wish to enroll in auto-pay, then talk to Chris for another option.

With competition fees not being part of tuition, we are asking that you pay for competition fees with cash or check. This way, we don't lose part of your fees to credit card processing. If you would still like to use your credit or debit card, we will charge the \$3 fee to process that payment.

If you have any questions about auto-pay, please ask Chris!

## Dress Code

We do not have a strict dress code, however, dancers are expected to have dance clothes when they arrive to class. This means no jeans, jean shorts, or any bottoms that restrict movement. All dresses need to be leotard dresses or have shorts underneath the skirt. Prepare for your dancer to go upside down, which means if dancers wear t-shirts, they should wear leotards, tight fitting tank tops, or sports bras underneath shirts. If this requirement is not met, dancers may be asked to sit out of certain activities. Dancers should have the proper shoes for each class as well. Black leotards and pink tights will be required for certain Ballet classes. We will let you know if your class requires that.

## Competition/Convention Dates

A fee will be added for each competition dance in order to help cover the expenses for the studio directors, teachers, music editing, insurance, etc. This will be added as part of your competition fee. You are required to provide your own transportation and book your own hotel rooms for all events in which we must travel.

Tentative competition dates are given on your competition fees sheet. Everyone will attend 3 competitions this year. They will occur between March-May. We will attend an optional nationals event next summer. Dates are listed on your fees sheet. Whoever wants to attend, we will re-choreograph parts of dances as much as possible to make that happen. Rehearsal schedules for Nationals will be determined at a later date.

Dates will be provided on your competition fees sheet that include an optional one day convention, and an optional multi-day convention/competition. If any other optional dates arise, we will distribute those to you all.

## Warm-Ups

We will be ordering warm-up jackets for those new to the team or those who have outgrown their old ones. They are \$100 each. These are required for all competition students as they will wear them on stage for awards, Christmas parades, community performances, etc. Feel free to order the jackets a size larger than they normally wear, if you wish, as they will wear these year after year. We will size them within the coming weeks for the ones that need jackets. Please have this payment made by **September 30** at the latest. These will take a few weeks to get in as they are custom made for each dancer!

## Competition Expectations

At conventions, competitions, and all performances, we expect you to arrive on time. Exact times will be given as soon as we know them. We expect you to bring all belongings/accessories needed to perform in competition. Being prepared makes for a less stressful time for everybody involved. Win or lose, we expect dancers and their families to have a joyful spirit and show wonderful sportsmanship no matter what the outcome. We will not tolerate any inappropriate language, illicit drug use, or negative behavior towards others (inside and outside of our studio) from our students or their families. Our goal at competition is to have fun! Parents, make sure you are helping to set a positive example for your dancers, they will follow your lead!

## Christmas Parades/Christmas Show

Assuming parades will continue this year, we will be involved in a few parades. We will get you dates and times whenever we find them out. This will be required for all company members. Prior to the date, we will learn a special dance to perform as we share the Christmas spirit with our community. If any parents or family members want to walk or ride in the parade, they will be required to wear a t-shirt and purchase that separately.

The Christmas Show information will be listed on your important dates sheet. The Christmas show is also required for competition dancers.

## Community Performances

We are planning to perform in community events throughout the year. Performing, for any type of crowd, builds stage presence and confidence. It is one of the best ways to prepare for competition and being a well-rounded dancer. The more you perform, the better you will get. Because of their nature, they are a little harder to plan months in advance. As soon as dates and times become available, you will be the first to know. Also, if you ever know of any performance opportunities, please send them our way! Below are the dates that we currently have planned:

Saturday, October 9: Pendleton Fall Festival 11:30-12:30 and 3:00-4:00

Saturday, October 16: Central Railroad Festival 11:45-12:15 and 1:25-1:55

Saturday, November 20: Holly Jolly Holiday Fair Time TBA

## Solos/Duos/Trios Requirements

All solo, duet, and trio pieces are considered extra dances. In order to compete in a solo, duo, or trio you must first compete in at least 4 group pieces assigned to you. EDC Staff reserves the right to prohibit dancers from competing in a solo, duet, or trio.

## Private Lessons

All dancers are allowed to schedule private lessons (whether they are doing a solo or not). These are great times for dancers to grow and learn in a one-on-one setting. All private lessons must be scheduled through the front desk at EDC or through our online scheduling page. Parents should not contact any EDC staff member privately. If you would like to schedule a private lesson with someone other than Kahli, let us know and we will work out a schedule for you.



## Communication

As you can see, with lots of information, dates, and details, communication is VITAL between all of us. We must have a correct email on file as this is how we will communicate. It is expected that you check this on a regular basis and respond as needed. If you ever have a problem or concern, do not hesitate to ask as we cannot fix problems for things we are unaware of. Communication, we promise, leads to a healthier team and a more successful year. We do ask that you please refrain from contacting our staff privately. Messages to any staff member can be sent via email (hello@elevationdanceco.com) or text (864-506-1852) and will be relayed to them appropriately.

## Parent Portal

This will be an online system that allows you to pay online and see where your statement is whenever you want. This system will help keep everyone more on the same page, so use it well! If you have any questions about how to log in and use this system, please ask Chris.

## Social Media

EDC will not tolerate any negative or inappropriate behavior on social media from their dancers. There is also a no-tolerance policy for dancers and/or their families talking negatively about fellow dancers, EDC, and other dance studios. It is not okay, and we will not be a part of it. Failure to comply may result in being removed from the competition team.

## Fundraising

While Elevation Dance Company encourages fundraising efforts on behalf of competition dancers, EDC reserves the right to restrict fundraising on behalf of individual dancers and the EDC Booster Club if either Chris or Kahli Zeigler find the fundraising effort to reflect negatively on EDC. If a dancer or dancer's parent/guardian is asked to cease a certain fundraising effort and that action is not taken, it may result in the dancer's removal from the EDC competition team.

## Pandemic and Competition Team

With joining the competition team, you understand that this is still a full-season commitment. Should you elect to pull your dancer during the season, you will be subject to a re-choreography fee of \$100/dance.

Please also understand that there may be things that happen outside of our control. For example, all competition dates are very tentative. They may need to be switched around, cancelled, or have a change of venue. We will cross that bridge as we get there, but just know not everything is in our control! We promise that we will update you as soon as we know information!

**DANCER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company Contract**

*I have read and understand the rules, requirements, due dates, etc that are listed in this document, and on the other documents provided to me. I will abide by the rules, requirements, due dates, etc. I understand that being on the Competition Team is a season-long commitment (September-May). I understand that if I were to discontinue the Competition Team for whatever reason during the season, I will be subject to continue paying the monthly tuition, costume fees, competition fees, choreography fees, or any other fees for the remainder of the season. I understand that I may not participate in performances if there is a negative balance on my account. I understand that this team is not about just my child, but I also expect my child to be treated fairly and with consideration. I promise that should I encounter any issue (whether it be monetary, treatment, problems with others, etc) I will bring them up to Chris, Kahli, or both. I understand that problems cannot be fixed if the owners are not aware of the situation. I promise to help my dancer be mentally and physically prepared to have the best year of dance of their lives!*

**PARENT'S  
NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**PARENT'S  
SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DANCER'S  
SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_