

Ballet Etudes Nutcracker Audition FAQs

IS THERE A FEE TO PARTICIPATE?

In total, the fees are just \$40. There is a \$15 audition registration fee per dancer, and if the dancer is accepted as a cast member, there is a \$25 performance fee. However, as Ballet Etudes owns all of its costumes, there is no costume fee.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED TO WEAR TO THE AUDITION?

Girls should wear pink tights, a black leotard, and ballet slippers. Hair should be in a bun or, if hair is short, pinned back off the face.

Boys should wear black tights, dance pants or black basketball shorts, a tucked-in white shirt, and black ballet shoes or socks.

WILL MY CHILD NEED TO PERFORM IN ALL 16 SHOWS?

Most roles are double-cast, which ensures that our youngest cast members are not required at all performances. This means that as we have 16 performances of The Nutcracker, the “Red” cast will perform 8 shows and the “Green” cast will perform 8 shows.

For example, there are two casts (8 dancers in each cast) for the role of Gingerette – the Red Cast and the Green Cast. One dancer from each of these two casts share the same “spot” in the dance and they are known as “alternates” for each other.

However, there are other roles which have only one cast. This means one dancer will perform this role for all 16 performances. Typically, this role is held by an older dancer (typically age 13 and up).

MAY I REQUEST THAT MY CHILD DOES NOT PERFORM ON SUNDAYS?

As we have four performances on Sundays and two casts of dancers, each cast will perform two Sundays.

WHEN WILL WE KNOW IN WHICH PERFORMANCES THEY WILL PERFORM?

In mid-October, the rehearsal staff will provide each dancer with their cast “color” (known as “Red” or “Green”) as well as the dates in which they will perform.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

There will be a mandatory mid-morning meeting at Chandler Center for the Arts on Saturday, September 22 where at least one parent and the cast member(s) must attend.

Rehearsals will begin Friday, September 21. Rehearsals are held on Friday evenings or Saturday afternoons during the months of September – November. The day of your rehearsal depends upon your role and typically remains consistent. Dancers ages 7-11 typically have between 45 minutes or 2 hours of rehearsals each Friday or Saturday. Dancers ages 12-15 typically have 2 hours of rehearsal each Saturday. Note that these are typical and exceptions may apply.

Venue rehearsals will take place at Chandler Center for the Arts during the late/afternoon to evenings of November 19 - 21 and at Mesa Arts Center during the late/afternoon to evenings of December 4 – 6. Dress rehearsals are MANDATORY for all dancers. Dress rehearsal at Chandler Center for the Arts will be Wednesday, November 21 and dress rehearsal at Mesa Arts Center will be Thursday, December 6. Note that during these theater rehearsals, most cast members are not required each night. This schedule will be distributed in October.