



RISE
DANCE CENTER

RISE DANCE CENTER OF VIRGINIA

STUDIO HANDBOOK

A GUIDE FOR DANCERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

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RISE

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2. WELCOME TO RISE DANCE CENTER OF VIRGINIA

Welcome to RISE Dance Center, where passion meets movement in an atmosphere of positivity, encouragement, and boundless energy. Nestled in the heart of Ashburn, RISE is a hub for dancers of all ages and skill levels. At RISE, we believe in the transformative power of dance. Whether you are a seasoned performer or stepping onto the dance floor for the first time, our experienced instructors are here to inspire and guide you on your dance journey. From ballet to hip hop and everything in between, our diverse range of classes ensures there's something for everyone.

What sets us apart is our commitment to creating a supportive community where every dancer feels valued and empowered. We foster a welcoming environment where creativity thrives and friendships flourish. Whether you're here to refine your technique, improve your fitness, or simply have fun, you'll find a home at RISE.

Join us at RISE and experience the joy of dance in a place where positivity, encouragement, and energy come together to create unforgettable moments. Let's dance!

A. DANCE PROGRAMS

RISE offers four distinct dance programs tailored to meet the needs and objectives of dancers: Recreational Dance, Competition Team, Ballet Initiative, and Technique Track.

1. **Recreational Program** - The RISE recreational dance program is an a la carte style program. Dancers choose from our menu of fun classes in ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, tap, hip hop, musical theater, and acro. Recreational dance classes encourage kids and teens to get active, have fun and build skills in dance, focus, and musicality. These classes are designated by dance style and age range (for example "Ballet 6-9").

Recreational classes culminate in our annual recital, which showcases dancers' hard work.

2. **Competition Team** – RISE is excited to offer a pre-professional program that features focused work towards competing as a Team at regional and National competitions. Participation on the Comp Team builds technically strong dancers who develop a sense of confidence, teamwork, and camaraderie, as well as invaluable and lasting friendships. Students registered under the Competition Team may not compete under another studio, third party entity, or independently, unless provided expressed written consent by RISE. Please see the “Competition Team Handbook” for more information.
3. **Ballet Initiative** – The Ballet Initiative at RISE is led by the esteemed Ms. Lorraine Spiegler under the professional instruction of Ms. Lara Segrillo. Please visit the Ballet Initiative information page in our website at <https://risedanceva.com/ballet-initiative>. Students registered under the Ballet Initiative may not compete under another studio, third party entity, or independently, unless provided expressed written consent by RISE.
4. **Technique Track** - The RISE Dance Center Technique Track is designed for dancers seeking to quickly advance their dance training without competing. Technique Track dancers attend the technique classes that are designed to prepare the RISE Dance Center Competition Team for competing against some of the country's best dancers. Students registered under the Technique Track may not compete under another studio, third party entity, or independently, unless provided expressed written consent by RISE. To participate in the Technique Track, email us at tech@risedanceva.com for placement in the appropriate class level in your genre of choice. The Technique Track offers classes in ballet, leaps & turns, jazz/musical theater, lyrical/contemporary, hip hop, acro, and tap.

B. ENROLLMENT POLICY

1. The RISE dance program runs from September through June.
2. Recurring tuition is based on a set annual (September – June) fee per class-hour divided into ten (10) equal payments regardless of how many lessons a class has in a month. The number of lessons in a month may vary due to holidays, absences, or inclement weather.
3. Participation in the RISE spring recital is mandatory.
4. Students who enroll after January 31 can participate in classroom activities but may not be able to be blocked into the class recital dance.
5. A \$50 registration fee for recreational dancers is due upon registration & is non-refundable.
6. Monthly tuition will be auto charged to your credit card on file, on the 20th of every month.
7. After the 25th of the month, accounts with unpaid tuition will be assessed a \$30 late fee.
8. Students will not be permitted in class for tuition that remains unpaid by the 1st of the month
9. If an account carries a balance for more than 2 months, the student will be unenrolled.
10. Students withdrawing from the program must provide 30-day written notice to the Studio.
11. Recurring tuition does not include “Master Classes” and “Workshops” that are offered throughout the year.
12. Although a current credit card must always remain on file, if a family prefers to make a tuition payment by check, the check must be received in the Studio office before the 15th of the month to allow for processing and clearing prior to the 20th of the month when payments are due.

C. ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. Regular attendance is encouraged, as this is how students learn and progress.
2. We follow the Loudoun County Public School system for studio closings for inclement weather. However, in the event of an unexpected closing or delay caused by situations such as bad weather, we will also send out notifications via text and email to the family's contact of record, and post updates to our Facebook and Instagram pages. Please also become familiar with the Studio Calendar in this document.
3. Please call or email the studio if a student will be absent from class due to sickness or any other reason. For the well-being of other students, please stay home if you are sick.
4. Students with frequent unexcused absences may be unenrolled from our program.
5. Injured students are encouraged to sit in class for observational learning.

D. DRESS CODE

1. **Female Students** - For ballet, students should wear a black leotard, pink tights and pink ballet shoes, with hair secured tightly into a bun. Leg warmers, ballet skirts and sweaters are acceptable. For lyrical, musical theater, contemporary and jazz, any appropriate dance wear is acceptable, as long as teachers can see your lines. Please wear jazz shoes (bare feet, paws, or turners are also acceptable for lyrical and contemporary). Hair should be secured in a bun or ponytail. For tap and hip-hop classes, the attire is anything the dancer is comfortable wearing, along with tap shoes for tap and sneakers for hip-hop.
2. **Male Students** - Class attire for ballet is a white or black form-fitting tee shirt with black tights, black socks and black ballet slippers. For lyrical, musical theater, contemporary and jazz, any appropriate dance wear is acceptable, as long as teachers can see your lines. Please wear jazz

shoes (bare feet, paws, or turners are also acceptable for lyrical and contemporary). Long hair should be secured in a bun or ponytail. For tap and hip-hop classes, the attire is anything the dancer is comfortable wearing, along with tap shoes for tap and sneakers for hip-hop.

3. **NO dancing in socks.** Dancing in socks is strictly prohibited. We care about you and your safety!
4. Please note that class attire is not included in the tuition fees.

E. COSTUME POLICY

1. RISE staff will measure students for costumes in December.
2. Each student will be charged a \$50 costume deposit, per class, which is due and charged at registration.
3. Costume prices range \$75-\$150 each. Costume balances will be due when costumes are distributed.
4. Costumes are not returnable once ordered. Costume fees are non-refundable.

F. STUDIO ETIQUETTE

1. Walking and dancing only. No running please.
2. No food or gum in studios. Water only. Food permitted in student and teacher lounge areas. Please clean up after yourself.
3. If you enter a dance class, it is a commitment. Leaving class is disruptive to other students and disrespectful to the teacher. Please come to class prepared by first using the restroom and by bringing your water bottle, shoes, and any warmups needed.
4. Please do not bring toys and other distractions into the classroom. We understand that sometimes a special stuffed animal or toy can be hard to part with. If necessary, we can work with your dancer to allow them to

keep a special item safely on the side of the room. Please make sure you remember to take the special item home with you.

G. CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR

1. **Respect:** Respect for instructors, classmates, office staff, and other parents is non-negotiable. This means that any time you are at the Studio, you are expected to be cooperative and respectful.
2. **Sportsmanship:** We expect all dancers to display good sportsmanship both on and off stage and at the studio.
3. **Each of Us Represents All of Us -** The Studio is committed to creating and preserving a brand and reputation that represents our entire RISE community as fun, friendly, professional, and full of hard-working, excellent dancers – we expect the same from all our students and families. As a member of the Studio community, you are representing RISE Dance Center both in person and on social media. It hurts the entire Studio community if dancers or parents represent the Studio, other students, etc. in a negative light. So, let's rise to higher ground and engage only in positivity about one another.
4. **Express Your Concerns –** Direct all your concerns and questions to RISE instructors, the Artistic Director, or Studio Director. We can't resolve what we don't know! We ask that dancers and parents avoid engaging in gossip, speculation, or other types of communication that can damage the morale of the RISE community. We are here for you and want to hear from you and support you!
5. **Attitude -** A positive attitude is essential for the success of the Studio. Bring on your good vibes!

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H. RECITAL

1. Participation in the RISE Dance Center annual spring recital for non-competition RISE dancers is optional, but highly encouraged. The annual recital provides dancers the once-a-year opportunity to dress up and take to the big stage to showcase for their friends and family their hard work and choreography learned throughout the year. Don't miss it!
2. The 2025 spring recital will place on Saturday, June 7th. The venue will be announced October 2024.

I. CHOREOGRAPHY

1. All choreography learned through RISE Dance Center is the sole property of the Studio and/or the choreographer and shall only be performed under the auspices and/or expressed written authorization of the Studio.

J. HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. **Injury Prevention** - Warm-up and cool-down exercises are highly encouraged before and after classes.
2. **Pointe Readiness** - RISE cares about your long-term physical well-being. Pointe readiness will be determined by one of Rise Dance Center's ballet teachers.

K. COMMUNICATION

1. **Updates** – Please read emails, texts, and studio bulletin boards regularly for updates and announcements.
2. **Concerns** – Please feel welcome to address any concerns or questions with teachers or the studio director. We are here to elevate our collective experience at RISE.

L. MEDIA AND PROMOTION

1. **Media Release** - Photos and videos may be taken during performances and rehearsals for promotional purposes. Your signature on this form indicates your understanding that the dancer may appear in videos created and promoted by RISE Dance Center of classes, events, etc.
2. **Social Media** - Represent the studio positively on social media platforms. Remember, what each of us says matters and represents us all.

M. DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

1. **Conduct** - Failure to adhere to Studio policies and guidelines may result in disciplinary action.
2. **Dismissal** - Continued violations of policies or significant misconduct may result in suspension or dismissal from the Studio at the Studio's sole discretion.



3. STUDIO CALENDAR 2024-2025 SEASON

Classes start on Monday, September 9, 2024, and run through Saturday, June 6, 2025.

RISE follows the Loudoun County Public School system for studio closings for inclement weather. However, in the event of an unexpected closing or delay caused by situations such as bad weather, we will also send out notifications via text and email to the family's contact of record, and post updates to our Facebook and Instagram pages.

2024 - 2025 Studio Calendar	
Date	Event
Monday, September 9, 2024	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES. Let's Dance!
Thursday, October 3, 2024 - STUDIO CLOSED	Rosh Hashanah
Monday, October 14, 2024 – STUDIO CLOSED	Indigenous Peoples' Day
Thursday, October 31, 2024 – STUDIO CLOSED	Halloween
Friday, November 1, 2024 – STUDIO CLOSED	Diwali
Monday, November 11, 2024 - STUDIO CLOSED	Veterans' Day
Sunday, November 24 – Sunday, December 1, 2024 - STUDIO CLOSED	Thanksgiving Break
Saturday, December 14, 2024 – STUDIO CLOSED	The Nutcracker – A Dream Reimagined
Monday, December 23, 2024 – Sunday, January 5, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	Winter Break
Monday, January 20, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	Martin Luther King's Birthday
Monday, February 17, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	President's Day
Saturday - Sunday, April 12 – 20, 2024 - STUDIO CLOSED	Spring Break
Monday, May 26, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	Memorial Day
Sunday, June 1, 2025	Dress Rehearsal for Studio Recital (Tentative)
Friday, June 6, 2025	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
Saturday, June 7, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	Studio Recital
Thursday, June 19, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	Juneteenth National Independence Day
Friday, July 4, 2025 - STUDIO CLOSED	Independence Day

4. CLASS TUITION AND FEES

At RISE Dance Center, we are committed to offering a high-quality dance education and a wholesome life-enhancing experience for our students, parents and staff. Toward that end, transparency and clear communication of the financial relationship between families and the Studio is of paramount importance. Please read this document thoroughly and ask any question that may come to mind.

A. ONE-TIME FEES

Fee Description	Amount	Due Date
Registration Fee (per student)	\$50	August 20, 2024
Recital Costume Deposit (per routine)	\$50	Due at registration
Costume Balance (prices range \$75-\$150 each)	\$25-\$100	Due upon receipt of costume

B. RECURRING TUITION FEES

Recurring tuition is based on a set annual fee divided into ten (10) equal payments (August – May) regardless of how many lessons a class has in a month. The number of lessons in a month may vary due to holidays, absences, studio events, or inclement weather. Note that Recurring Ballet and Pointe Master Classes are priced separately and not discounted. Tuition is due and charged on the 20th day of each month (beginning on August 20th) to the credit card on file. Late payments will be assessed a \$30 late fee after the 25th of the month. Recurring class fees do not include “Master Classes” and “Workshops.”

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Classes Per Week	Yearly Tuition	10 Monthly Payments	First Payment Due Date
Private Solo 30 Minutes	\$1,700	\$170	August 20, 2024
Private Duo (per person) 30 Minutes	\$1,100	\$110	August 20, 2024
Private Trio (per person) 30 Minutes	\$900	\$90	August 20, 2024
1 Group Class (per person)	\$900	\$90	August 20, 2024
2 Group Classes (per person)	\$1,400	\$140	August 20, 2024
3 Group Classes (per person)	\$1,900	\$190	August 20, 2024
4 Group Classes (per person)	\$2,400	\$240	August 20, 2024
5 Group Classes (per person)	\$2,800	\$280	August 20, 2024
6 Group Classes (per person)	\$3,300	\$330	August 20, 2024
Unlimited Group Classes (per person)	\$3,600	\$360	August 20, 2024
1-Hour Group Master Class (per person) *	\$1,150 *	\$115 *	August 20, 2024
1.5-Hour Group Master Class (per person) *	\$1,350 *	\$135 *	August 20, 2024

*** “Master Classes” are not discounted and are not included in the class discounts or “unlimited” packages.**

C. TIME AND METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. The first monthly tuition payment is due at registration (and no later than August 20, 2024) along with a \$50 registration processing fee. The remaining nine (9) payments are due the 20th day of every month (September – May).

2. Payments for recurring fees are made via on-file credit card which is auto-charged on the 20th day of the month.
3. Accounts must always have a valid credit card on file to allow for timely payment of tuition and fees when due.
4. Late payments, for any reason, will incur a \$30 late fee.
5. Students will not be permitted in class for tuition that remains unpaid by the 1st of the month.
6. A 30-Day written notice is required for dropping a class.
7. One-time fees are non-refundable. Recurring tuition fees are non-refundable.
8. Although a current credit card must always remain on file, If a family prefers to make payment by check, the check must be received in the Studio office before the 15th of the month to allow for processing and clearing prior to the 20th of the month when payments are due.

5. OWNERS' FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PLEDGE

As the owners of RISE Dance Center of Virginia, we pledge to our students, families and staff to always be good stewards of the financial matters of the Studio. We pledge to always remain transparent and communicate openly and directly with all of our stakeholders. We pledge to always make financial decisions that keep the interest of students, families and staff at the forefront, and to balance those decisions with the financial health of the Studio so that we may remain a pillar in our community and a home for dancers for years to come.

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6. IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT RISKS OF INJURY

PARTICIPATION IN DANCE CLASSES, REHEARSAL, PERFORMANCES AND RELATED

ACTIVITIES COULD INVOLVE SOME PERSONAL BODILY INJURY and, despite precautions, accidents and injuries may occur.

By signing this document, I attest to a) being the parent/legal guardian to the student(s) registered under my account, b) **I AM FULLY AWARE AND UNDERSTAND THE INHERENT RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH DANCE CLASSES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES;** c) I have been provided the opportunity to ask any questions about these risks; and d) I assume all risks related to the use of any and all spaces used by RISE Dance Center of Virginia LLC.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understand the policies outlined in this handbook. By signing below, I agree to comply with these policies and uphold the standards of RISE Dance Center. By signing below, I also acknowledge that photos and videos may be taken during classes, rehearsals, performances and other events for promotional purposes, and I expressly give RISE Dance Center permission to use my student's image in videos, photos, websites, or other media forms created and promoted by RISE Dance Center.

Parent Acknowledgement & Commitment Signature:	List Student(s) Under Parent/Legal Guardian:
	1. _____
	2. _____
	3. _____
	4. _____
	5. _____
	6. _____
Parent Name:	

THANK YOU for choosing RISE Dance Center to be your dance home!
We are excited for the journey ahead of us and look forward to a fun and successful season together! Let's dance!!
- RISE Dance Center