



**PREMIER COMPANY
HANDBOOK
2026-2027**

Premier Company Handbook 2026-2027

The Premier Company is a competitive dance company designed for serious dancers who are highly motivated in the performing arts. Those selected for the company will possess the following:

- Must be physically fit with an emphasis on a healthy mind and body
- Must be self-motivated and able to self-evaluate
- Must have solid technical and performance skills
- Strong desire to grow and develop as a dancer
- Must have a sense of humor, a bright smile, and a positive attitude
- Have respect for the team and staff
- Show support for the studio, teachers, and fellow dancers
- Must have a supportive family base that shows respect for the teachers and students at all times

Rules & Regulations:

- Company Dancers must exhibit good sportsmanship. You must respect and support your fellow dancers, teachers, and staff at all times, inside and outside the studio. They are your dance family!
- Company Dancers should set good examples inside and outside the studio including on social media. Remember, you are a role model. There is always a younger dancer watching.
- A Positive Attitude is mandatory. We all have bad days but when you are in class, rehearsal, or attending a competition/convention you must have a good, respectful attitude. This includes no goofing off.
- Cell phones are a distraction during class time. Therefore, no phones are allowed in the dance studios unless permitted by a teacher. No posting on social media of any kind is allowed of anything done in the studio unless permitted by a teacher.
- We love our Company Parents. Your support and encouragement mean everything to your dancers, teachers, and staff. Dance critiques from class, dress rehearsal, and on stage should be left to the teachers. If you have a concern of any kind, please address it directly to the teacher, not the dancers.
- In the event of injury, it is a Company Dancer's responsibility to continue attending regular weekly classes/rehearsals to observe and be aware of what is taught and discussed.
- Only due to contagious illness and death in the family will a Company Dancer be excused from class or rehearsal.

- In the event a dancer needs to miss class or rehearsal or arrive late, please send an email to the studio email at info@premierschoolofdance.com. **The Directors, teachers, and staff do not accept texts, Facebook messages, or phone calls to our personal phones except for competition/convention weekends when we are out of the studio.**
- If a dancer misses more than 3 classes/rehearsals between August and December, they may be removed from that class dance. The same goes for January to June. No dancer is allowed to miss class or rehearsal the week leading up to the competition!
- All company dancers must wear their Company Jacket at competitions, conventions and any other mandatory performances.
- If you need to speak with a teacher about any concerns please make an appointment to speak with the teacher. Asking to speak to teachers during class time is a distraction for the teacher and the dancers and takes away teaching time from the dancers.
- **Dancers who wish to audition for the Company must attend a total of 12 drop-in classes over the summer.**

Commitment: Company participants are required to participate from August 2026 through June 2027. This is a serious commitment and will not be taken lightly. Company dancers are expected to fulfill this commitment. All students and their parents/guardians will be required to sign a parent/student agreement. The Premier Company attends 4-5 regional competitions and conventions a year! Our PeeWee Company is only required to attend 4 competitions. All dancers are required to participate in all competitions/conventions. All are mandatory unless noted otherwise. **Any violation of this handbook/commitment/contract may result in the dancer's immediate removal from the Premier Company.** Once a dance has been started no dancer can pull out. If a dancer pulls out of a dance they will not be asked back for that dance the following year.

Commitment Per Group:

Program	Weekly Classes	Competitions/Conventions	Performances
PeeWee Company	1-2 Days/Week	4 Competitions	Parades, Special Performances, Company Recital, Full Studio Recital
Mini/Junior/Teen/Senior Company	2-3 Days/Week	5 Competitions & Conventions	Parades, Special Performances, Production, Company Recital, Full Studio Recital

Company Small Groups- (Detailed info on page 11)

- Additional studio time to learn and rehearse dances
- Must maintain participation in all required large commitments
- Must participate in corresponding large group genre to be eligible for a small group in that genre (i.e. must be in large group lyrical to be in small group lyrical)
- Special Performance Opportunities (as available)
- 5-6 Competition/Conventions
- Company Recital
- Full Studio Recital

Required Classes:

Dance Style	Required Classes
Lyrical/Contemporary/Jazz	Ballet + Technique/Conditioning
Hip-Hop	Technique/Conditioning
Tap	No additional requirements

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for all Company classes and rehearsals. The purpose of the mandatory technique/conditioning class is to allow for more time during classes to work on perfecting competition dances and reducing the number of weekend rehearsals. *When it comes to school and family activities you will find Premier School of Dance to be accommodating and very generously flexible. However, by accepting placement in the Company, you have agreed that this is a priority in your schedule.* Any missed classes or rehearsals for any reason must be cleared personally through the Directors by sending an email to the studio (text to personal phones will not be accepted!) Absences will be recorded and if more than 2 are missed in a month you must make up for them by attending another company's technique class. Being a well-rounded individual is important, and we support students pursuing other activities. However, when it comes to participation on a competitive team, skills are constantly being taught and students must be present!

Extra practices may be scheduled before competitions and recitals. Additional rehearsals may

be scheduled prior to competitions and recitals as needed. The studio will provide as much advance notice as possible for any extra practices. Attendance at these rehearsals is expected, as they are essential for finalizing and polishing choreography. Dancers are strongly encouraged to attend all regularly scheduled practices to ensure steady progress and minimize the need for additional rehearsals. However, extra practices may be added when necessary, including situations such as a dancer injury requiring choreography to be reblocked or adjusted.

Schedule Outline:

Company Calendar & Important Dates

The official competition and convention schedule will be announced by August 31. Please note that all dates are subject to change. Additional competition, convention, rehearsal, and performance details will be communicated as they become available.

August

- August 5-6: Company Auditions
- August 9: Company Members Announced
- August 16: Mandatory Company Meeting & Big/Little Reveal
- August 17: First Day of Fall Classes

September

- September 18-20: Lyrical/Contemporary Choreography with Andrew Burleson
- Jazz Choreography (Date TBD)

October

- October 3: Company Lock-In
- October 11 & 25: Parade and Production Rehearsals

November

- November 8 & 15: Parade and Production Rehearsals
- November 20: Raleigh Christmas Parade Rehearsal (*Mandatory for all Company Members*)
- November 21: Raleigh Christmas Parade (*Mandatory for all Company Members*)

December

- December 5: Apex Christmas Parade

- December 6 & 20: Production Rehearsals
- December 12: Cary Christmas Parade
- December 20: Company Christmas Party
- December 21 - January 2: Winter Break

January

- January 3, 10, 24 & 31: Production Rehearsals
- Possible Competition and/or Convention (*Detailed Schedule to Follow*)

February

- February 7, 14 & 28: Production Rehearsals
- February 19-21: Dress Rehearsals
- Possible Competition and/or Convention (*Detailed Schedule to Follow*)

March

- March 5-7: Starpower Dance Competition
- March 21: Production Rehearsal
- March 26 - April 4: Spring Break
- Possible Competition and/or Convention (*Detailed Schedule to Follow*)

April

- April 4: End of Spring Break
- April 9-11: Showbiz Dance Competition
- April 25: Production Rehearsal
- Possible Competition and/or Convention (*Detailed Schedule to Follow*)

May

- May 1-3: Imagine Dance Competition
- Possible Competition and/or Convention (*Detailed Schedule to Follow*)
- May 18-21: Picture Week

June

- 2027 Recital Week (*Complete Schedule to Be Announced*)

Important Reminder

Attendance at all required rehearsals, performances, competitions, conventions, and company events is expected. If a conflict arises, families should notify the Company Directors as soon as possible.

Financial Policies & Fees

Payment Methods

Online payments are preferred. Payments may also be made in person via credit card, check, or cash.

Registration & Audition Fees

- Registration Fee: \$55 due upon enrollment for the 2026-2027 Company Auditions.
- Audition Fee: \$55 due by August 1.

Monthly Tuition

- Tuition is due on the 1st of each month.
- A \$25 late fee will be assessed on accounts not paid by the due date.

Company Fee

The Company Fee helps cover many of the additional experiences and resources provided to our company dancers throughout the season. These expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Props and production materials
- Penske truck rentals for performances and events
- Music editing and editing software
- Company celebrations and team-building activities
- Company shirts and apparel
- Teacher travel expenses for competitions and conventions
- Additional rehearsals outside of regular class time
- Studio maintenance and operational expenses

The Company Fee will be billed in two installments:

- \$250 in August
- \$250 in January

Guest Choreographer Fees

- \$100-\$250 per routine, if applicable
- These fees apply only to routines choreographed by instructors who are not members of the Premier staff.

Costume Fees

Costume Type	Fee
Lyrical Costume	\$175
Jazz Costume	\$175
Tap Costume	\$150
Hip Hop Costume	\$150
Production Costume & Accessories	\$275

Production Costume Notes

- Returning company members who need a replacement production box due to loss or damage will be charged accordingly.
- Additional accessories such as earrings, hairpieces, and specialty footwear may be required and billed separately.

Competition Fees

Competition fees vary by event. The amounts below are estimates.

Group Routines & Production Numbers : \$75-\$125 per dancer, per routine

Duets & Trios: \$75-\$125 per dancer

Solos: \$100-\$250 per routine

Media Fees: \$25-\$65 per competition

Convention Fees

Estimated rates

- \$275-\$450 per convention

Additional Seasonal Expenses

Parade Participation

- Parade Registration Fee: TBD
- Parade Costume Fee: TBD
- Fees will be announced in September

Travel & Accommodations

- Hotel and travel expenses may be incurred based on the competition and convention schedule.

Recital Fee

- \$55 per dancer annually.

All fees are subject to change based on vendor pricing, competition requirements, convention schedules, and costume selections during the season.

Company Tuition:

Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
1.00 - \$215	3.00 - \$255	5.00 - \$295	7.00 - \$335
1.25 - \$220	3.25 - \$260	5.25 - \$300	7.25 - \$340
1.50 - \$225	3.50 - \$265	5.50 - \$305	7.50 - \$345

1.75 - \$230	3.75 - \$270	5.75 - \$310	7.75 - \$350
2.00 - \$235	4.00 - \$275	6.00 - \$315	8.00 - \$355
2.25 - \$240	4.25 - \$280	6.25 - \$320	8.25 - \$360
2.50 - \$245	4.50 - \$285	6.50 - \$325	8.50 - \$365
2.75 - \$250	4.75 - \$290	6.75 - \$330	8.75 - \$370

Payment Schedule: All fees are due on the 1st each month! If your bill is not paid by the **1st** you will receive a \$25 late fee for the month. The number of costumes you pay will be determined by the number of routines you perform.

At-a-Glance Payment Calendar

Month	Payments Due
July	Registration Fee, Audition Fee (due Aug. 1)
August	Audition, 1st Company Fee (\$250), 2 Costumes, Company Jacket (if needed)
September	Tuition, 2 Costumes, 1st Competition Fee
October	Tuition, Production Costume Fee, Parade Fees, 2nd Competition Fee
November	Tuition, Remaining Costumes (if applicable), 3rd Competition Fee
December	Tuition, Remaining Costumes (if applicable), 4th Competition Fee
January	Tuition, 2nd Company Fee (\$250), 5th Competition Fee
February	Tuition, Ballet Costume Fee, 6th Competition Fee (if applicable)
March	Tuition
April	Tuition, Recital Fee
May	Tuition
June	½ Tuition

Note: All fees are subject to change based on competition, convention, costume, and performance requirements for the season.

Competition/Convention Fees: Fees associated with each competition are based upon the prices set by the competitions/conventions. These generally run \$75-\$125 per group/production, \$75-\$125 per duet/trio per dancer, and \$100-\$250 solo. Competition fees are due to the studio by the due date indicated on the payment schedule. Convention fees vary at each convention between \$275-\$450. Missing an assigned due date will result in a **\$25 late fee**. Hotel and travel fees depend on the competition schedule.

Jewelry, Make-Up, and Costumes: All Company members are required to purchase company earrings. Cost is estimated to be \$15. We recommend having a backup pair at all times! Specific make-up is required for the Company and will also need to be purchased by you. Hair/Make-Up

Sessions will be conducted before the first competition where you will learn how to do the hair and make-up as well as purchase make-up kits.

A different costume will be chosen for each dance your dancer is selected for. There will be a costume fee for each costume and production due to the multiple costumes being purchased for this one routine as well as many accessories and props. If for any reason a routine exceeds the costume fee, you may be invoiced to pay for an accessory fee. You will not be given any costumes until all costumes are paid for. Costume fees are due by the due date indicated on the payment schedule. Company dancers will perform a ballet at recital. You will be invoiced in March for the ballet costume. Price for the costume will be determined when ordered

Each dancer will be required to have nude briefs and a nude bra with clear straps for production. These can be purchased at Releve or online. If you have questions please speak with a staff member.

Every dancer is required to have every piece of their costume when attending competitions. If your dancer does not have a piece of their costume, they will not be allowed to dance the routine. If your dancer loses a piece of their costume please email the studio ASAP!

Shoes and Tights: All required shoes and tights must be purchased at Releve or where the teachers have selected! Please see the dress code to know what is needed for class. Once costumes are chosen you will be given a list of shoes and tights required for competition. These costs are in addition to the costume fees.

Company Jacket: All company dancers are required to purchase a team warm-up jacket. Company members must have it on at all times during competitions/conventions.

Dress Code Requirements: To ensure consistency, safety, and professionalism, all dancers are expected to follow the dress code for each class and rehearsal.

Ballet

- Pink or black tights
- Leotard
- Hair in a high or low bun
- Capezio 2037 Hanami Canvas Ballet Shoes (Light Pink)

Lyrical & Contemporary

- Leggings or spandex shorts (no running shorts)
- Fitted tank top or athletic top
- No t-shirts

- H062 Leather Pirouette II or barefoot
- Hair must be secured up and away from the face

Tap

- Comfortable dancewear that allows for movement
- No t-shirts or running shorts
- Hair must be secured up and away from the face

Tap Shoes

- PeeWee: Any tap shoes are acceptable for class. Competition shoes will be selected in October.
- Mini: Black Capezio Cadence Tap Shoe
- Junior/Teen/Senior: Black Bloch Tap Pro

Jazz

- Leggings or spandex shorts (no running shorts)
- Fitted tank top or athletic top
- No T-Shirts
- Hair must be secured up and away from the face
- Black or tan Bloch Neo-Flex jazz shoes

Competition shoe color will be selected in October.

Hip Hop

- Comfortable athletic clothing suitable for movement
- Hair secured away from the face
- Clean tennis shoes are recommended
- Shoes must be free of mud, dirt, rocks, or debris that could damage the dance floor

Acro

- Tight-fitting athletic clothing
- Hair secured away from the face
- Barefoot

Rehearsals

- Leggings or spandex shorts (no running shorts)

- Fitted tank top, athletic top, sports bra, or leotard
- No t-shirts
- Hair must be secured up and away from the face

Note: Proper attire allows instructors to monitor technique, alignment, and body placement while ensuring dancers can move safely and comfortably during class and rehearsals.

Opportunities Available:

Small Groups:

Students who meet the required technical and performance standards may be selected for participation in small group routines. Placement in small groups is based on skill level and age; therefore, not all dancers who audition will be selected. Dancers chosen for small groups will be those who achieve the highest audition scores within their age group, as well as those who consistently demonstrate commitment through strong class participation, positive attitude, and reliable attendance.

Small group routines are conducted as a weekly class. Each group will receive one 30-minute class per week to ensure choreography is learned, cleaned, and performed at a high level in a productive and timely manner.

Participation in a small group requires a full-season commitment. Once a routine has begun, dancers are not permitted to withdraw. Any dancer who withdraws after the start of a routine will not be considered for small group placement the following season.

Small groups require additional time both in the studio and during competition weekends, as these routines often compete on separate days. Dancers selected for small groups are expected to manage the demands of both their large group and small group commitments. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the small group.

Attendance is critical. Missing more than two small group rehearsals within a single month may result in removal from the group. Small group dancers are also required to attend five to six competitions and/or conventions throughout the season.

At auditions, dancers must indicate how many small group routines they would like to be considered for.

- **Monthly Small Group Fee:** \$50 per dancer, per small group
- **Costume Fee:** \$175 per small group routine. Additional accessory fees may apply.
- **Competition Entry Fees:** Approximately \$85-\$125 per routine, per competition.

Please note that competition entry fees and accessory costs may vary based on the competition, costume

requirements, and performance schedule for the season.

Solo/Duet/Trio:

All company members are eligible to compete in a solo, duet, or trio. We highly encourage dancers to challenge themselves and take advantage of this opportunity during the 2026–2027 season, as these experiences promote both technical growth and confidence as performers.

Solo, duet, and trio routines are not assigned by company teachers. It is the responsibility of the dancer and their parent/guardian to express interest by contacting the studio. Once interest is communicated, the studio will assist in coordinating next steps, including selecting a choreographer. All company teachers are available to choreograph, depending on the style of dance requested. These routines may begin prior to August auditions.

Dancers participating in solos, duets, or trios are responsible for scheduling and attending their own rehearsals, as well as practicing outside of scheduled studio time. Participation in a solo, duet, or trio requires a strong commitment to the full company program. Dancers must maintain consistent attendance and full participation in all required group classes and rehearsals. In addition, all studio accounts must remain current and in good standing in order to participate in and continue with solo, duet, or trio routines.

If you are interested in performing a solo, duet, or trio, please email the studio to begin the process.

- Solo: \$450 directly to choreographer venmo, check, cash
- Duet: \$275 per dance to the choreographer venmo, check, cash
- Trio: \$275 per dancer to the choreographer venmo, check, cash

****You must give at least partial payment at your first solo private and it must be fully paid by your 4th private.***

- Rehearsal Fees: Once your dancer has had 4 private lessons to learn their routine you will begin to be charged \$50 a month for your routine to be practiced and cleaned.

**Premier School Of Dance
2026-2027 Signed Company Contract**

**If selected for the 2026-2027 Premier Company, I
understand and accept the terms and conditions of the
Premier School Of Dance Company Contract.**

Dancer Information:

First/Last Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Information:

First/Last Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

**I have read and accepted the terms and conditions
stated in the 2026-2027 Premier Company Handbook.**

_____ **I am interested in trying out for small groups, If yes how many:** _____

Dancer's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____